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Two-in-One Out On Film Opens Live and Virtually September 23

👤 [Steve Warren \(https://thegavoice.com/author/swarren/\)](https://thegavoice.com/author/swarren/) 📁 [Culture \(https://thegavoice.com/culture/\)](https://thegavoice.com/culture/) 📅 September 10, 2021

One of my favorite moments in celebrity-interviewing came when Cloris Leachman teased me about my lust for one of her sons: “If you think — is hot, you should see —”; and she whipped out a photo of the latter, another son, to prove she was right.

Sadly, she passed away in January at the age of 94, so she won’t be appearing in person at the 34th Out On Film Festival – happening September 23 through October 3 – unless Zoom comes up with an online séance feature in time; but she’ll be represented by one of her final films, *Jump, Darling*.

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I wouldn't have missed one of Cloris Leachman's last performances, and she doesn't disappoint as the nonagenarian grandmother of Russell (Thomas Duplessie), who is 60 years younger but has no idea what to do with his life. The script stacks the deck against Russell, making him difficult to like. He walks out on his longtime lover, who's apparently been supporting him, to visit Grams and collect the car she's offered to give him. While there, he forges a check on her account for spending money. But he's also sympathetic toward Grams, who can hardly take care of herself but refuses to go to the assisted living facility Russell's mother wants to put her in. Russell, who once hoped to be an actor, works occasional drag gigs as "Fishy Falters." The film is as ambiguous about drag as it is about Russell, featuring several numbers that are highlights, yet looking down on what Russell's lover trashes as "gay variety show shit." Both lead actors rise above the material but make you wish it was better. It's not a challenge to play old when you're over 90, but few could do it as well as Leachman does here.

RAW! UNCUT! VIDEO!

Sept. 27, 9 p.m., Landmark Midtown Art Cinema; Sept. 28 virtual

When you hear there's a documentary about a company that made gay fetish videos between 1985 and 1997, does it pique your interest because: 1) it may be well made artistically; 2) it could be of value historically and nostalgically; or 3) PORN!!!! I'll admit I went into *Raw! Uncut! Video!* as a three, but I came away a two. To each their own, but BDSM/Leather has never been my thing. So, even though the film shows more cocks than I've seen in one place since a party decades ago, because of the context the only thing they aroused was my curiosity. Former Drummer editor Jack Fritscher and Mark Hemry, his husband of nearly 40 years, formed Palm Drive Video to make videos that not only appealed to fetishists but also portrayed safe sex (at least in terms of a lack of exchange of fluids; there appear to be other dangers involved in some of the practices shown) at the height of the AIDS crisis. Comments from former "models" in the videos and others make some good points about the need to preserve even the least easily assimilated aspects of our history; and one notes that the videos showed "you didn't have to be perfect to be sexy," which all us imperfect but sexy guys can applaud.

Disappointing

THE SIXTH REEL

Sept. 24 virtual

Cinephiles and bitchy queens may be drawn to this new film starring Charles Busch, who co-wrote and -directed with Carl Andress. They should leave disappointed. Jimmy (Busch) is "a small-time dealer in movie ephemera...more notorious than admired," who discovers the last reel of a "lost" Lon Chaney film amid the hoarded junk of a deceased author and film critic. The man's niece, Helen (Julie Halston), is with Jimmy when he finds it; and soon there's a fight to decide whether to preserve the film and show it to the world or sell it

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