

# FOLLOWING SEAN

ONE OF THE MOST ACCLAIMED FILMS OF THE YEAR...

## The New York Times

"A tender and levelheaded rumination on the legacy of the 60's and the mysteries of everyday life...What emerges is a liberal meditation on freedom and compromise, and a nostalgia trip graced by eloquent restraint." — **Nathan Lee**

## THE BOSTON PHOENIX

The finest film I've seen this year...As affecting as one of Chekov's sobering tales. — **Gerald Peary**

## The Washington Post

"You will be deeply, quietly moved."  
— **Ann Hornaday**

## San Francisco Chronicle

"At the end of Ralph Arlyck's movie about whether there's a price to be paid when someone chooses to declare him or herself a free spirit, I found myself touching the corners of my eyes and looking around to see if others were doing likewise (they were)." — **Leah Garchik**

"Exhilarating...reminiscent of the lauded British documentaries that began with 7-UP." — **Ruthe Stein**

"Intimate and affecting"  
— **John McMurtrie**

## the village VOICE

"Arlyck, like fellow essayist Ross McElwee, prefers to work from the inside out, seamlessly weaving together his own story with Sean's. Arlyck's compulsion is to our great fortune. Patient and elegant, his film is a quietly devastating meditation on family, work, and the unrelenting passage of time." — **Drew Tillman**



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CRITICAL ACCLAIM *continued...*

**BOSTON  
Herald**

"A crowd-pleasing narrative full of characters. Spanning three generations, it's a story woven into another story, one that teeters between the director's life and that of his subject, and it makes no excuses for the confusion. Stick with the filmmaker;

he'll surprise you with what he can do."

— **Chelsea Bain**

"Ineffably haunting... Arlyck's wall-to-wall narration brims with introspection and tenderness... Steeped in yearning and awash in gorgeous vintage black-and-white footage, the ephemeral *Following Sean* deserves a spot in the canon of Bay Area histories that includes Berkeley in the 60s and The Times of Harvey Milk."

— **Michael Fox**

**SF  
WEEKLY**

**Rolling Stone**

"Remarkably subtle... a totally unsettling work."

— **Grégory Alexandre**

**Le Monde**

"Gracefully mixes the contemporary with the archival... an invitation to both a voyage and to historical reflection."

— **Isabelle Regnier**

**Newsday**  
THE LONG ISLAND NEWSPAPER

"A penetrating cinematic essay on how generations in the last century struggled to take hold of history and reconfigure the shape of daily life."

— **Gene Seymour**

"Marvelous...exquisitely resonant... It touches on a universality that transcends VW buses and Bush-era politics."

— **Eleanor Gillespie**

The Atlanta  
Journal-  
Constitution

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CRITICAL ACCLAIM *continued...*

## <sup>The</sup> Hollywood Reporter

"An ambitious memoir about politics, the gravitational pull of family history and the work ethic... The film has strong art house potential."

— **Sura Wood**

## documentary MAGAZINE

"Following Sean is a film of depth and complexity... quiet and reflective and wise."

— **Margarita Landasuri**

"An episodic, serpentine mix of autobiographical discovery and cultural observation. After a while, it's not Sean you're following but your own evolution to the here and now, either exhilarated or distressed by how you got there." — **Ed Gonzales**

"A profound meditation on the passage of time, the limitations of parenting and the small, day-to-day accommodations that almost imperceptibly become life-changing decisions." — **Maitland McDonagh**



"The film has the tone of an elegy for a phenomenal period of youth and idealism that has faded and gone gray... one of the uplifting revelations in this extraordinary documentary." — **Paul Liberatore**

*Marin Independent Journal*



"Idealism, utopianism, the power of fate, the interconnectivity of all life emerge, finally, taking Arlyck's original rather small quest into much deeper philosophical territory. *Following Sean* is both a masterpiece of a documentary work and a moving piece of cinematic poetry." — **Les Wright**

*culture vulture*

"Splendid... Arlyck erects, between the 60s and today, a bridge as beautiful and touching as the Golden Gate."

— **Frédéric Pages**

**Le Canard Enchaîné**

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CRITICAL ACCLAIM *continued...*

## Minneapolis

**Star Tribune**

"An engrossing story whose star remains a magnetic camera subject. Arlyck looks deeply into his own family history as well as Sean's to understand their forebears' decisions about what to put first: work, or their families, or the world..." — **Colin Covert**

## The Seattle Times

"A fascinating portrait of an American family... strained by different value systems and yet still bound by love." — **Moira Macdonald**

**Liberation**

"An introspective chronicle, at once tender and ironic, about lost illusions..."

— **Gilles Renault**

WASHINGTON  
**CityPaper**

"A delicately woven, generation-spanning examination of family idealism, and the classic question of nature versus nurture. Arlyck's light touch makes *Following Sean* a mesmerizing 87 minutes."

— **Tricia Olszewski**

 **the ONION**

"Following Sean took ten years to film but was well worth it. With subtle details and a slow, sure reveal of character, the film offers a portrait of four generations touched by 60s idealism..."

**moment**  
m a g a z i n e

"A haunting, poignant movie about growing up and growing older."

— **Phillip Lopate**

**PULSE**  
OF THE TWIN CITIES

There's heartbreak and compromise, there's betrayal, but there's more hope than any of us deserve. Go see it. Re-live it!

— **Ed Felien**