

GEOFFREY WEARY

Filmmaker in Residence

the Eye of the Model

The Eye of the Model has been made during an 8 week filmmaker in residency programme at Griffith University funded by the Australian Film Commission.

Sydney artist Geoffrey Weary has been based in Griffith Artworks' artists studio and the Faculty of Humanities' Film and Media studio working on post-production of *the Eye of the Model*, a 7 minute video work for screening at the Classic Cinema in East Brisbane.

The Eye of the Model was photographed in Moscow and St Petersburg in 1992-3. The work is concerned with the erasure of the iconography, words, and images that represent the Will of the State during the period of Soviet Power in Russia.

The smashed, desecrated, paint-spattered statues toppled after the failed coup of August 1991 and left discarded in the grounds of a museum in Moscow, are enmeshed with images that reflect an ambiguous relationship to visual representations that at one time may signify one thing, and at another time its opposite.

The Eye of the Model operates on a number of levels. Most immediately its image track counterpoints the soundtrack, Schnittke's Piano Sonata No.1, creating a compelling fusion of image and sound. At another level the work intertwines public iconographies of personal biography. In this respect *the Eye of the Model* demonstrates the extent to which contemplative video can orchestrate subtle evocations of public and personal reality.

This residency has recieved assistance from the Australian Film Commission

