

FROM THE NATIONAL FILM BOARD OF CANADA

The Lump

George was a very fine fellow, he was...
known as a really good sport,
George was never too popular
George was unattractive and short!
He couldn't get served in a restaurant
if he cried "Garçon" all day!
And when he tried to feed the pigeons in the park
The pigeons all flew away!

Dogs bite his ankles and babies cry at the sight of him.
Always disdained or ignored, George has never been the life
of any party. Then a curious medical condition causes a
strange change in his physique. Suddenly, dogs, pigeons,
waiters and women flock to him! Vending machines give
him extra change!

The Lump is an epic tale of romance, revolution and the
sordid activity of political back rooms.

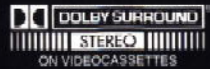
Fast-paced and irreverent, **The Lump** also offers sharp
criticism of the connection between good looks, popularity
and power.


Director, Animator, Writer: **John Weldon**

Producer: **David Verrall**

7 minutes 35 seconds

Order number: C 9191 127



 Closed captioned for the deaf and hard
of hearing. A decoder is required.

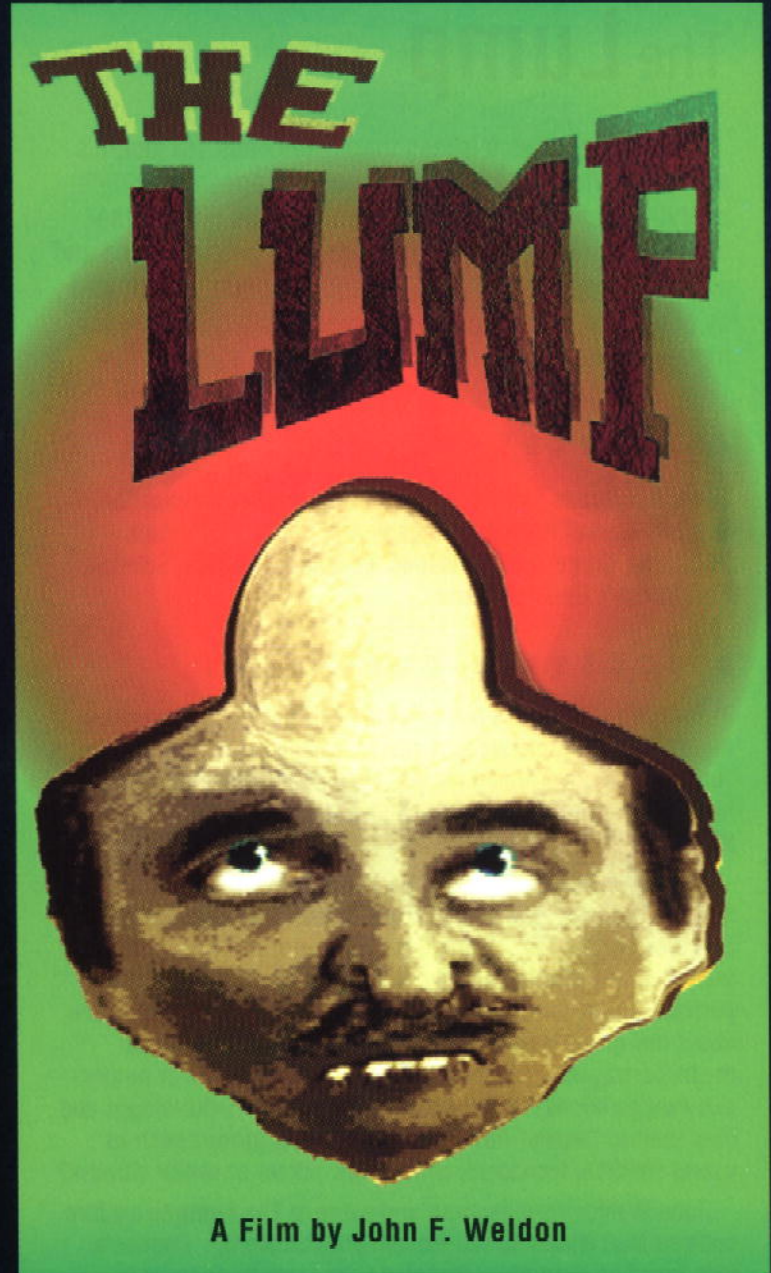


The Lump



VHS

113 C
9191 127



A Film by John F. Weldon



National
Film Board
of Canada

Office
national du film
du Canada

Printed in Canada



National
Film Board
of Canada

Office
national du film
du Canada

The Lump

George's existence is less than glamorous. In fact, it's pathetic. When he develops an unusual appendage, everything changes. The new George finds himself the centre of attention. He is thrust into the political arena and abruptly swept to the head of a political party. Captivated by his image, an easily duped public elects George to the highest office, no questions asked.

A U D I E N C E S

Education: Grade 5 to Adult (Social Studies, Communication Studies, Media Literacy, Language Arts, Moral and Values Education, Contemporary Issues, Sociology, Political Science, Psychology). General interest.

D I S C U S S I O N Q U E S T I O N S

Because of George's new image, he is elected as a government official. Would we as a society elect George? Study the "image" of a government leader. How does he/she present him/herself? As voters, what can we do to see what is beyond the image?

