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FILM BIOGRAPHY OF COUNT BASIE TO BE PRESENTED

BY "WHAT'S HAPPENING" SERIES

"To the Count of Basie," made in 1979 by John Jeremy and Angus Trowbridge, will be presented on December 16, 1980 at 6:00 p.m. in the Roy and Niuta Titus Auditorium, as part of the "What's Happening" program of the Department of Film. The film, which is a British/Austrian/Swedish production, will be introduced by David Meeker, film historian and research officer of the National Film Archive of the British Film Institute, and by the film's co-director John Jeremy.

"To the Count of Basie" traces the jazz great from his origins in Redbank, New Jersey, through his early career in Harlem, his success in the Big Band era of the 40's, and on to the Count Basie Orchestra's present. It features twenty-four songs by Basie and such as Fats Waller, Hoagy Carmichael, Eddie Durham and Lester Young.

Co-director John Jeremy has covered jazz ground before in "Blues Like Showers of Rain," "Jazz Is Our Religion" and "Born To Swing." "To the Count of Basie" was presented at both the Chicago and Edinburgh Film Festivals in 1980.

"...in its manifest affection for the man, in its appreciation of his music, and in the skill characteristic of Jeremy's work with which it organizes disparate material into a seamless whole, "To the Count of Basie" is exemplary."

Tom Milne
Monthly Film Bulletin

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