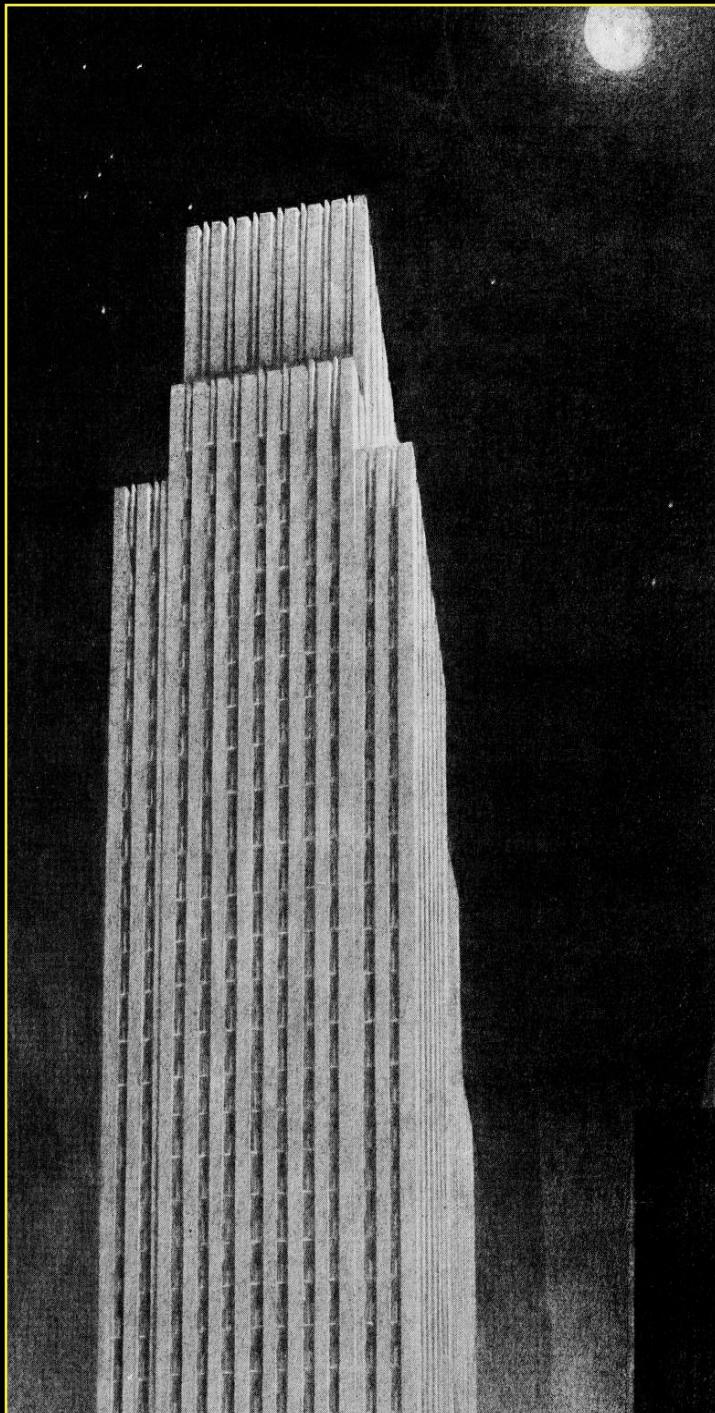




# THE DARK CITY

A FILM BY JONATHAN NIEDERER

# SYNOPSIS AND LOGLINE



A tech-noir absurdist dark comedy.

**Logline:** A journalist working for an underground magazine searches the underbelly of The Dark City looking for a story worth writing.

**Synopsis:** Alex works as a journalist for a prestigious underground magazine called "The Mag". He spends his time in the corners of the dark city, interviewing artists and subculture icons. Although he finds his job interesting, he can't help but feel unfulfilled. He wants to find a story that he actually cares about.

One night, his editor tells him about a mysterious phone call she received from someone who claims to have a story for them. Alex goes to a motel to meet with the lead and finds them murdered. This kicks off a sprawling, paranoid spiral into the seedy underbelly of the dark city – where Alex begins to discover a story worth writing.

**Subplot:** Throughout the movie, Alex pursues Mariah, the young woman who sells him his pills. Things get complicated when Rebecca, his ex-girlfriend, shows up to interview him for her experimental documentary.



# MAIN CHARACTER: ALEX



ALEX is playful, curious, slightly goofy, enthusiastic, and earnest. Despite his boyish persona, he is witty, cynical, and intelligent. He is a bit of a workaholic.

