

Press Kit for:

***The Annotated Field Guide of Ulysses S. Grant*** (61 min, 2020)

Written & Directed by Jim Finn

### **SYNOPSIS**

For four years in the 1860's half of the United States was held hostage by an unrecognized white supremacist republic. Shot on 16mm in national military parks, swamps, forests and the suburban sprawl across the former battlefields, the film follows General Grant's path liberating the southern United States. It focuses not only on his battles but on massacres committed by Confederate armies and the role of enslaved people in the war. With additional illustrations and animations from hex & counter wargames and bubblegum cards that were popular after the Centennial Anniversary of the Civil War, the film features original music created by longtime collaborator Colleen Burke.



### **ABOUT THE DIRECTOR**

Jim Finn's movies have been called 'Utopian comedies' and 'trompe l'oeil films'. The New York Times wrote, "Steeped in the obsolete language of revolutionary art, Mr. Finn's meticulous, deadpan mockumentaries often play like unearthed artifacts from an alternate universe. They have been screened at international, avant-garde and underground film festivals like Rotterdam, Validivia, Sundance and Edinburgh as well as museums, universities, cinemathèques and microcinemas. His Communist Trilogy (2005-10) is in the MoMA's permanent collection. His three Inner Trotsky Child videos premiered each year from 2013-2015 at the New York Film Festival. *The Annotated Field Guide of Ulysses S. Grant* is his first feature-length documentary. He was born in St. Louis in 1968 and teaches at Pratt Institute in Brooklyn.

## **CAST & CREW**

Created by Jim Finn

Soundtrack by Colleen Burke

Photography by Jim Finn

Sound Design by Jesse Stiles

Film developed at Negativland Film Labs

Post Production Supervisor: Dean DeMatteis

Produced by Cat Mazza

## **ABOUT THE MUSIC**

The soundtrack was created by musician Colleen Burke. She has brought together musicians like Jim White (The Dirty Three), Sally Timms (The Mekons), Michael James and Munaf Rayani (Explosions in the Sky) and Jim Becker (Califone) for their multiple film collaborations. Three of those film soundtracks — Interkosmos, La Trinchera Luminosa del Presidente Gonzalo and Chums from Across the Void — have all gone on to have some kind of cult musical status.