

The Trickle Down Theory of Sorrow



A film by Mary Filippo

Experimental, 2002
15 min, Film and Video, Color

Credits

Producer/ Director: Mary Filippo
Script/Cinematography//Editing: Mary Filippo
Music: Robert Constable and Mary Filippo



OFFICIAL SELECTION OF THE NEW YORK FILM FESTIVAL

Synopsis

Veteran experimental filmmaker Mary Filippo tackles issues of work, class and gender roles in this visually captivating and conceptually provocative documentary. At the core of this engaging autobiographical piece is an interview with Filippo's mother, as she recounts with calm resignation incidents of exploitation and gender discrimination she experienced while working in jewelry factories in the forties and fifties. The filmmaker contrasts her mother's quiet acquiescence with her own attitudes about the social injustices of her culture using a striking montage of painstakingly edited images--from the ironic to the disturbing to the sublime. Combined with complex mix of audio clips, music and sound effects, the film moves the viewer to consider connections between consumerism, global labor practices, motherhood, and the relationship between money and happiness.

Festivals/Exhibitions

- New York Film Festival
- Flaherty Film Seminar
- Pacific Film Archive

Director's Biography

In the last twenty years Mary Filippo has made four, short, painstakingly crafted, experimental films. Thematically, all of her films situate the filmmaker in the contradictions and social injustices of our culture. *The Trickle Down Theory of Sorrow* does so most openly. Mary uses humor in her work to engage and move the viewer on a journey through a very serious subject: the intersection of personal and political.

Filippo first studied filmmaking with the Marjorie Keller at the University of Rhode Island and then went to the Art Institute of Chicago where she took classes with George Landow, P. Adams Sitney and B. Ruby Rich. She lived in NYC for many years, where she made most of her films. She