"Beauty is skin deep," and "Beauty is in the eye of the beholder," are two sayings still in use today. Choose a specific group of people, (e.g. women, grandfathers, thin people or members of a visible minority) and examine how this group is portrayed in magazines and television. Try to draw conclusions about this group based solely on media images. Are these media portrayals realistic, idealistic, subversive, true or humorous exaggerations? What effects might these media images and their implied "truths" have on specific target groups such as young children, teenagers, consumers, voters or senior citizens?

John Weldon uses humour and satire in **The Lump** to explore such serious issues as self-esteem and leadership. Choose a film, novel or short story that also uses humour or satire to make its point and compare it to **The Lump**. What are the basic elements of satire? Why is satire such a successful storytelling technique?

Director, Animator,
and Writer
JOHN F. WELDON

Music Composed and
Performed by
J. FELIX WELDON

Voice, Sound Effects
and Music Recording
**NORMAND ROGER
DENIS VINCENT**

Re-recording
SHELLEY CRAIG

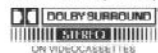
Producer
DAVID VERRALL

Executive Producer
**BARRIE ANGUS
McLEAN**

**PRODUCED AND
DISTRIBUTED BY
NATIONAL FILM BOARD
OF CANADA**

**COLOR
7 MIN. 35 SEC.**

**ORDER NUMBERS:
C 01291 127 (FILM)
C 9191 127 (VIDEO)**



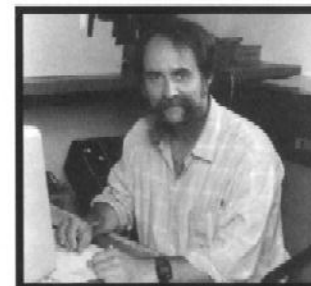
© 1992
National Film Board
of Canada
P.O. Box 6100,
Station A
Montreal, Quebec
H3C 3H5

A B O U T T H E F I L M M A K E R

"People might be surprised that a strikingly handsome filmmaker could be so sympathetic to the problems of the unsightly," says Oscar-winning animator John Weldon. "But I lived for months as a short ugly person to research the role of George."

Weldon's eclectic contributions to the NFB animation collection range from the Academy Award-winning **Special Delivery to Real Inside** which combines live action and animation. He calls himself an expert in "trailing edge" technology. To create the unique texture of **The Lump**, Weldon combined bits of cloth, balsa wood, paper clips, plasticine and assorted trash with computer graphics to produce "recyclomation."

Internationally renowned as an animator, Weldon is also known for his musical abilities and has written and performed the soundtrack for several films, including **The Lump**.



Other films by John Weldon:

You've Read the Book — Now See the Movie, Spinnolio, No Apple for Johnny, Special Delivery, Canada Vignettes: Log Driver's Waltz, Ottawa 82 Logo, Real Inside, Canada Vignettes: Emergency Numbers, Elephantrio, Of Dice and Men, To Be, Para Sight.



National
Film Board
of Canada

Office
national du film
du Canada