



On the menu for July, Film Kitchen presents
a tribute to **Leo Vale**.

Film Kitchen presents a special tribute to Leo Vale, stalwart of the 1970s and 80s Pittsburgh film scene, who passed away in December of 2020. Leo was a lifelong movie lover who started making 8mm films with his brother Jim (J.T.) when they were kids. He attended CalArts in the 1970s and was also a crucial figure in the early days of Pittsburgh Filmmakers, where he developed a distinctive style of filmmaking reflecting a breadth of cinematic and historical influences. His work can varyingly be described as experimental, narrative, documentary, found footage, b-movie (and sometimes all at once) but it is consistently visionary. Yet his films have been almost entirely unseen for over 30 years, so we are honored to be able to present some of Leo's most accomplished movies, salvaged from the ends of the earth.

Unless otherwise noted, Leo's work presented tonight (originally shot on film) is sourced from a VHS tape generously transferred to digital and provided by John Kirch.

Leo's family and friends will join hosts
Matthew R. Day and Steven Haines for a remembrance.

Screening List

1. *And Foray Grim I Tholed - 1975 (2 min) by Leo Vale*

Can you solve the puzzle of those intriguing spots?

2. *No One is to Blame - 1972 (1 min) by Leo Vale*

See the end of the world in just 5-seconds in this index-card animation, likely created in a workshop led by Pittsburgh Filmmakers member Tippi Comden. Image sourced from 16mm duplicate, audio sourced from the infamous VHS tape.

3. *The New Dropouts - (13 min) by Leo Vale*

A taste of Leo's highly-constructed tedium...and Tang.

4. *Leo Vale (1950 - 2020) - 2021 (3 min) by John Kirch*

A personal reflection on Leo, constructed by a friend from archival audio and imagery.

5. *Nine Ten - (2 min) by Leo Vale*

Leo and Robert Haller (former Pittsburgh Filmmakers and Anthology Film Archives executive director) craft an abstract landscape of light and movement. Silent.

6. *Trucks - (3 min) by Leo Vale*

Study in motion and light #2. Silent.

7. *Look Back at Anger - 1974 (13 min) by Leo Vale*

Get up-close and personal with Kenneth Anger during one of his visits to Pittsburgh in 1973 or 1974.

8. *Unboxing Leo Vale (1st draft) - 2021 (12 min) by Steven Haines*

This reflection on the search for Leo's lost films was made with the help and participation of Sean Darby, Emily Davis, Cynthia Vale, Daniella Vale, and Leo Vale.

9. *A Mighty Fortress is Our God - 1972 (12 min) by Leo Vale with new original score by John Kirch (2021)*

This shot-on-a-shoestring adventure spectacle -- by many accounts Leo's most well-remembered film -- reimagines Pittsburgh's South Side as the site of a holy fortress under attack from an airplane gunner. Presented from a new 2K digital transfer from the 8mm camera original.

Mark your calendars!

Next Pittsburgh Film Kitchen

Tuesday, September 14, 2021 at 7pm

at The Parkway Theater



***Anyone can submit completed works
on film or video for the series.***



***For more information or to submit work, email host and curator
Matthew R. Day at: matthewday@jumputcuttheater.org***

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