

## UCSD artist's film "The Man Without a World" previews at San Diego Museum of Contemporary Art

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### UCSD ARTIST'S FILM PREVIEWS AT SAN DIEGO MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART

Artist and film maker Eleanor Antin's new feature film, "The Man Without a World" (95 minutes) will receive two preview showings at 7 p.m. and 9 p.m., June 9, in Sherwood Auditorium, at the San Diego Museum of Art, La Jolla. Antin, who produced, wrote and directed the film, will be present at the first showing to comment on its making.

Tickets are \$8.00 for general admission and \$5.00 for students and seniors, and may be purchased at the museum box office and at TicketMaster outlets.

Antin made the film "Man Without a World", a melodrama, in the same manner as her earlier film, "The Last Night of Rasputin," using classic silent acting and film-making techniques. The "history" Antin has created for these films is that they were made by a fictitious Russian film director of the 1920s, Yevgeny Antinov, and Soviet policy of Glasnost has brought about their sudden reemergence from Russian archives.

The out-of-door scenes for "Man Without a World" took place in a full-scale reconstruction of an Eastern European village street. The village, or shtetl, was constructed in a clearing near UCSD's Basic Science Building, and remained in place for two weeks. Many of the film's extras were UCSD faculty and staff members.

Antin says the film offers a glimpse into Jewish life in a shtetl during the 20s and depicts the often violent clash between modern movements like Zionism and Socialism, with the older religious traditions.

The film's hero is a poet, in love with the daughter of the town's tailor. When a troupe of traveling performers, headed by a tough cigar-smoking ballerina (Antin), takes refuge in the shtetl for the winter, the poet becomes seduced by the bohemian artists' life.

The plot, according to Antin, is spiked with situations often found in Yiddish literature. "In the film there are dybbuks (lost souls), exorcisms, seductions, unwanted pregnancies, a wedding, many funerals, and power struggles," she said.

Antin's art and performances have appeared at such notable venues as the Ronald Feldman Fine Arts Gallery, The Museum of Modern Art, the Whitney Museum, the Los Angeles Institute of Contemporary Art, the San Diego Museum of Contemporary Art, and the Venice Biennale.

The musical score is by Charlie Morrow and Lee Erwin, with Erwin performing on the theatre organ. The technical crew includes Rich Wargo, cinematographer, and Lynn Burnstan, associate producer and editor, both of whom are from San Diego. The art director is Sabato Fiorello, from Los Angeles. Marcia Goodman, assistant director and a featured actress, is a theatre artist from New York City.

Roger Sherman, formerly with the UCSD Department of Theatre and currently with the Utah Shakespeare Festival, is the scenic designer. Pamela Whidden, from San Diego, is the production manager; Judy Ryerson, the costumer, is from San Diego, and Laura Andrews, hair and makeup designer, is from Los Angeles.

The cast includes actors from the UCSD community and elsewhere: some of the UCSD faculty are Newton Harrison, Jerome Rothenberg, Sheldon Nodelman, Sherman George, Reinhardt Lettau, Bennett Berger, Chandra Mukerji, Joe Gusfield, Jack Greenstein, Page DuBois, Patricia Patterson and Sargon Tont.

Visiting artists are: Pier Marton, George Leonard, Ellen Zweig, Harris Lenowitz and Peter Frank. Christine Berry, Anna Henriques, Don Sommece, John Borba, Lisa Welti, Scott Kirwin and Berne Smith are former and current UCSD students. Members of the San Diego community are Nikolai Lennox, chiropractor and health professional; Larry McGilvery, nationally known book dealer; Grant Taylor, professional actor, and Irma Gusfield, health professional. Tannen and Tali Whidden-Winter, Kenny Berger, and Anthony Vinole are some of the child actors. The cast also includes Dixie the Performing Pig.

The preview is co-sponsored by the UCSD Friends of Judaic Studies and the San Diego Museum of Contemporary Art, and provides San Diego film audiences with an opportunity to view a locally made feature-length film before it goes into national distribution.

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