

CYCLING SHORTS: Short Documentaries About Bicycles by JOE BIEL

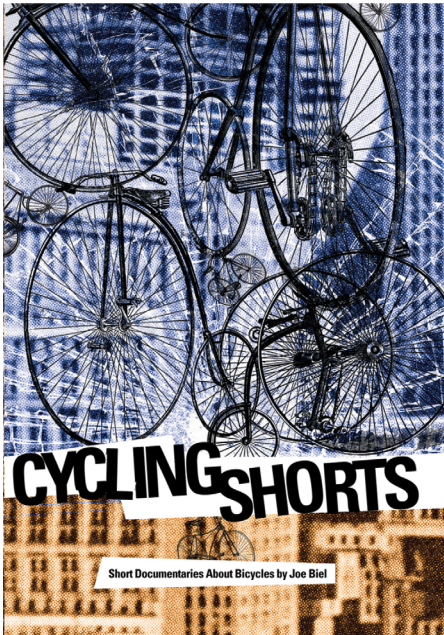
Provides a unique look at these cultural events and let's the participants speak in their own words

"Joe Biel's collection of "talkies" perfectly embodies the D.I.Y. doc mantra of "just get out there and shoot it." Consisting of films ranging from 2 to 20 minutes, Biel injects each film with a political and socially conscious agenda. ... Biel's D.I.Y. doc aesthetic works well throughout the disk and he's definitely developing a signature in his style, it'll be interesting to see what he aims his camera at next." —**Broken Pencil**

"This DVD of short documentaries by Joe Biel was probably the best thing that's come in the mail for me this month. I mean that. Maybe, as someone who enjoys interviewing people, I am a bit biased, but I really enjoy the subjects Biel presents, as well as the way personal commentary figures in, yet is not contrived. Among them, *Martinis In The Bike Lane* is probably the highlight of the collection: a short about the improvisational graphics in Portland's "bike only" lanes, and the crew who made them. Really worth checking out, especially for fans of Christy C. Road or Aaron Cometbus."

—**Feminist Review**

"Film maker Joe Biel is from the classic indie mold. In some ways he reminds me of Bill Brown, the voice over, or talk-umentary styles are very similar." —**Blogger News Network**



"The winners here are *Martinis In The Bike Lane*, covering unusual bike lanes in Portland, Oregon with strange markings that offer amusing anecdotes, and *Last Train Out Of North America* is a surprisingly good piece about the U.S. train system and how it is purposely being undermined by the government so superhighways can be built endlessly for polluting gasoline vehicles instead of modernizing the system like so many other countries have to save money, resources and make oil & auto interests rich. Good enough alone to justify picking up the disc." —**Fulvue Drive-In**

Subject: Transportation / Sports

RELEASE: **October 2012**

PRICE: **\$14.95**

ISBN: 9781621064633

Format: DVD, 4 hours

What is bicycle culture? It's what you make of it. Anything can happen: Activists educate the policymakers. Bureaucrats create whimsical public art. Strangers help each other move house by bike. Corporations turn their drive-thrus into bike thrus. Joe Biel's short movies explore all these phenomena and more as he follows the emergence of modern bike culture over the last ten years of riding the streets of US cities and meeting the characters who are making the magic happen. The twenty one short documentaries include *Martinis in the Bike Lane*, *Burgerville's Bike-Thru*, *Training for Carmageddon*, *Hunter-Gatherers Never Looked This Good*, *Disabled Cyclists*, *Sunday Parkways*, *Last Train Out of North America*, and many more. Twenty one short films.

Marketing Notes

- 1: Having fun by watching all of the unique cultural bicycle events.
- 2: A better understanding of what contemporary bicycle fun looks like in the U.S.
- 3: Curiosity about the changing culture and climate of transportation bicycling in the U.S.

Comparative Titles

Pedaling Revolution 9780870714191 (Oregon State University) \$19.95, 2009

Bike Snob 9780811869980 (Chronicle) \$16.95, 2010

On Bicycles 9781608680221 (New World Library) \$16.95, 2011



Joe Biel is a writer, activist, journalist, filmmaker, teacher, and founder of Microcosm Publishing, Cantankerous Titles, and co-founder of the Portland Zine Symposium. He currently teaches film at the NW Documentary Center and tours the U.S. with his films. He has been featured in the *Utne Reader*, *Portland Mercury*, *Oregonian*, *Broken Pencil*, *Readymade*, *Punk Planet*, and *Maximum Rocknroll*.

Cantankerous Titles was founded in 2009 as a new publishing project by Joe Biel of Microcosm Publishing, and is dedicated to "explaining how the world works." Recent titles include the best-selling *Henry & Glenn Forever*, *Between Resistance and Community* and *Aftermass: A Post-Critical Mass Portland*.

Full U.S. Tour in 2012 and 2013 and 10,000 postcards distributed to retailers.

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