



**Critical Acclaim For  
P.O.V.'s "FOLLOWING SEAN"**

By Ralph Arlyck

"The probing . . . story of a man who'd been born into the countercultural delirium of mid-1960s Haight-Ashbury. . . . Mr. Arlyck's film traces the contrast between father and son in detail all the more effective for its delicacy. . . . a dry wit and unsparing insight [characterizes] this admirable film."

— **Dorothy Rabinowitz, *The Wall Street Journal***

"It tells the tale not only of a remarkable young man's life, but also of the hippie movement in America, of family, destiny, choices, values, generations and aging."

— **Ginny Power, *Newsweek***

"A tender and levelheaded rumination on the legacy of the '60s and the mysteries of everyday life. . ."

— **Nathan Lee, *The New York Times***

"You will be deeply, quietly moved."

— **Ann Hornaday, *The Washington Post***

"Remarkably subtle. . . . a totally unsettling work."

— **Gregory Alexandre, *Rolling Stone***

"[Arlyck] creates an overall picture of lives. What is the role of work, of family, of freedom? Each person juggles that differently, in a documentary that has moments of sadness and joy."

— **Mike Hughes, *Gannett News Service***

"An ambitious memoir about politics, the gravitational pull of family history and the work ethic."

— **Sura Wood, *The Hollywood Reporter***

"Exhilarating... reminiscent of the lauded British documentaries that began with *7-Up*."

— **Ruthe Stein, *San Francisco Chronicle***

A penetrating cinematic essay on how generations in the last century struggled to take hold of history and reconfigure the shape of daily life."

— **Gene Seymour, *Newsday***

"We've had a lot of hippie nostalgia in this Summer of Remembering the Summer of Love, but Ralph Arlyck's film *Following Sean* has a unique twist. . ."

— **Robert Philpot, *Fort Worth Star-Telegram***

"Marvelous...exquisitely resonant... It touches on a universality that transcends VW buses and Bush-era politics."

— **Eleanor Gillespie, *Atlanta Journal-Constitution***

“See this doc. Stat! . . . Arlyck manages to revisit a time period, a subject and his own complicated youth with fine intelligence and little of the cloying nostalgia for the counter-culture the others sometime suffered from.”

— **Lisa Kennedy, *Denver Post***

“A fascinating meditation on the ‘60s, family and Arlyck’s own filmmaking career. . . . It’s some refreshingly honest filmmaking.”

— **Roger Catlin, *The Hartford Courant***

“In this perceptive, provocative documentary, Arlyck rediscovers his own past and ponders his future. . . . Astutely and engagingly, *Following Sean* makes clear how work becomes life stories.”

— **Cynthia Fuchs, *PopMatters.com***

“The finest film I’ve seen this year. . . . As affecting as one of Chekov’s sobering tales.”

— **Gerald Peary, *The Boston Phoenix***

“A crowd-pleasing narrative full of characters. Spanning three generations, it’s a story woven into another story. . . . Stick with the filmmaker; he’ll surprise you with what he can do.”

— **Chelsea Bain, *Boston Herald***

“An engrossing story whose star remains a magnetic camera subject. Arlyck looks deeply into his own family history as well as Sean’s to understand their forebears’ decisions about what to put first: work, or their families, or the world. . . .”

— **Colin Covert, *Minneapolis Star Tribune***

“A fascinating portrait of an American family . . . strained by different value systems and yet still bound by love.”

— **Moira MacDonald, *The Seattle Times***

“Following Sean is a film of depth and complexity . . . quiet and reflective and wise.”

— **Margarita Landasuri, *Documentary Magazine***

“*Following Sean* is a warm and affectionate rumination on the twists and turns of growing up in America in the second half of the 20th century. . . . at once a highly personal film and yet a social panorama of great astuteness.”

— **George Robinson, *The Jewish Week, New York***

Arlyck, like fellow essayist Ross McElwee, prefers to work from the inside out, seamlessly weaving together his own story with Sean’s. . . . a quietly devastating meditation on family, work, and the unrelenting passage of time

— **Drew Tillman, *The Village Voice***

“Profound . . . a stirring meditation on time and aging, on youth and dreams and ideals, on middle-age, old age, companionship and family. . . . It’s a thoughtful film, a sort of cinematic poem. . . .”

— **Justin DeFreitas, *Berkeley Daily Planet***

“Ineffably haunting. . . . Arlyck’s wall-to-wall narration brims with introspection and tenderness. . . . *Following Sean* deserves a spot in the canon of Bay Area histories that includes *Berkeley in the 60s* and *The Times of Harvey Milk*.”

— **Michael Fox, *SF Weekly***