Before moving to The Dark City, Alex lived in a small town in middle America where he worked for a newspaper. In his free time, Alex would write about people in the area who he found interesting. He wrote a piece on a man who made bombs in a nearby abandoned town, which was featured in the prestigious U.K. based underground publication, Friendz. The story received a lot of attention and Alex was subsequently contacted by the owner of The Mag, who offered him a job in The Dark City. Alex has been working for The Mag for a year and a half but has grown bored and restless. He wants something more.

# PRINCIPAL CHARACTERS



**Mariah**  
**Drug dealer, actor, Alex's crush**



**Editor of "The Mag"**



**Rebecca**  
**Filmmaker, Alex's ex girlfriend**



**Heather**  
**Dominatrix**



**Alex**



**Michael**  
**Muscle for The Group**



**Delancey**  
**Private Investigator**



**Mystery Woman**



**The Group**  
**A group of hackers, operating  
in the digital shadows**



# **ATMOSPHERE AND TONE**



**STARK AND GRITTY**

A black and white, slightly blurry close-up photograph of a person's face, showing their eyes and nose.

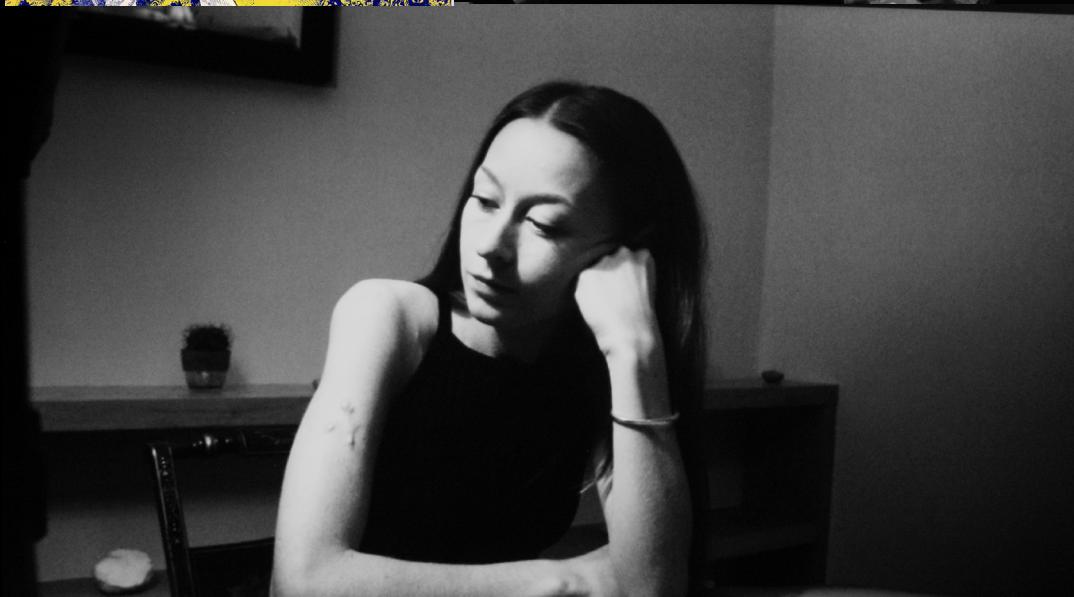
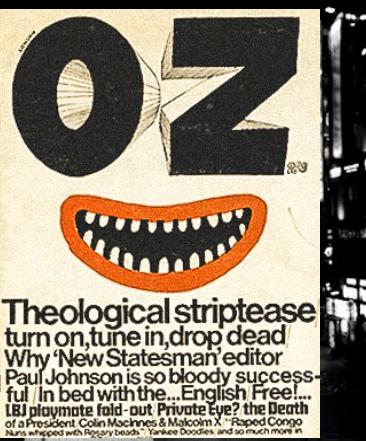
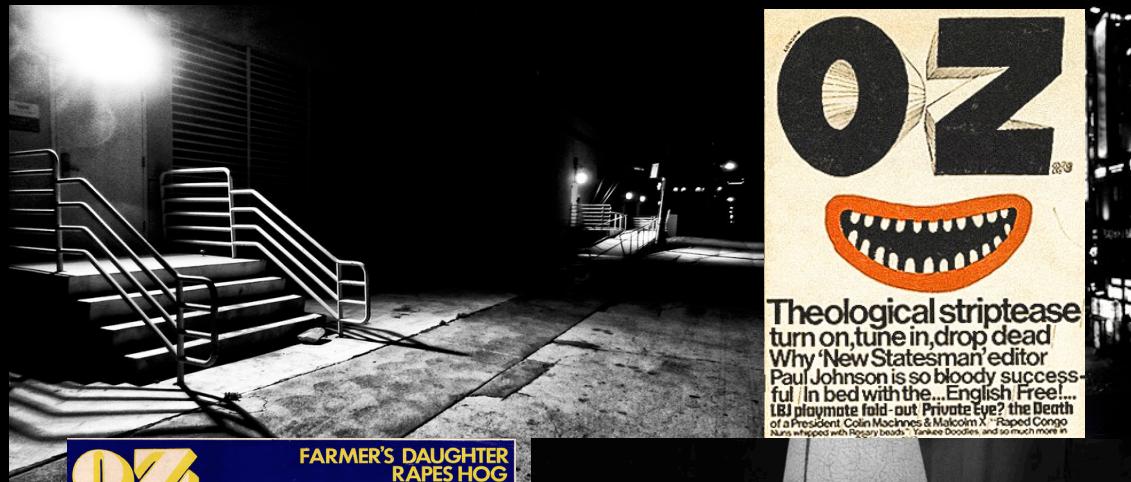
**DAUNTING AND THRILLING**



