

# The Museum of Modern Art

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## "LAST SUMMER WON'T HAPPEN" INDEPENDENT AMERICAN FILM MADE BY GESSNER AND HURWITZ TO BE SHOWN AT MUSEUM

"Last Summer Won't Happen," an independent film by Peter Gessner and Thomas Hurwitz, will be the subject of the bi-monthly Cineprobe at The Museum of Modern Art on Tuesday, March 4th, at 5:30 p.m. Both film-makers will be present to discuss their work and answer questions from the audience after the screening.

Completed in 1968, "Last Summer Won't Happen," is described as "a film portrait" and deals with love-oriented, media-exploited young people, drop-outs from society, in confrontation with the organized political structure and the social establishment. Its makers consider it a dramatic manifestation of a transitional period, in which the influence of such "prophets" as Abbie Hoffmann and Paul Krassner, based in New York's Lower East Side, is evident.

Life in New York's East Village among hippies and revolutionists is the theme of "Last Summer Won't Happen," called by Newsweek "troubling and troubled," as it deals with the revolt against established values in its own "didactic and auto-critical" as well as "lyrical" and dramatic style.

The picture makes it apparent that the present young generation has no confidence in either the "self assured conventions" or the traditional escapes of entertainment and status. The film, however, "was born out of uncertainty about new ways of organizing life and art."

The film by Gessner and Hurwitz fuses several styles from the traditional direct camera to the cinema verité in vogue today. It also embraces the more lyrical forms of poetic documentary, according to its makers.

(more)

Peter Gessner, who is responsible for the photography, previously made "Time of the Locust," one of the first films on Vietnam, which received awards at Mannheim, Leipzig, Tours, and the Festival dei Popoli.

At the end of the film Gessner sits in front of his own camera and wonders aloud where things really are at and what all the vast energy of modern life is going to produce. "Where is it going to go?" he asks, knowing no one knows.

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Additional information available from Elizabeth Shaw, Director, and Lillian Gerard, Film Coordinator, Department of Public Information, The Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street, New York, N.Y. 10019. 245-3200.