

Microcosm Publishing
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Cantankerous Titles, Volume 1

by Joe Biel



SUBJECT CATEGORY: Documentary

RELEASE: 9/1/7

PRICE: Retail: \$12 | Direct: \$10 | Wholesale: \$7.20

ISBN: 978-0-9788665-0-1

UPC: 8 80270 11292 0

FORMAT: NTSC DVD, 94 minutes + 22 bonus minutes

Zinester and film-maker Joe Biel is back with Cantankerous Titles & Obscure Ephemera, Vol. 1, a collection of documentary shorts including the award-winning "Martinis in the Bike Lane." Biel's coverage of lesser-known story subjects is homespun and funny, a time capsule of ignored Americana.

What is it about the board game Risk that turns politically conscious punk kids into armchair imperialists? Why is passenger train travel dying off in the US? Who makes all those "bike guy" markings seen in bike lanes across the country? Why do stray animals grab hold of our hearts? Are canvas patches really an effective medium for getting your message across? Cantankerous has your answers.

"Joe Biel, founder of Microcosm Publishing, is often noted in the world where independent filmmaking and zine-creating meet for his work in producing a documentary on zine culture in the Northwest U.S. (\$100 & A T-Shirt), however, he's kept on with smaller documentary film projects such as the ones included on this DVD. For all intents and purposes, Cantankerous is a DVD-zine, featuring five 11-39 minute documentaries on bike lanes, RISK, passenger rails in the U.S., a dog, and punks with patches." Taylor Ball, *Parcell Press*

"This DVD of short documentaries by Joe Biel was probably the best thing that's come in the mail for me this month ... It's really worth checking out, especially for fans of Christy C. Road or Aaron Cometbus." *Janine Oski, Feminist Review*

Comparative Titles:

Who Is Bozo Texino? DVD by Bill Daniel

\$100 & a T-Shirt: A Documentary about 'Zines in the Northwest DVD by Joe Biel

From Portland with Bike Love DVD by Rev. Phil Sano

DIY or DIE DVD by Michael Dean

Sales Handles:

"Martinis in the Bike Lane" won "Best Documentary Short" in the Mid-Valley Film Festival.

Interviews have appeared in Wonkavision, Verbicide, Punk Planet, Mximum Rock and Roll Magazines

Presentation Appearance at Loyola University

Employed by city planning departments in Louisville, Atlanta, and Portland.

Used as a high school and college classroom tool.

DVD is being displayed and sold at festivals all over the US.

Co-founder of Portland Zine Symposium, the world's largest zine gathering.

Excellent tool for librarians

MARKETING NOTES:

- Previous DVD has sold over 2,500 copies and been seen by thousands more.
- DVD is featured on over 10,000 brochures distributed to stores and individuals
- Advertised regularly in *Punk Planet*, *Maximum RocknRoll*, *Slug and Lettuce*, *Hit Me Back*, and *Reader's Guide to the Underground Press* magazines
- DVD was featured on a 40 day screening tour of the US including events in all major US cities and many small towns. Additional tours are planned for the US and Canada.

ABOUT THE ARTIST:

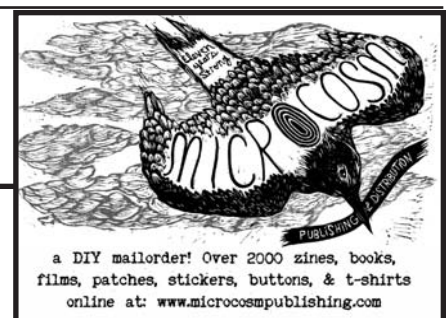
Joe Biel is a multidisciplinary artist living in Bloomington, IN. His previous films include the popular "talkumentary" about zine-making, *\$100 & a T-Shirt* and the study of James Earl Ray's innocence, *Tennessee State Prison*. He founded Microcosm Publishing in 1996.



ABOUT THE PUBLISHER:

Microcosm Publishing is an independent publisher and distributor based in Portland, Oregon. Our titles attempt to teach self empowerment to disenfranchised people and to nurture their creative side.

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