REVERSE LETTER

DIRECTOR
Luc Bourdon

DURATION
5:00

YEAR
1984

ORIGINAL LANGUAGE
English
French

CATEGORY
Video Art



DESCRIPTION
Reverse Letter is a video essay on the city...It's like when we write a love letter or when we watch a film with passion.

IMAGE FORMAT
4:3

SOUND
Stereo

FURTHER INFORMATION

"*Reverse Letter*, Bourdon's other entry, was also a finalist. It has much rougher feel to it than *Distance*, yet it too is sensual : its atmosphere is created through different textures of light, sound, and image. It expands on Bourdon's interest in the urban environment. The languid sensousness [sic] of *Distance* is replaced by high contrast and oversaturation : images which never allow a complete reading of the environment. Bourdon concentrates on steel bridges, fences, and other symbols of imprisonment. A man, seated in a dark corner, shadows obscuring any detail in a cinema verite style, discusses his view of television and its control by those with power: psychological imprisonment perhaps much worse than the physical kind. The rest of the dialogue is in French with some English repeated over and over: "What now? What next?", leaving the viewer with a sense of entrapment and hopelessness. It was frustrating to miss a large portion of the artist's work because of language problems. Perhaps next time a national video competition is staged here there could be one bilingual member of the committee who could translate."

Video Guide, Vancouver, vol. 6, no 5 (octobre 1984), p. 4.

KEYWORDS
Essay, City, Nostalgia, Poetry, Dreamlike

THEMES
Environment