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EDINBURGH INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

THE FILMS OF ROSA VON PRAUNHEIM



Rosa von Praunheim, gay activist, writer, and film-maker, has worked mainly in Germany and in New York, where he began the film **Army of Lovers** in 1971. He has made over twenty films, including **It's Not the Homosexual Who Is Perverse But The Society In Which He Lives** and **I Am An Anti-Star**.

"Homosexuals have to grasp the fact that their oppression is connected with oppression in general. In New York it's exceptionally clear. The situation of the poor, the women's movement, race discrimination. You can see the same mechanism for oppression in operation everywhere. It's a question of altering the system so that minorities can have real opportunities. Equal Rights, which the system is offering at the moment, doesn't mean what it says: it's just another way of equalizing the means of oppression"—Rosa von Praunheim.

Saturday 25 August, George Square Theatre—22.30:

ARMY OF LOVERS, OR THE REVOLT OF THE PERVERTS

Fed. Rep. Germany 1979

Gay activist-film-maker Rosa von Praunheim looks at the Gay Liberation movement in America, past and present. He talks to key figures in the gay community: John Rechy, author of **City of Night** and **The Sexual Outlaw**, gay-porn film-maker Fred Halstead, gay activists, Gay Christians, and others. The Tom Robinson Band supplies the music.

"I think the time has now come to blow some fresh air through the shocked petit-bourgeois suburbs. We still have a long way to go till we can live freely and openly without social pressure as homosexuals, and it won't happen by itself. No liberal government is at all interested in helping us; we'll have to look out for ourselves. We homosexuals will have to come into direct confrontation with our friends and colleagues and families so that homosexuality can be accepted as a positive alternative in our society. My film was made to contribute to that effort"—Rosa von Praunheim.

Tuesday 28 August, Calton Studios—18.30:

TALLY BROWN NEW YORK

Fed. Rep. Germany 1978

A portrait of Tally Brown, New York Underground Superstar, her friends and her world. She learned the blues from Leonard Bernstein, appeared in many Andy Warhol films, sang in Hollywood. She sings the Stones, Bowie, Brecht, in small New York clubs and the legendary Continental Baths (where Bette Midler became a star). Some consider her a freakish grotesque, but Tally Brown refuses to be moulded or "packaged" to suit conventional tastes. Yet she's a charismatic cult-figure with a loyal public of her own.

Wednesday 29 August, George Square Theatre—22.30:

DEATH MAGAZINE OR HOW TO BECOME A FLOWERPOT

Fed. Rep. Germany 1979

Death customs world-wide, Afterlife, curious funerals and a guided tour of the murder victims in the New York City morgue.

"My film tries to destroy the biggest taboo in life, which is death. It tries to show it's human and not without humour."

Tickets are now available from the Box Office, 88 Lothian Road, Edinburgh 3.