

Document Citation

Title	The Russian eccentrics--Dovzhenko & Kuleshov : Fruits of love and The extraordinary adventures of Mr. West in the land of the bolsheviks
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Source	<i>Pacific Film Archive Calendar</i>
Date	1986 Apr 21
Type	program note
Language	English
Pagination	
No. of Pages	2
Subjects	
Film Subjects	Neobychainiye prikliucheniia Mistera Vesta v strane bolshevikov (The extraordinary adventures of Mr. West in the land of the bolsheviks), Kuleshov, Lev, 1924 Yahidha kokhannya (Fruits of love), Dovzhenko, Alexander Petrovich, 1926

The Russian Eccentrics-- Dovzhenko & Kuleshov:

Fruits of Love and The Extraordinary Adventures of Mr. West in the Land of the Bolsheviks 9:05

Fruits of Love (Love's Berries) (Yagodka lyubvi)
Dovzhenko's first film is a charming slapstick comedy of errors about love and marriage, filmed in three days in an Odessa park.

- Directed and Written by Alexander Dovzhenko. Photographed by Daniil Demutsky, I. Rona. With N. Krushelnitsky, M. Chardynina-Barskaya, Dmitri Kapka. (1926, 30 mins, Silent with Russian intertitles and live English translation, 35mm, Print from PFA Collection)

The Extraordinary Adventures of Mr. West... (Neobychainiye priklucheniya Mistera Vesta v strane bolshevikov)

This satiric comedy, which ridicules the absurd conceptions of Soviet Russia held by Americans, involves the visit to the USSR of a certain Mr. West, president of the YMCA. To protect himself against the savages and Red bandits depicted in the U.S. press, he takes with him a bodyguard, the cowboy Jeddy (portrayed by Boris Barnet). The two fall into the clutches of a gang of hooligans who show them exactly what they expect to see. "The first feature from Lev Kuleshov's experimental workshop was also the first radically original film of the Soviet era. A gleeful satire on the excesses of American anti-Bolshevik propaganda, it is also an affectionate parody/analysis of American popular cinema with fights, chases and rescues, brilliantly choreographed according to Kuleshov's 'rehearsal method'" (Ian Christie).

- Directed by Lev Kuleshov. Written by Nikolai Aseyev, Vsevolod Pudovkin. Assistant directors: Pudovkin, Alexandra Khokhlova, Leonid Obolensky, Sergei Komarov, Porfiri Podobed, Leo Mur. Photographed by Alexander Levitsky. Design by Pudovkin. With Podobed, Valya Lopatina, Boris Barnet, Pudovkin, Khokhlova. (1924, 77 mins, Silent with Russian intertitles and live English translation, 35mm, Print from PFA Collection)