

CHAPTER ONE

... Was I born a Displaced Person?... My life in Brooklyn... First impressions of America... Writing saves my sanity ... Leo... The weaknesses of Civility vs. Strength of Barbarism... On American Pop songs... A weekend in Stony Brook ... A DREAM... Searching for work... Peggy... We buy a Bolex camera... Beginning of filming... Novels into movies? ... Letter from Robert Flaherty... People in rain... Adolfo writes from Paris... On James Thurber... I am a bad patriot... On Julian Gracq... A STORY... On Jean Renoir...

P.9

CHAPTER TWO

... Escape from Brooklyn... Meeting Lilly... Moving into 95 Orchard Street... Getting drunk on New York... Adolfo comes home from U.S. Army... New friends, Gideon, Dorothy... Sneaking into the New School film classes... Working at Graphic Studios... New Jersey ... The Lubitsch "touches"... I begin to question direction of my life... Meeting Ian Hugo, Curtis Harrington... Coney Island... A trip to California, San Diego ... No, I am not a patriot...

P.59

CHAPTER THREE

... We make plans to start American Film House... New York independent film community... Searching for a building... George Copsis... I begin programming for Group for Film Study... On Josef von Sternberg... Searching, searching, searching for a building... A letter to

Mme. Epstein... Frank Kuentler...
Memories from childhood...

P.75

CHAPTER FOUR

We start *Film Culture* magazine... Money problems... A visit to Arthur Miller... We are sued by the primer... On Alban Berg and Anna Sokolow... Searching for money... On rereading childhood books... On importance of "un-importance" in cinema... *Film Culture* N.2... Editorial meetings... More on *F.C.* money problems etc.... We move to 109th Street... Anaïs Nin... In defense of avant-garde filmmakers as "artists"... Bob Stock's poetry salon... Meeting Ken Jacobs... On Edouard de Laurot... Working on *Film Culture*... Our visit to 14th Street Artists' Club...

P.99

CHAPTER FIVE

... Leo and Edouard clash... Humberto Arenal... The sadness of American Pop songs... The case Lucy... Should I close *Film Culture*?... Existential questions... I am lost, I am searching... A rendezvous with FBI agent... Plans to make a movie on the situation of the Black People in the South... The plight of a movie "critic" as compared to the literary... Themistocles Hoetis... An idea to create an association of small lit. magazines... A drunk actor... Hanne-lore's aunt... Benefit at MoMA for *Film Culture*... Why I am doing what I am doing... I am in doubt of my life again... Train ride to L.A.... A psychic foretells my future... About why I am keeping this diary... Donald Phelps analyses my handwriting...

P.123

CHAPTER SIX

... Beginning of filming of *Sunday Junction*
... I don't dream anymore... On bad Hollywood movies... Synopsis for a movie on escapees from a Dictatorial Country
... The happiness and the movies of the Twenties... Edouard vs. America... Recording highway sounds... Poetry of the highway nights... Adventures in trying to film in gas stations... Police
... About books for Miltinis... Kuenstler's party... Diane Arbus... More problems with locations... On Lindsay Anderson... We are broke and hungry... Edouard and Pamela Moore... Dos Passos on James Dean... I am a regionalist... On Lithuania
... Peddling my play around... I begin working at Cooper Offset... Mary Frank...

P.151

CHAPTER SEVEN

... In defense of Bresson... In Defense of Perversity... End of the year 1958... Cassavetes reshoots *Shadows*... Anice... My letter to the Department of Taxation... Letter from Maya Deren... Letters to Edouard... I am trying to cope with *Film Culture*, etc... About changing sensibilities in the arts... Meeting with Ron Rice... On Pop music and highways... Robert Frank... With Allen Ginsberg we visit Storm De Hirsch... About drugs and self-hypnosis... A STORY... Letter to Edouard... A PLAY...

P.185

CHAPTER EIGHT

... Frances... About self-containment... Mescal... I decide to make my first "real" film... A DREAM... On *Shadows* as

projection of myself... Letter to Edouard re. *Film Culture*, N.Y. film scene, etc... Adolfas returns from Canada... Notes made on train to Chicago... Detroit as image of Hell... I try to change my life... The unreality... Close to another of my "nervous breakdowns"... An unpublished *V. Voice* column... Brakhage at the Living Theatre... From a letter to Edouard re. *Guns of the Trees*... On Peter Orlovsky... Broke... Desperate... Search for a job...

P.213

CHAPTER NINE

... I begin filming *Guns of the Trees*... Filming in the Catskills... Hunger
... The curse of the *Private Property*... Arrested... Disagreements with Edouard... Notes on the young generation... On Howard Hawks... Rossellini, Renoir... Against Nouvelle Vague... Edouard against *Pull My Daisy*... Fulton Fish Market... Equipment stolen... Out of money... Hungry... We learn to steal food... A drink with Lionel Rogosin
... Robert Frank... On physical fitness...

