

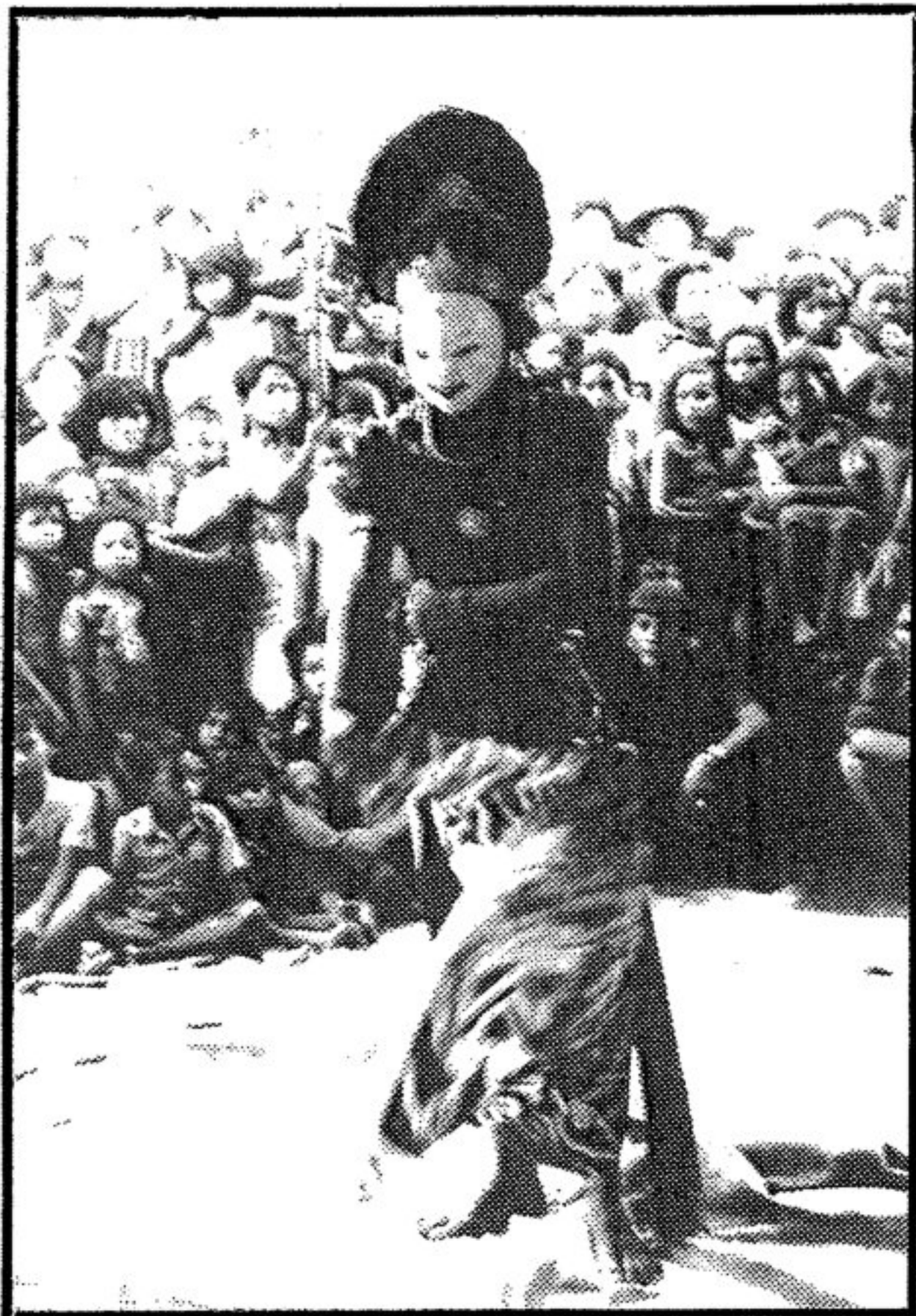
## the five faces of Panji

Filmed in Slangit Village, Java, Indonesia, in the summer of 1982, this 10 minute film creates a portrait of the Sundanese style Topeng Babakan dances of the Dalang Topeng (Dance Master) Sujana Arja.

The dances, performed with the remarkable Topeng masks, and accompanied by a special gamelan, portray aspects of human character based on Panji, the ancient Hindu mythological character.

The film offers a brief narration in an introductory opening which describes the dances of Pak Jana (Sujana Arja), while showing one of his students, a young girl, perform sections of one of the dances. Interspersed with this are images of the masks with a brief description of each character.

The second half of the film is an impressionistic portrait



Pak Jana dances the Panji character

of the Topeng Babakan of Pak Jana, set to the live-recorded gamelan music.

Jim Kallett, one of the two filmmakers, says, "TOPENG BABAKAN was filmed on a trip to Indonesia during the summer of 1982. We primarily went to film in Bali, to focus on the arts and life there. Ten days before we were to leave, we heard about Bob Brown's Center For World Music Summer Program and ended up joining them for the first two weeks of our trip, on a Performing Arts Tour of Sumatra and Java. Included in this tour was the visit to Slangit Village, where the footage for TOPENG BABAKAN was filmed.

"We ended up shooting four hours of film on the trip, mostly in Bali, and are now in the process of trying to secure the funding to complete a long (60 minutes) film, and perhaps one or two more shorter films.

"In the meantime, we are distributing TOPENG BABAKAN to institutions, libraries and museums involved in educational or research activities in Indonesian Arts and Culture; and also to individuals and gamelan and dance groups. Since we are independent, we can accommodate the needs and financial resources of various groups; we will provide whatever video format is required, and purchase price can be determined on a sliding scale.

"Our desire is to primarily reach those who have a direct interest in the film and its subject; we would also like copies of the film to be made available to a wider audience, to be perhaps an initial spark for others who might be intrigued and inspired as we were by the richness and wonder of the Indonesian Arts.

"Finally, we are hoping to distribute enough tapes to recover some of the great cost of making TOPENG BABAKAN to professional standards, which we funded ourselves, and perhaps even provide some resources for us to be able to continue working on the Bali footage."

### The Filmmakers:

Jim Kallett taught 16mm independent/experimental filmmaking in the Art Department at CSU, Sacramento from 1979-83, making personal, independent films, and freelancing on commercial, documentary, and feature films since 1977. He currently lives in San Francisco.

Mark Manoff has been making films independently since 1979. He also works part-time as an Environment Planner for Sacramento County, and lives in San Francisco the rest of the time. TOPENG BABAKAN is the third film Jim and Mark have made in collaboration.

For information on previewing this film, write to the filmmakers: Jim Kallett/Mark Manoff 135A Albion St. San Francisco, CA 94110, or call 415/626-3308.