**FAST AND PARANOID**



**ABSURD AND PERVERSE**





# THE MAG

The satirical and ironic voice of The Mag seeps into the spoken and visual language of the film.



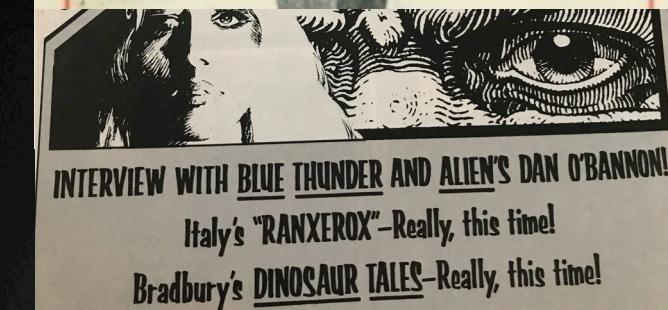
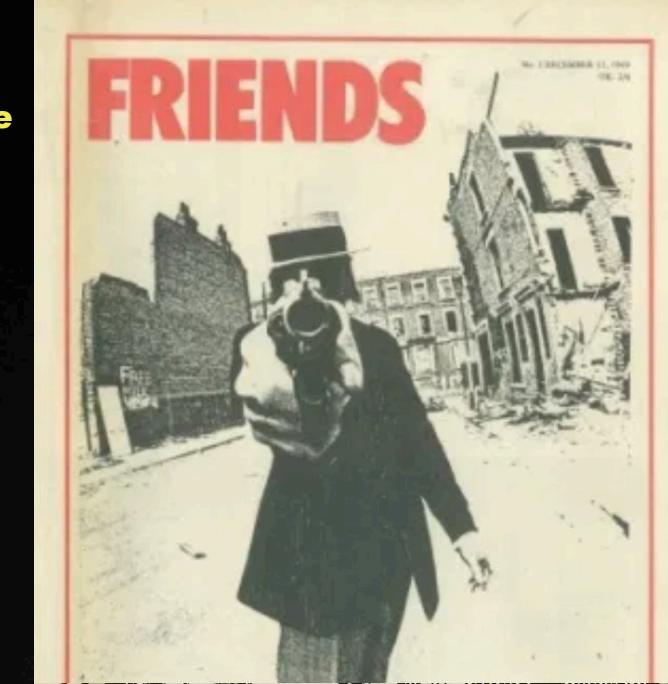
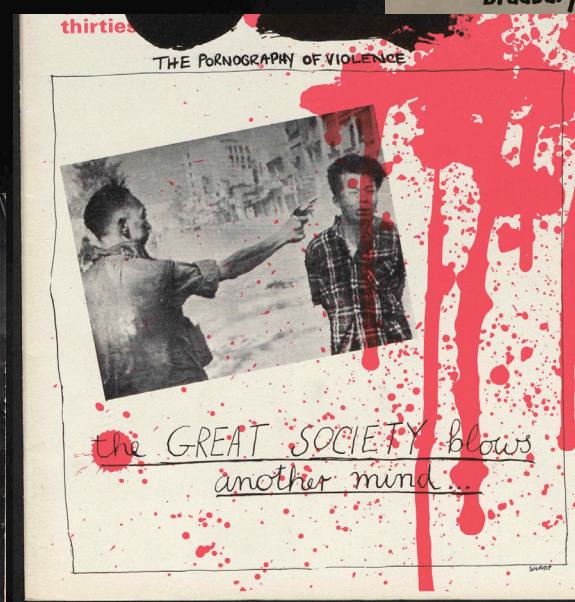
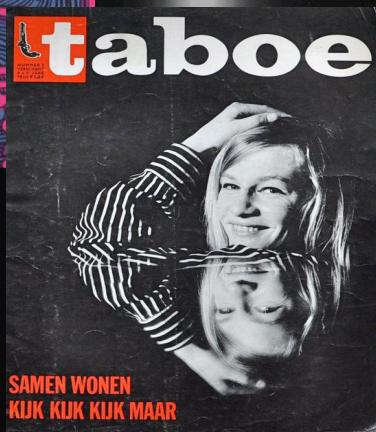
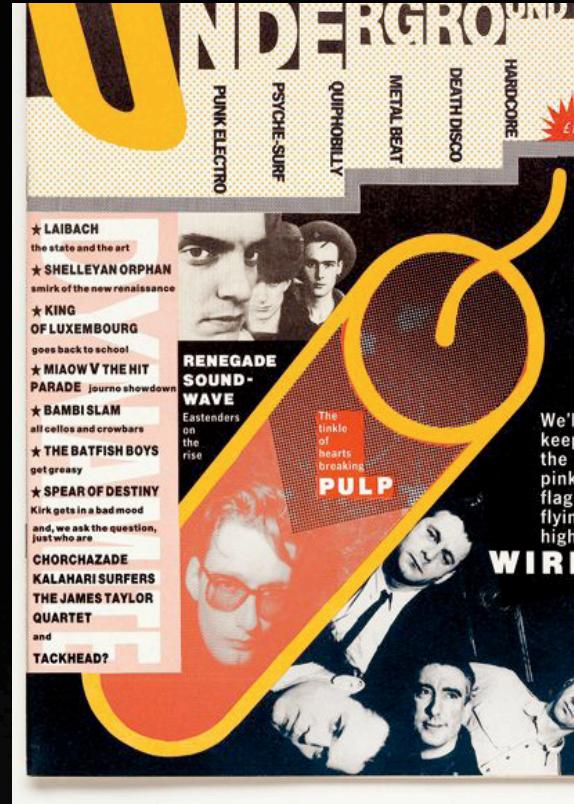
"I'll Tell You This, Man—I Don't Know What's Gonna Happen, But I Wanna Have My Kicks Before The Whole Shithouse Goes Up In Flames..." Jim Morrison