P.233

CHAPTER TEN

... The New American Cinema Group... The First Statement of the N.A.C. Group... Robert Frank, De Antonio... Filming in Brooklyn... Hunger... On new cinema techniques... New imagery... What do we mean by anti-Hollywood?... Advice to a "beginning" film-maker... About our eating habits... Hunting for money... About Sheldon's generation... On film acting... On improvisation... My working practices vs. those of Edouard's... Europe vs. America... George Maciunas saves us... Manifesto on improvisation
... About asking for money...

P.253

CHAPTER ELEVEN

... *Editing Guns*... Frustrating screenings for investors... On dubbing... On Rossellini... On Chayevsky's *Marty*... About "unpretentiousness"... About stealing food... Shelley on poetry... On function of a cameraman in New Cinema... Tautoumas visits... Working on "ourselves"... Notes after reading *Naked Lunch*... On unimportance... di Prima, MacLow... *The Connection*... *Pull My Daisy*... More on Hawks... In praise of Star Cinema... On Richard Leacock... Orson Welles... Stealing food at SAFEWAY... Film acting in Europe and America... On Brando, James Dean and Carruthers... On Marilyn Monroe... A note to academicians... On dubbing... sounds... The poetry of the highway nights...

P. 281

CHAPTER TWELVE

... Markopoulos edits *Serenity*... Meeting David Stone... Spoleto Film Festival... A STORY... *Film Culture* money problems continue... Letter from Maciunas... Lucia Dlugoszewski records... Maya Deren vs. New American Cinema... Letter from Robert Frank... An invitation to General Strike... Creation of the Film-Makers' Cooperative... *Open City* at MoMA... On Peter Schumann's *Totentanz*... On Erick Hawkins and Barbara Tucker... Joe Freeman... On Kabuki... Willard Maas on Brakhage... My "farewell" to *The Village Voice*... On poetry... A letter to Yoko Ono... A letter to Louis Brigante in Venice... N.A.C. Group... Filming *Hallelujah* in Vermont... A "review" of *The Connection*... Letter to Edouard... Neo-Dada at Jolas... Letter to Marie from Vermont... About snow and power of nature... Charles Theatre...

P. 307

CHAPTER THIRTEEN

... Film-Makers' Coop memos... Fundraising for Ron Rice... Letter from Joan Crawford... I am trying to change my life's direction again... the Third Report of the N.A.C. Group... Filming Dalí... How to stage Shakespeare... Notes from the ship FRANCE... Paris... Notes from Cannes... On cinéma vérité... On human voice in cinema... Ricky Leacock on cinéma vérité... More notes from the ship... On train to Avignon... Letter to Brakhage re. "monastery of fools"... From the ship... On Jerry Jofen... Zen of Splicing... On film distribution... On Storm De Hirsch... Notes from the Coop...

P. 355

CHAPTER FOURTEEN

... New aesthetics of cinema... On 8mm cinema... THIS SPORTING LIFE... Jack Smith and *The Great Pasty Triumph*... Baudelairean cinema is born... On Brion Gysin, Jerry Jofen... Intro to the N.A.C. Exposition... Barbara Rubin on Jack Smith... *The Flaming Creatures* affair at Knokke-Le-Zoute... A letter to New York film-makers from Knokke... Letter to Barbara and Sitney on NY scene... Letter to Yoko Ono... Report on FM Coop meeting... Letter to Barbara... Letter to Jack Smith... Letter to Sitney on Markopoulos, Brakhage, Harry Smith, *The Brig*...

P. 387

CHAPTER FIFTEEN

... Why FM Coop refuses licensing films... Summons issued to the Coop... Confusing laws... A letter to Naomi re. my

average day at the Coop... Facts on seizing of *Flaming Creatures*, *Un Chant d'Amour*, and my arrest... Notes for TINA's film... Letter from Sartre... On Courts and Lawyers... On censorship... A letter to Sitney on Brakhage, Markopoulos... Suggestions from Ginsberg... Notes on *Flaming Creatures*... Coop wall bulletins re. censorship... Women and *Flaming Creatures*...

P.425

CHAPTER SIXTEEN

... Letters to Sitney (on Harry Smith, Gregory, Warhol, Jack Smith, *Film Culture*) ... Coop wall memo about myself... Notes on the N.A.C. Group and the Coop ... On Jack Smith... Mini-Manifesto on Movement and Lighting... A letter to Naomi... On *Twice A Man*... On morality of our art... Opening speech at a Film Festival... Barbara's text... Letter to the Director of Venice Film Festival... Coop wall memo on publicity... Hunger!... Seymour Stern, *Film Culture*... Gregory & *Prometheus*... Jane Holzer... Yoko Ono ... On changes in cinema, improvisation... Happenings... Why Jack hates Coop... I burn the bridges...

