



M
 In view at New York's Friedrich Petzel Gallery, **Los Angeles** is British-born artist Sarah Morris's fifth short film about an American city. Shot on an old-fashioned 35mm CinemaScope, it documents the week leading up to last year's Oscars from an unusual vantage point: behind and off the famed red carpet. "I always wanted to shoot a film about filmmaking," Morris says, "and the Academy Awards represents the most narcissistic, extreme moment of a city celebrating itself." A wordless sequence of im-

ages accompanied by sometimes saccharine, sometimes menacing music by her artist husband, Turner Prize nominee Liam Gillick, the movie has some of the same hard-edged, glossy, abstract qualities of Morris's paintings. Whether showing the Ambassador Hotel, where Robert Kennedy was shot, or Robert Evans being shaved by a naked woman, *Los Angeles* is a lush, perverse, inside-outside job—no wonder it's under consideration for the Documentary Short Subject category of *this* year's Oscars.

—DODIE KAZANJIAN