

HERESIES 16

FILM VIDEO



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Gently Down the Stream

In Friedrich

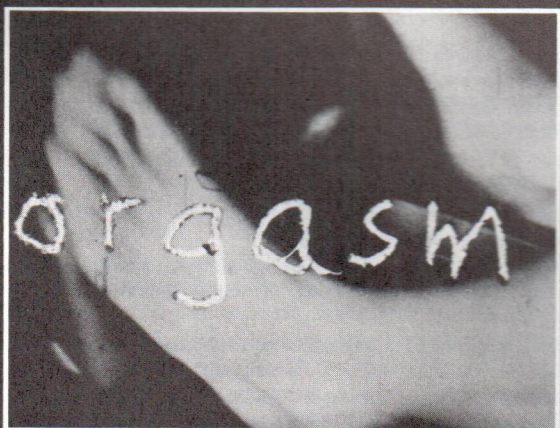


Wander through large quiet rooms
An old friend says What
are you doing here?

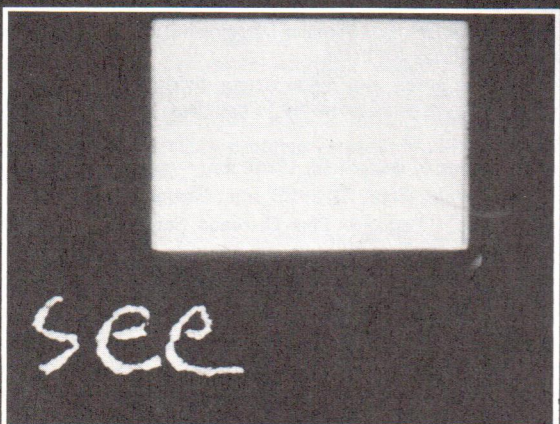
I say The weavers
worked as slaves to make these rugs

Think
She shouts Why
do you come here
and SPOIL everything?

This is pure civilization!



Walk into church
my mother trembles
trances
reciting a prayer about orgasm
I start to weep

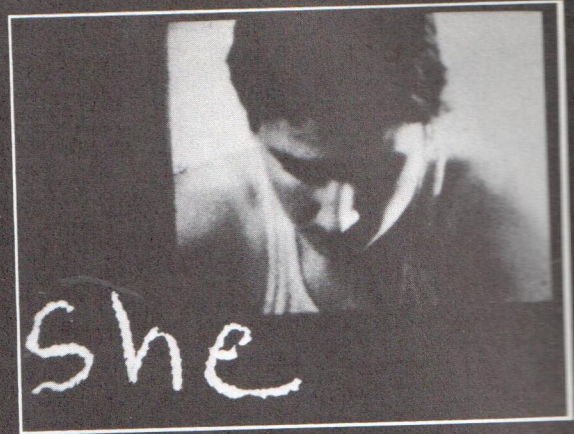


In the water near a raft
I see a woman
swimming and diving
in a wet suit

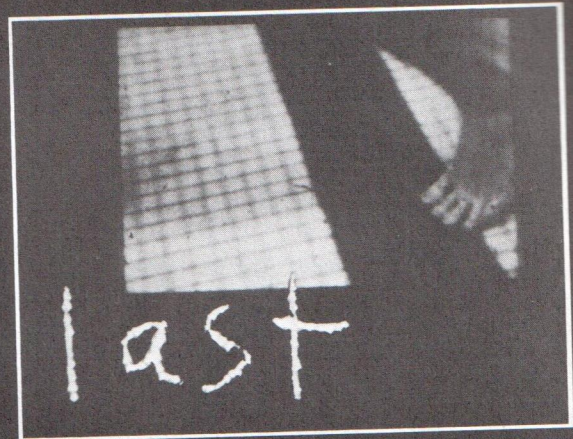
see her pubic hair

A woman sits on a stage
hunched over in the corner
She calls up a friend from the
audience
Asking her Come and make love to me

She does
I can't watch

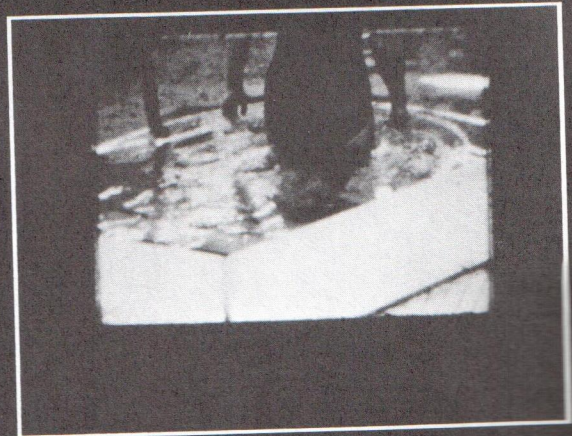


She mutters I CAN'T
can't hold you
The last time was too
tense so many
memories



Woman on the bed shivers
I wake her
she is angry
smears spermicidal jelly
on my lips

No!



