

MUSEUM WILL INTRODUCE UNDERGROUND CARTOON

Ralph Bakshi, a 31-year-old ex-Brooklynite, writer and director of the new underground, adult cartoon feature "Fritz the Cat," will be a guest of The Museum of Modern Art, Tuesday, February 15, 5:30 pm, when his picture will be shown as part of the current Cineprobe series, introducing new, young directors.

"Fritz the Cat" has gathered an underground reputation for being what its creator calls "not a story about a cat but a fairy tale about kids in the Sixties." Set in Greenwich Village, the film is a satire on certain aspects of the counter-culture of the 60s and, like all true satire, it endeavors to criticize at the same time as it amuses.

Mr. Bakshi, incidentally, is a graduate of what he calls "the mouse factory," or Paramount Studios' Cartoon Division. He does not deny that his cartoon is "full of sex, violence, drugs and revolution." Two years in the making, "Fritz the Cat" is now an X-rated movie. Based on the popular Zap Comic Book character drawn by Robert Crumb, a San Francisco artist, the new style "revolutionary" cartoon feature was financed at a reputed cost of one million dollars by Steve Krantz Productions, animated filmmakers recently moved to the West Coast from New York, and Cinemation Industries.

Additional information available from Lillian Gerard, Film Coordinator, and Mark Segal, Assistant, Department of Public Information, The Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street, New York, New York 10019. Tel: (212) 956-7296.