NORMAN McLAREN

Between the Frames

Nichola Dobson

BLOOMSBURY ACADEMIC New York • London • Oxford • New delhi • Sydney

CONTENTS

List of Figures	viii
Acknowledgements	x
Foreword	xi
INTRODUCTION	1
Chapter 1	
PERSONAL LIFE	7
Chapter 2	
STIRLING'S SONS	53
Chapter 3	
WORLD TRAVELLER	81
Chapter 4	
INFLUENTIAL ARTS	109
Chapter 5	
COLLABORATIONS	133
Chapter 6	
A COMPLICATED MAN	155
A Guide to Further Research	161
Bibliography	163
Selected Filmography	166
About the Author	168
Index	169

FIGURES

All permissions courtesy of University of Stirling, unless otherwise stated.

1.1	Young Norman McLaren (date unknown). GAA/31/PP/19/01	7
1.2	21 Albert Place, Stirling. GAA/31/PP/19/100	10
1.3	Family portrait, c.1917. GAA/31/PP/019	11
1.4	McLaren with brother and sister, c.1926. GAA/31/PP/021	14
1.5	McLaren with parents, aunt, Biddy Russell and Helen Biggar,	
	c.1936. GAA/31/PP/110	15
1.6	McLaren with family (including nephews), c.1958	16
1.7	Exterior of house in Hudson, Canada, c.1980. GAA/31/PP/19/009	18
1.8	'Rooftop Lounge', interior design project, Glasgow School of	
	Art, c.1936	20
1.9	Helen Biggar, c.1935	21
1.10	Still from Camera Makes Whoopee, Glasgow School of Art, 1934	22
1.11	Glasgow School of Art Mural, c.1935	23
1.12	Letter to Helen Biggar – idea for Hell Unltd, c.1936. GAA/31/C/	
	8/42/3	24
1.13	Behind the scenes filming of Hell Unltd, 1936	25
1.14	Letter to Helen Biggar with interesting use of language. GAA/	
	31/C/3/1936/11	27
1.15	McLaren's mood while traveling, note to Helen Biggar, 1936.	
	GAA/31/C/3/1936/8	28
1.16	Norman McLaren sunbathing, c.1936. GAA/31/PP DMcW negs	31
1.17	Norman McLaren, c.1934. GAA/31/P/19/184	31
1.18	Letter from McLaren to his mother reminding her of 'Complan',	
	21 June 1956. GAA31/C/1/1958/5	35
1.19	Guy Glover, c.1934. Acc 14 04 003	38
1.20	Norman McLaren and Guy Glover with McLaren's parents in	
	Stirling, c.1937. GAA/31/PP 19 127	40
1.21	Norman McLaren and Guy Glover digging Anderson shelter,	
	Stirling, c.1937. GAA/31/PP 19 044	41
1.22	Norman McLaren and Guy Glover, c.1940. GAA/31/PP 19 071	42
1.23	Norman McLaren and Guy Glover, Montreal, 1974. Image	
	courtesy of David Lloyd Glover	49
2.1	John Grierson (date unknown)	53
2.2	John and Mrs Grierson (date unknown)	73
3.1	Postcard from Moscow, September 1935. McLPost001	82

3.2	Postcard from Moscow, September 1935. McLPost001	83
3.3	Norman McLaren with Guy Glover, Vera and Jack Wilson,	
	New York, c 1942. Acc 14 04 004	96
3.4	Letter to parents from China, 26 September 1949. GAA 31 66	99
3.5	Letter from China with drawing of Yangtze (date unconfirmed).	
	GAA/31/PP/19/31/001	101
3.6	Jury at unknown film festival, c.1958. GAA/31/PP/19 008	105
4.1	School on the Rock, illustration from Stirling High School,	
	c. 1928, not catalogued	110
4.2	Stirling High School painting, c.1928, not catalogued	111
4.3	Norman McLaren painting, date unknown, not catalogued	111
4.4	Three contrary objects, 24 June 1958. GAA/31/PP/19/31/004	115
4.5	Norman McLaren with violin orchestra, c. 1924. GAA/31/PP/	
	19/036	119
4.6	Students musical, c.1934, not catalogued.	120
5.1	Norman McLaren with Evelyn Lambart, date unknown. GAA/	
	31/PP/19/024	134
5.2	Letter from Canadian Embassy, Tokyo, to Norman McLaren	
	with additional handwritten note including Evelyn Lambart,	
	9 February 1961	142
6.1	Norman McLaren at home 1974, Montreal. Image courtesy of	
	David Lloyd Glover	158