



The Ballad of Don Quinn

Coleslaw Warehouse Bruce McCulloch

Canada, 1992, 25 minutes
 Production Company: TRONT Communications Inc.
 Executive Producer: Susan Cavan
 Producer: Karen Lee Hall
 Cast: Don McKellar, Andy Jones

Print Source: Accent Entertainment, 207-209
 Adelaide Street East, Toronto, Ontario, Canada
 M5A 1M8. Tel: (416) 867-8700. Fax: (416) 867-1764.

The Ballad of Don Quinn Mark Wihak

Canada, 1992, 28 minutes
 Production Company: OM Films
 Executive Producer: Saskatchewan FilmPool
 Collective
 Screenwriter: Mark Wihak
 Cast: Michael Burns, Laura Pollock, Alan Zweig

Print Source: OM Films, 24-2201 14th Avenue,
 Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada S4P 0X9. Tel:
 (306) 352-8394. Fax: (306) 757-1011.

Moosejaw (There's a future in our past.) Rick Hancox

Canada, 1992, 57 minutes
 Producer: Rick Hancox
 Screenwriter: Rick Hancox

Print Source: Rick Hancox, 1529 Weyburn Street,
 Ottawa, Ontario, Canada K1G 0Y4. Tel: (613) 733-
 6930. Fax: (613) 848-3492.

These films explore overlooked corners of time and place to pay tribute to the forgotten people and outlying regions that don't make the six o'clock news. "Kids in the Hall" Bruce McCulloch's debut is a bittersweet comic eulogy to the mom and pop businesses we're leaving behind. Mr. Semenko saw his heyday in the fifties when gingham was everywhere, feminists were just "gals with spunk," and coleslaw was king. Now, french fries rule and his coleslaw business is disintegrating. Constantly pestered by his wacky family and unnervingly revered by his keen apprentice, Mr. Semenko is a stubborn anachronism barely holding onto a crumbling past. Full of real-life references to luminaries like Joey Shithead and Zippy Pinhead, *The Ballad of Don Quinn* is Mark Wihak's sardonic remembrance of the underground music scene from the turn of the last decade. Punk is finally retro in this drama about an aging headbanger-turned-parking lot attendant who tries reviving his old band, the Spontaneous Abortions, and meets with nothing but flagrant indifference. The muted isolation of Wihak's Regina gives the band's pathetic comeback even sharper comedy, even greater pathos. Rick Hancox digs into a bounty of ready-made pop iconography to document his return to his Saskatchewan hometown. An epic work-in-progress since 1978, *Moosejaw* is a multi-levelled excavation of an ever-vanishing collective past and an ironic deconstruction of the present state of the Canadian federation. All three films, with various forms of hilarity and insight, offer us dimensions of this country which are too often ignored.



Bruce McCulloch has been a theatre writer/director as well as a creative participant in the comedy troupe *Kids In The Hall*. *Coleslaw Warehouse* (92) is his first film.



Mark Wihak received his BFA from the University of Regina. His first feature, *A Weekend at Emerald Lake* is in development, and two other projects are currently in production. His films are *Terra*

Incognito (90), *The Ballad of Don Quinn* (92), and *Jack in the Box* (92).



Rick Hancox was born in Toronto, and grew up in Moosejaw, Saskatchewan and P.E.I. He influenced the "escarpment school" of experimental filmmaking, while teaching at Sheridan College.

Currently he teaches Communication Studies at Concordia University. *Moosejaw (There's a future in our past.)* (92) is his sixteenth film.