P.459

CHAPTER SEVENTEEN

... Letter to Kenneth Anger... On Stockhausen and Cage... More about money and myself... J.T. Farrell... With Shirley Clarke we review "history" of the Coop... Letter from Maciunas... About *The Brig* ... Letter from Louise Brooks... Letters to Mark re. Poets' Theater... Letter from Ginsberg... Diane di Prima... About those who want to exploit us... Carolee Schneemann... Party at the Factory ... Looking for money... I cut my hair to

raise money... On Lenny Bruce... On cinéma vérité... Art and Truth... Naomi ... On Jack Smith... I visit Gregory... Friends of New Cinema... My answers to a Russian journalist... Visiting Beverly Grant and Tony Conrad... On Warhol's *Poor Little Rich Girl*... Ron Rice dies...

P.483

CHAPTER EIGHTEEN

... My dreams... Coop Memo #547899... Ken Jacobs, Naomi... On Barbara Rubin... Letter to Sitney (about my work at 'Tek)... Letter to Jack Smith... Letter to Sitney (about my life and work) ... Beatles movies... Letter to Kenneth Anger... Meeting Carl Theodor Dreyer... Letter to Markopoulos... Letter to Naomi about my style of living... On Expanded Cinema... Gregory Markopoulos... Letter to Jerome... Letter from Ginsberg... Coop wall Memo... *Film Culture*... Stan comes to town... Desperate money letter to Henry... Letter to Mario Montez... Newspapers and Underground cinema...

P.513

CHAPTER NINETEEN

... Cinematheque moves to 41st Street ... Letter to Kenneth Anger... Letter to Gregory re. Stan... Visiting Naomi in Bellevue Hospital... On Cinematheque ... Coop Memo... Creation of Film-Makers' Distribution Center... About Press and Underground... Notes for a movie with Taylor Mead... A manifesto on Newsreels... Re-seeing *The Brig*... Brakhage *Songs*... Depression... A STORY ... A letter to Pesaro Film Festival... A letter to the members of the FM Coop... on London Coop... A DREAM... On my way to Avignon... Re. cliques in the arts... A note to yogis... The Living Theatre... On actors as deities... Notes from Cassis ... Taylor Mead... About who should

screen our movies... ASPEN 8mm movie package... on Canyon Cinema Coop... Miscellaneous scrap notes...

P. 543

CHAPTER TWENTY

... Tired... Searching for money for 'Tek and *Film Culture*... Intermedia issue of *F.C.*... My childhood... My daily working schedule... America Today series... Valéry on poetry... A letter to the Mayor of New York... Searching for a secretary... How to copyright films... Notes from Rome... Notes from a N.A.C. agitator... On screening movies in Italy... Pesaro... *The Art of Vision*... Climaxes in cinema... My films seized at the NY airport... A trip to Ávila...

P. 583

CHAPTER TWENTY ONE

... Bardo Matrix Light Show... About our audiences... Memo re. competition and commercialism... Andrew Sarris and Vietnam... A note on police... A postcard from Maciunas... A usual day... Letter to David Store re. Coop... Re. censorship... A letter to Stan... Scrap notes... On Communications, Education and Art... Man Can Not Live by Melodrama Alone... Letter to Stan re. Shirley Clarke... A note to Peter Beard... Coop and politics... In defense of Shirley Clarke... Confusions of terminology... Notes on the Coop meeting... About new methods of film dissemination... Re. 80 Wooster Street... On Stan Vanderbeek... Re. us and Establishment... Notes presented at the NY Cultural Showcase re. *Shoot Your Way Out With the Camera* project...

P. 619

CHAPTER TWENTY TWO

... My day schedule Oct. 9, '67... Meeting Warren Beatty... Letter from Helen Adam... to Amos Vogel... Kenneth Anger escapes from London... Meeting Otto Preminger... With Shirley Clarke we go to NY World Fair grounds... Meeting Robert Duncan... Policemen lie also... Hunting for money... Drinking on empty stomach... Broke again... Coop Wall Memo on whom to blame... Plan for a Spring Festival... Coop meeting... Beauty of New York morning... On Norman Mailer... We are in Times Square... Intro to the traveling Film Exposition... On *Nude Restaurant*... Warhol movies... interoffice memo... On commerce... Creation of NEWSREEL... Notes on Dec. 21 Newsreel meeting... Letter to Sitney... On Newsreel & avant-garde... On finances...

P. 651

CHAPTER TWENTY THREE

... Intro for the premiere of *Walden*... Hermann Nitsch in Cincinnati... Martin Luther King is shot... A fake interview with myself... Letter to Sitney re. creation of Anthology Film Archives... Letter to Norman Mailer re. his films... Tenth International, a manifesto... On Ginsberg and responsibility to others... Letter on NY film scene... Letter from Norman Mailer... Is American film avant-garde apolitical?... Letter to Brakhage's... On nationalism... Films in libraries... Notes on Coop meeting... Polanski... Glauber Rocha visits FM Coop... Letter to Sitney re. 'Tek and Anthology... Letter to Brakhage...

P. 683