American Film and Video Association Evaluations

The International Sweethearts of Rhythm

30 min. color 16mm & video 1986. Sale: \$425(16mm); \$295(video). Rental: \$55(16mm & video). Directed by Greta Schiller & Andrea Weiss.

Distributor: The Cinema Guild.

Synopsis: Uses performance and archival footage plus contemporary interviews to tell the story of the famous multi-racial, all women's jazz band of the 1940s. It places the Sweethearts, as an integrated band in the south, in a historical context, examining the prejudices they faced as women and as blacks.

Comments: An outstanding work! Well conceived and constructed. Paced well with excellent editing and sound. Good combination of archival materials and present day interviews. Explains clearly the band's history and fits it into the context of the period. Leaves audiences enthusiastic and intrigued. Technical quality very good.

Age Level: High School-Adult

Uses: Useful for black history, women's studies, jazz history and general entertainment.

Overall Rating: Blue Ribbon Winner, 1987 American Film & Video Festival

AFVA No. 1987.12,796.

Subject Areas: Black Studies; History, U. S.; Music & Musicians; Women's Studies