

Three years ago, Kodak's Lorette Bayle initiated an ambitious program to get 35mm film into the hands of film school students. With the support of industry vendors, The Kodak 35mm Project was launched.

"Our objective was to give student filmmakers an opportunity to use state-of-the-art technology that is available to professional moviemakers," said Bayle. "Kodak provided 35mm film, and other companies offered cameras, lighting and other equipment, as well as lab and post-production services."

"It was my first time working in black and white," said the CSULB student Cinematographer Matt Perry. "I really had to be conscious of how the different areas in the frame played against one another. Laszlo helped by giving me some examples of possible lighting schemes."

"The Kodak 35mm Project gave some of our students an opportunity to work with tools that normally aren't readily available," says Professor Dan Leonard of Chapman University's School of Film and Television. Chapman produced two films



Student short films get **BIG SCREEN** DEBUT

Those forward-thinking companies included Mole Richardson, Clairmont Camera, FotoKem Laboratories, Dolby Laboratories, Inc., Mix Magic Post Sound, Title House, NT Audio Video Labs, FPC, and Crest National. The vendors offered hands-on workshops in addition to providing equipment and services. Members of the American Society of Cinematographers (ASC) and the American Cinema Editors (ACE) also provided guidance for the students.

The result was nine short films that culminated in a screening at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art.

"Doing a 35mm film raised the stakes for everyone," said Sharyn Blumenthal, a professor of the Film and Electronics Arts Department at California State University, Long Beach (CSULB), who mentored students on the school's production of **Fellini's Donut**. Legendary Cinematographer Laszlo Kovacs, ASC was the cinematography mentor. "I think the students put out more effort, recognizing that this might have more visibility than anything else they've done."

Fellini's Donut explores one man's struggle to find perfection in a donut. It was shot on Eastman Double-X 5222 black-and-white film.

in the showcase, **The Last March** and **Hearts as One**.

Other schools who participated in the program were: California Institute of the Arts with their production **El Viaje (The Journey)**; Loyola Marymount University with **Grim Love**; California State University, Northridge with **Recalling Ted**; Brooks Institute with **Help Wanted**; San Diego State University with **Change Of Address**; and University of California, Los Angeles with **Still Life**.

The faculties at the schools selected the projects based on student scripts, or developed the short stories in the classroom specifically for the Kodak program. The student crews were made up from film classes.

"One of the great things about seeing my film on the big screen was the fact that it was projected on film," notes Brian Fischer, writer-director of CSULB's **Fellini's Donut**, after the premiere screening hosted by Kodak. "It's so crisp and beautiful. I was really nervous (prior to the screening), but after the first laughs, I could relax and enjoy the audience's reaction. The entire experience was really exciting." ■



Right (from top) scenes from:
The Last March: Chapman University School of Film and Television
Hearts as One (L to R) Actors Jack Manning and Jody Carter in a scene from the film shot by DP Owen Simmons.
Fellini's Donut: California State University, Long Beach (CSULB)
Help Wanted: Brooks Institute