Walk into church
A bloody furry arm is torn
from the body of an
animal

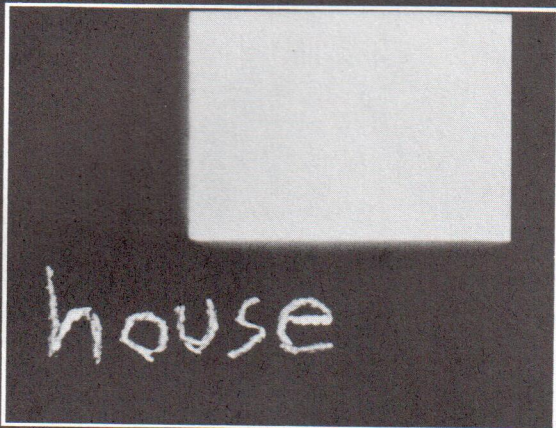
Did it rip its own arm off?



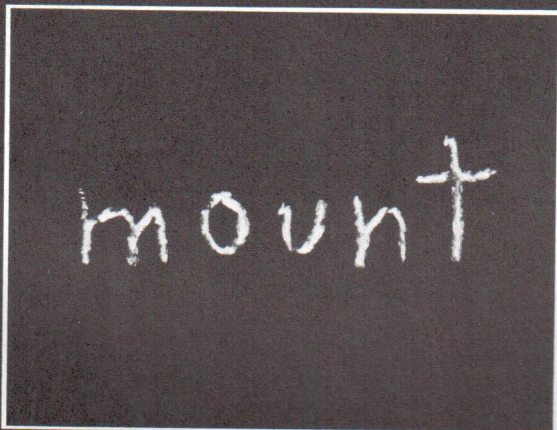


I make a second
vagina
beside my first one
I look in surprise

Which
is the original?



Building a model house for
some man
Do it
without getting paid
Do it
wrong

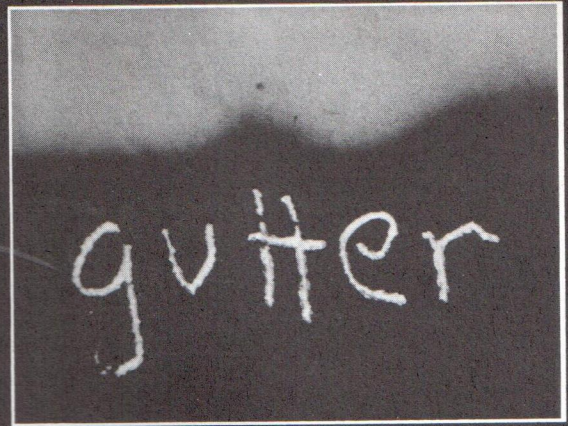


I draw a man
take his skin
inflate it
get excited
mount it

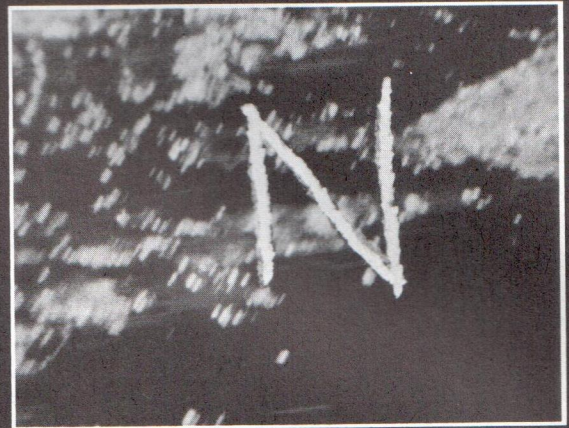


It's like being in love with
a straight woman

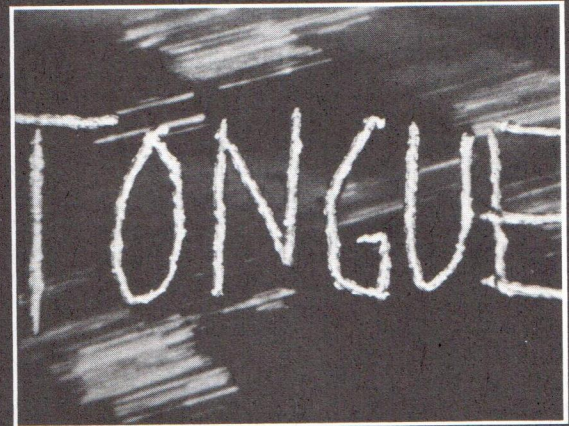
I lie in a gutter giving birth
to myself
two fetuses dark green and
knotted up
Try to breathe so they don't
suffocate
I can pull one out
but it starts to crumble up



Five women sing a capella
funny harmony
they spell the word truth
in German
I spell B L I N D N E S S
A man says
Their Song Is A Very Clever Pun
I say I can't agree
I don't know German



A LEOPARD EATS TWO BLUE
two blue hummingbirds
humming
I feel the feathers
MY TONGUE
fl utter on my
bones mutter hearts utter feathers
humming on my tongue



Dedicated with love to the two blue hummingbirds, A.S. and D.L.

The text and images on these pages are from my film, *Gently Down the Stream* (1981). Each section of the text is a separate dream, selected from eight years' worth of journals, but rewritten for the film so that they are more condensed and articulate. The words that are scratched on black in the images were done by hand, etched into the emulsion of the film, so that you read rather than hear the words of each dream (the film is silent). The images are not meant to illustrate the dreams, but to suggest certain desires or movements.

Su Friedrich is an experimental filmmaker who sometimes writes film criticism and was a member of the Heresies Collective for several years.