

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PRELINGER ARCHIVES AND TOD LIPPY ANNOUNCE NEW PARTNERSHIP

Collaboration will yield 10 music videos by Lippy, each incorporating materials from the celebrated collection of ephemeral films.



Still from *Remember Your Doctor* superimposing footage from *I Am a Doctor* (1959), a film in the Prelinger Archives collection

October 28, 2019 (Brooklyn, NY): San Francisco-based Prelinger Archives, a world-renowned repository of ephemeral films relating to U.S. cultural history, and the Brooklyn-based musician and artist Tod Lippy are pleased to announce a new collaboration. For the collaboration, Lippy has committed to using material from the Prelinger collection for a series of 10 short films that will also serve as music videos for each song on his debut album *Here We Are*.

Lippy, the founder and editor of the award-winning arts publication *Esopus*, has always had a fascination with archival material. For *Esopus*, he formed partnerships with institutions including the Museum of Modern Art, the Magnum Photos Archive, and the New York Public Library to feature reproductions from their archival collections in nearly every issue of the publication.

“Archives have always fascinated and inspired me,” Lippy says. “They represent our collective memory and consciousness—and in some cases, our collective id—and they do an incredible job of revealing the ideologies that are often invisible to us as we live in a particular historical moment. The Prelinger Archives are a goldmine—not only for historians and educators but for artists as well—filled with phenomenal raw material for artworks, due especially to the fact that Rick Prelinger has made most of them accessible for unrestricted reuse at Internet Archive.”

Rick Prelinger says, “It’s a thrill to see how Tod Lippy has taken archival material from our online

collection and transformed it into films that are much more than the sum of their parts. Tod's project awakens the infinite potential that so often lies dormant in archives and jumps the barrier between past and future."

Lippy has already completed three of the *Here We Are* films, which are currently accessible online at the [Tod Lippy Music](#) YouTube channel. *Good Start*, related to the lead single from the album, incorporates home-movie footage from the archives (as well as that from his own family's collection). *Remember Your Doctor*, referencing his song exploring the complex, charged relationship between doctor and patient, mines three Prelinger industrial films from the late '50s and early '60s whose subjects include medical school, community medicine, and illness prevention. The film for the album's title track, "Here We Are," uses footage from educational films of the '40s and '50s to complement its subject—the "multiverse" theory in experimental physics that posits the existence of infinite parallel universes. That film will premiere on YouTube on Tuesday, October 29th—the same day as *Here We Are*'s album release on all digital platforms.

"Selfishly speaking, I'm thrilled to be able to access all this material for my own project," Lippy remarks. "But I'm hoping that this collaboration will also inspire other artists, musicians, writers, and filmmakers to dip into this extraordinary resource for their own work."

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

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ABOUT PRELINGER ARCHIVES

The Prelinger Archives is a collection of films relating to U.S. cultural and social history, the evolution of the American landscape, and everyday life. Located in New York City from 1982 to 2002, it is now in San Francisco. The Archives were founded by Rick Prelinger in 1982 in order to preserve what he calls "ephemeral" films: films sponsored by corporations and organizations, educational films, and amateur and home movies. The stated goal of the Prelinger Archives is to "collect, preserve, and facilitate access to films of historic significance that haven't been collected elsewhere." By 2001, it had acquired 60,000 completed films of varying lengths and over 30,000 cans of unedited film. In 2002, the Library of Congress acquired the physical films held in the Archives as of that date. As of fall 2019, the Archives holds about 11,000 films in videotape and digital form, approximately 17,000 home movies, and over 2,000 industrial and sponsored films acquired since 2002. Compared to many other moving-image archives, Prelinger Archives provides a high level of public access to its collections. Over 8,100 films are available for download and reuse on the Internet at the Internet Archive (www.archive.org/details/prelinger).

ABOUT TOD LIPPY

Based in Brooklyn, New York, Tod Lippy is the founder, editor, and designer of the award-winning nonprofit arts publication *Esopus*. His design work for *Esopus* has been featured in exhibitions at museums including the Walker Art Center, the Nasher Sculpture Center, and Rome's Contemporary Art Museum, and he has curated exhibitions at the New York City venues White Columns and Pioneer Works. In August 2018, Lippy was awarded a MacDowell Colony Fellowship, during which he completed a series of drawings related to *Esopus* that were published in the fall of 2018. His 1999 short film, *Cookies*, was selected for competition in more than 20 film festivals in the U.S. and abroad; and his 2000 book, *Projections 11: New York Film-makers on Film-making*, was published by Faber & Faber. *Here We Are* is Lippy's first album. (www.todlippy.com)