

THE LABRADOR INSTITUTE OF MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY PRESENTS

## LABRADOR/ANS ON FILM

### SCREENING #2: THE MORAVIAN PRESENCE

1. *Unitas Fratrum: The Moravians in Labrador* (26min 13sec, National Film Board of Canada, 1983). Directed by Hubert Schuurman. We open this month's screening with what may likely be the most comprehensive film document chronicling the Moravian presence in Labrador. Some of you may know this as "Band of Brethren": episode of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation's *Man Alive* series. While Schuurman's film may seem dated now, many of the issues he chronicles here remain as relevant almost thirty years after the fact.

2. *Labrador Film From Kate Hettasch* (22min 28sec, n.d.). If this title appears somewhat strange after watching the item, know that it remains a mystery to us as well. Yes, that is Reverend Siegfried Hettasch describing the film, but we know very little about how this film came to be. Those of you who are familiar with the film work of Donald and Miriam MacMillan will immediately recognize some of this material as theirs, particularly of the Model T snowmobile and Inuit games. What we are showing here is an excerpt of a 60-minute document that provides some context as to how Moravians came to see and understand Northern Labrador.

3. *The Last Days of Okak* (23min 48sec, National Film Board of Canada, 1985). Directed by Anne Budgell and Nigel Markham. Arguably one of the most iconic films about Labrador. Period. Indeed, we assume that Anne and Nigel are household names here. Aside from its subject, this film is significant because of the manner in which it tells its story: that is through the equal use of still and moving images. For those of you unfamiliar with this film, be aware that some of the stories of the survivors of Okak may prove to be difficult.

3. *Labradorimiut: Moravian Mission* (30min 13sec, OKâlaKatiget Society, 1990). We close this screening by giving the final word to those directly affected by the Morvian presence: the Labrador Inuit. This episode of *Labradorimiut* provides some unique insights into how the Moravian Church came to bear upon Northern Labrador society. Notice how this episode tells its story in a similar manner to *The Last Days of Okak*: that is through the almost equal use of still and moving images.

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