

ABSTRACTS – THE GIRL CHEWING GUM

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The Girl Chewing Gum: the Time that Cinema Forgot

John Smith's *Girl Chewing Gum* was made in Hackney, East London and shown at the London Film-Makers' Co-op in 1976. Through its wit and imagination this film extended the forms of British avant garde experimentation that were pervasive at that moment and mobilised a critique of narrative cinema.

JENNIFER PROCTOR University of Michigan-Dearborn

The Tragedy of the Unreliable Narrator in The Girl Chewing Gum

As a short experimental work about the constructedness of the cinematic image, the film expresses anxieties about our inability not only to control filmic representation, but to impose order in our everyday lives. The film further reveals a pressing desire to turn our lives into movies – and a sadness that results from that impossibility.

PAULA QUIGLEY Trinity College Dublin

The Man Giving Orders: The Girl Chewing Gum

While this film clearly invites a 'modernist' reading, Jean-François Lyotard's distinction between the modern and the postmodern as having to do with their respective attitudes to the visible and the discursive fields, opens up the possibility of considering the figural activity at work in the film.

LAVINIA BRYDON Queen Mary, University of London

Brief Encounter: The Girl Chewing Gum

When discussing his concept of literary chronotopes and that of the 'encounter', Mikhail Bakhtin uses the road as an example where 'the spatial and temporal paths of the most varied people intersect'. Using this framework, this paper will examine the narrative, aesthetic and thematic concerns of *The Girl Chewing Gum*.

MICHAEL RABIGER Professor Emeritus, Columbia College Chicago

Much from Little

Witty pocket dictionary of cinematic language that uses two shots, juxtaposition, irony, and the unreliable narrator to make us sense the poignancy and unrepeatability of reality.