

ESCAPING HISTORY

DIRECTOR

Stewart Applegath

DURATION

40:40

YEAR

1992

ORIGINAL LANGUAGE

English

CATEGORY

Documentary

**DESCRIPTION**

Ostensibly embarking upon a portrait of a "modern-day Abraham Lincoln", *Escaping History* traces the development of a relationship between the videomaker and his subject. As the story unfolds, it veers from the objective to the highly personal. The tape relates the story of Mel Glasser, a recovering schizophrenic who, having adopted the persona of Abraham Lincoln, has made considerable progress in the last twenty years. The tape refuses to romanticize Mel's condition ; he speaks frankly with intelligence and humour, and takes Applegath on a special journey.

IMAGE FORMAT

4:3

SOUND

Mono

KEYWORDS

Respect, Mental illness, Pleasure, Madness, Lucidity, Humanism

THEMES

Art and culture

Identity

Health

Private life

History

Society