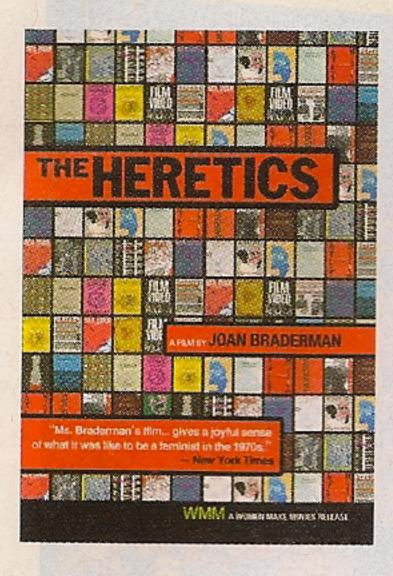
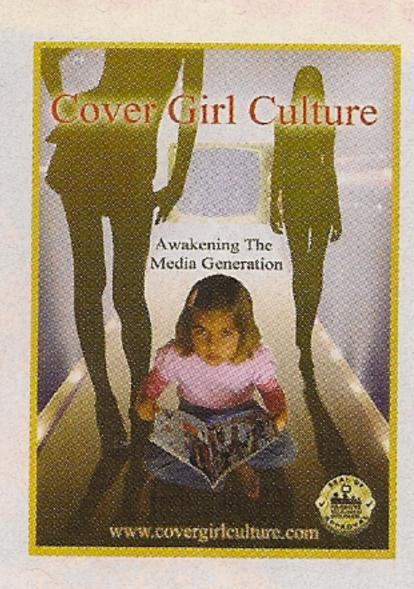
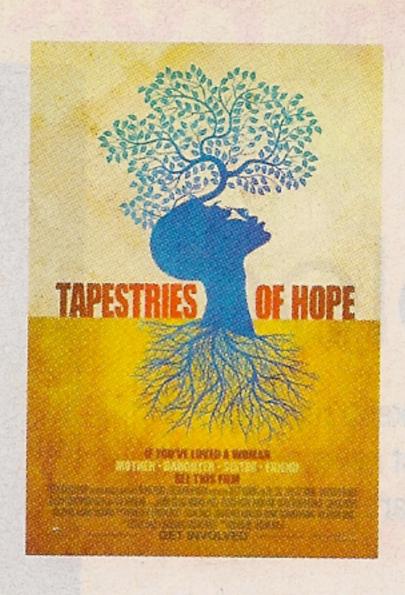
Feminist films now available for home viewing









The Heretics

Joan Braderman, director

"Democracy is difficult and messy ... and sensational," says artist Elke Solomon, one of the "heretics" in this charming documentary about the Heresies Collective-New York feminist artists and critics who, despite all odds, published 27 issues of Heresies: A Feminist Publication on Art and Politics from 1977 to 1992. Filmmaker Braderman-herself a heretic-tracked down two dozen of her sister collective members in New Mexico, Venice (Italy), Spain and New York City, all of whom still delightedly engage in making or thinking about art. "[We had] enormous optimism about changing the world," says Joyce Kozloff, one of several well-known painters sharing their memories on screen (along with Miriam Schapiro, Joan Snyder, Amy Sillman and others). And they did, by making and writing their own art history as part of a feminist cultural revolution. Available from www.wmm.com; call (800) 343-5540 for home orders.

-MICHELE KORT

Cover Girl Culture: Awakening the Media Generation

Nicole Clark, director

Former Elite International model Nicole Clark juxtaposes what the fashion editors of teen magazines say and what their publications actually do, exposing their hypocrisy. They claim to feature "real" girls in their fashion spreads, but the photos of emaciated models tell a different story. Both advertisers and the editorial content convince teenage readers that the most important goal is physical perfection while priming them to buy and consume at the cost of their health and happiness. The documentary reveals the insidious reality of U.S. consumer culture and tells parents how to combat the beauty industry's grasp on their daughters: Teach media literacy. Available at www.covergirlculture.com.

-ALI TWETEN

Tapestries of Hope

Michealene Cristini Risley, director

Rape is on the rise in Zimbabwe, where the blood of female virgins is thought to cure AIDS. It's a myth encouraged by some "traditional healers," whom AIDS victims consult, in part, because economic sanctions against the nation's corrupt government put HIV/AIDS treatments out of reach. American filmmaker Risley follows Betty Makoni, founder of Girl Child Network, where more than 30,000 rape survivors have come to be nurtured, educated and empowered—that is, until Risley is arrested and jailed for filming. Cultural traditions, sexual myths and a devastated economy drive the Zimbabwean child-rape epidemic, but Risley shows that no country adequately addresses the issue. As long as global communities remain inactive and institutions ill-equipped to help, the tragedy will continue. Available this fall from www.tapestriesofhope.com.

-PAULA SILINGER

Temple Grandin

Mick Jackson, director

This HBO biopic takes an inside-out view of Temple Grandin (Claire Danes), a woman born with autism who grew up to become a scientist, best-selling author and advocate for neurodiversity and animal welfare. The film shows how she evolved from a child bound for institutionalization to a celebrated researcher who made livestock handling more humane—and how support from her mother (Julia Ormond), aunt (Catherine O'Hara) and mentor (David Strathairn) made her success possible. As an adult, Grandin embraces her condition, ascribing her unique spatial intelligence and affinity for animals to her autism. The film illustrates her mind at work with snapshots, drawings and diagrams superimposed over the scenes, making her internal world as vivid as the events that shaped her. Widely available.

-ANNA KELNER