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