

The Museum of Modern Art Department of Film

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MORRIS ENGEL AND RUTH ORKIN, PIONEER INDEPENDENT FILMMAKERS,
TO ATTEND SPECIAL CINEPROBE EVENING NOVEMBER 30

"Our New Wave would never have come into being," Francois Truffaut once remarked to an interviewer, "if it hadn't been for the young American Morris Engel, who showed us the way to independent production with his fine movie Little Fugitive." Written and directed by Morris Engel, Ruth Orkin, and Ray Ashley in 1953, Little Fugitive was a surprise critical and commercial success, becoming one of the first independently made American films to break out of the art-house circuit and win a wide audience. Using portable 35mm cameras and sound recording equipment (a revolutionary development for American features), Engel and Orkin proved in the most charming and persuasive manner that good theatrical films could be shot directly on the streets of New York. The rewards for the proof included an Oscar nomination for Little Fugitive and a Silver Lion at the Venice Film Festival.

In a special tribute to Engel and Orkin, the Department of Film will screen both Little Fugitive and their 1955 feature Lovers and Lollipops on November 30 and December 1. The 6:30 screening on November 30 will be a presentation in the continuing CINEPROBE series, a forum in which independent filmmakers show and discuss their work; Orkin and Engel will be at the screening to present Little Fugitive. All of the screenings will take place in the Roy and Niuta Titus Theater 2.

CINEPROBE is made possible in part with public funds from the New York State Council on the Arts and by a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts. For further information, the public may call (212) 708-9500.

SCHEDULE IS ATTACHED

November 1984

For further PRESS information, please contact Stuart Klawans, Film Press Representative,
The Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street, New York, New York 10019 (212) 708-9752.

SCHEDULE

MORRIS ENGEL AND RUTH ORKIN: CINEPROBE

- Fri. 11/30 3:00 Lovers and Lollipops. 1955. Written, produced, and directed by Morris Engel and Ruth Orkin. With Lori March, Gerald O'Loughlin, Cathy Dunn. 81 min.
- 6:30 CINEPROBE: An Evening with Morris Engel and Ruth Orkin. Screening of Little Fugitive. 1953. Written and directed by Ray Ashley, Morris Engel, and Ruth Orkin. With Richie Andrusco. 75 min.
- Sat. 12/1 2:30 Little Fugitive.
- 5:30 Lovers and Lollipops.

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