**Third Week – Cut-out Animation**

*Cadet Rousselle* (George Dunning, 1947, National Film Board of Canada) Part of the NFBC’s *Chansons Chez Nous* series illustrating French Canadian Folk Songs. Cadet Rousselle has three cats, hats, dogs, hairs on his head. The cut-out figures have their limbs attached to their torsos, and their movement tends to be stiff like that of marionettes.

*Fine Feathers* (Evelyn Lambert 1968, National Film Board of Canada) Cut-out animation. Two birds replace their body parts with colorful foliage, then learn that that is foolish and help each other re-acquire their feathers and parts. The figures are made of separate cut-out shapes which are not connected to one another.

*The Do-It-Yourself Animation Show: Episode 3* (Bob Godfrey, 1974) Terry Gilliam talks about his cut-out animation practices, using clips that he did for the *Monty Python’s Flying Circus* TV show.

*Frank Film* (Frank and Carolyn Mouris, 1973) Frank Mouris spent five years collecting images from magazines and other paper sources and turned them into this autobiographical collage film where all the cut-outs actually come from other sources. Two sound track narrations: one is Frank talking about his life and suggesting he might win an Oscar and the other cataloguing the images on the screen. Academy Award for Best Animated Short Film.

*Leave Me Alone* (Jim Blashfield, 1989) Grammy-winning music video of Michael Jackson song which explores many of the tabloid stories about him. Set in an amusement park landscape. Blashfield filmed live-action, then printed that to slides and cut out the figures. His *Suspicious Circumstances* (1985) opened the way for him to make music videos for well known singers, including Peter Gabriel, Paul Simon, Joni Mitchell, and Talking Heads.

*Traveling Light* (Jane Aaron, 1985) Sunlight moves across several rooms and the furniture in them, only the sunlight is actually paper discs, which a woman sweeps up at the end. Cut-out animation entering the third dimension as the cut-outs move across objects.

*Set in Motion* (Jane Aaron, 1987) Cut-out shapes move across objects and people through several scenes. More complicated execution than in *Traveling Light*. Jane Aaron must have used a lot of double-sided tape to achieve this effect.

**For further or repeat viewings**

The NFBC web site has *Fine Feathers* and other Lambart films using this loos or unconnected form of cut-out animation – *The Hoarder, The Lion and the Mouse, Mr. Frog Went A-Courting, The Town Mouse and the Country Mouse,* and *Paradise Lost* (which is pretty grim).

*Cadet Rousselle* is almost impossible to find on the NFBC site and then it cannot be played for some reason. But go to YouTube and search for “Cadet Rousselle Dunning” and that will let you view it.

If you google *Do-It-Yourself Animation Show*, you can find Episode 3 with Terry Gilliam as well as two or three others collected on various sites. They deal with different types of animation and are all worth watching.

# On YouTube, search for “Frank Film(1973 film | 4K remade)” to find the best copy. Other copies you will find online do not have the clarity of image you need to appreciate this collage film with its stream of images.

# Google “Blashfield Studio” to see Jim Blashfield’s music videos and his other animations, including *Suspicious Circumstances*, which brought so many musicians to him in the 1980s to do videos for them.

# If you google “Jane Aaron” you will be able to see *Traveling Light* and *Set in Motion* among the first items pulled up. You can also see *This Time Around*, which is object animation, not cut-out; but note that it can make you feel dizzy as the objects rotate and spin around the camera. The search will also pull up much background information on her and appreciations of her work.