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...an absorbing instant classic. A rock star who rather have been reading his poetry, Morrison drugged himself to an early death, taking with him most of the sixties." —The book magazine



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it

# The International Times

LONDON 1/6 ENGLAND

MARCH 8



INSIDE! DRUGS N SEX

# MAD COP

## 'CLEAN UP' LUUFF PLUNDERS OZ AGAIN



DOGS  
USED  
TO  
END  
OBSCENE  
LIT.

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR FREDERICK LUUFF ("THE COP WITH A WYATT EARP FIXATION")'S PERSONAL VENDETTA AGAINST OZ MAGAZINE HAS BEEN CARRIED ONE STEP FURTHER WITH THE RAID LAST FRIDAY, 18TH DECEMBER.

AT THE OZ OFFICE, LUUFF, ARMED WITH A WARRANT UNDER THE OBSCENE PUBLICATIONS ACT, TOOK CHARGE OF ALL THE FILES, INCLUDING DIRECTORS' PERSONAL FILES, AND EVEN THE FILING CABINET THEY WERE CONTAINED IN, AS WELL AS AT LEAST 4,000 COPIES OF THE LAST FOUR ISSUES OF OZ, THE SUBSCRIPTION LIST (NEW SCOTLAND YARD NOW HAVE THREE COPIES OF THIS IN THEIR POSSESSION), AND JIM ANDERSON'S OVERNIGHT BAG WHICH WAS ON A SHELF ("I NEED SOMETHING TO PUT THESE FILES IN... WHOSE BAG IS THAT? YOURS? RIGHT, I'LL HAVE IT!").

Earlier, Luuff, accompanied by ten policemen and two dogs and again using a warrant under the Obscene Publications Act, had visited Richard Neville's private home and confiscated, among other items, a copy of *PORTNOYS COMPLAINT*, a tape recorder which was recording the event, and some free samples sent a year ago from Peller Personal Products Ltd (see ad. inside).

Please turn the page for more.

literature the dogs sniffed out a small amount of an illegal-smelling substance and Richard with his girlfriend was arrested and taken to Notting Dale police station, where Luuff opposed bail — despite the fact that this is his first offence under the Dangerous Drugs Act, and that his girlfriend was allowed bail.

Jim Anderson's flat was also visited by Luuff and several copies of OZ were confiscated together with artwork and articles for the next issue.

# LIGHTING AND LOOK

