

We Tell Makers

We Tell prefers to call the many people who worked on the media projects in this exhibition makers rather than filmmakers, video artists, or directors.

First, very few of these works were produced by one person, so the auteurist model is insufficient.

Second, most of these were produced by collaborative, collective, or cooperative teams where members had shifting roles and made different kinds of contributions.

Finally, we offer the proviso that this list is most likely not complete and will evolve as more research about each of these films and their participatory production process is uncovered. We provide this list to honor the people who contributed to these works.

BIOGRAPHIES OF MAKERS

Herb E. Smith has been a filmmaker at Appalshop since 1969 when the media arts center began. He was a 17-year-old student at Whitesburg High. After graduating college, he became the Appalshop Coordinator, working to build the organization while continuing to make films. Over the past 50 years, he has made numerous films. The films have been shown at film festivals, museums, union halls, and community centers. Most have been broadcast by public television stations. International screenings include Chengdu, China; Yogyakarta, Indonesia; several cities in India; and several cities in Europe.