

PRAISE FOR ROSS McELWEE'S ***BRIGHT LEAVES***\*

*\*Chosen as one of the top 10 films of 2004 by the Village Voice Critics' Poll, Stephen Holden of the New York Times, Andrew Sarris of the New York Observer, Entertainment Weekly and many others!*

"Reflective, wise, often hilarious...leaves you feeling invigorated by the boundless curiosity, humor and high spirits of its creator." – *New York Times*

"Yet another of documentarian Ross McElwee's droll, irresistible, multilayered, multifaceted journeys through the beguiling yet contradictory land of his youth." – *LA Times*

"Brilliantly amusing...just sings along." – *Washington Post*

"Perhaps his best film...raw and lovely!" – *New York Magazine*

"A fascinating journey deep into his family's past... clearly a quest worth undertaking."  
– *NY Daily News*

"Extremely impressive...wry, touching, deeply humane road journey." – *Boston Phoenix*

"Witty, thoughtful, illuminating...warmly engaging feature." – *Variety*

"Ross McElwee shows just how far subtlety can go with his latest charming effort." – *NY Post*

"A fascinating diary-documentary." – *Time Magazine*

"I would have savored *Bright Leaves* whenever I saw it...but its living sense of history, well-earned humor and clear-eyed enjoyment of human variety seem that much more valuable now, in this frantic season."  
– *The Nation*

"His best since *Sherman's March*!" – *Film Comment*

"★★★★ Deeply personal, morally alert, and highly entertaining." – *Christian Science Monitor*

"Captivating...a beautiful, wistful meditation on fate, family, filmmaking, and the terrible legacy of tobacco itself." – *O, The Oprah Magazine*

"Hugely engrossing!" – *AM New York*

"★★★★ One of his funniest and most satisfying films." – *Toronto Eye Weekly*

"Like a dialogue with an old friend... incorporating not only journalistic truths, but also personal insights and philosophy, unique regional textures, and unexposed pockets of humanity." – *The Onion A. V. Club*

"Smartly entertaining ... McElwee takes us in so many pleasing, unexpected directions." – *Indiewire*

"Entertaining and thoughtful!" – *Film Journal International*

"Smart, ethically rich, innovative, and well-done." – *Spirituality and Health*

"★★★★ Extraordinary...blends nostalgia, economics, and personal reactions to new information at a perfect pitch that allows for laughter and deeply felt affection." – *Filmcritic.com*

"Idiosyncratic, funny and genuine, *Bright Leaves* is a little gem." – *Screen Daily*

"Sweet, thoughtful and often hilarious." – *London Financial Times*