"Portraits of Age"

(Video, color, 29mins. 03 secs.)

What is age, if not a state of mind?

Each month, one million people the world over reach the age of 60. Those aged 80 and above are the fastest-growing population group on earth today. By the turn of the century, in many countries one out of every five people will be 60 or older. Some of them will be in need of care and support. But all of them will be in need of ways in which they can retain their independence, their pride and productivity.

Shot in several countries, the film portrays individual stories of elderly people who actively contribute to their respective societies. A fisherman in India, supported by grateful villagers; a grandmother in Uganda who cares for eight orphans; an activist in Argentina protesting pension policies. We also meet a dance teacher in Cambodia, a volunteer in a senior center in New York and a grandfather in Egypt. The film shows how active and productive elderly people can be in the world today.

A Film By
Simone di Bagno

Associate Producer/Editor
Mark Robbins

Written By
Stephan Wilkinson

Narrated By
James Lurie

Executive Producer
Elspeth MacDougall

Release date: March 1994

A United Nations Production © 1994

Production No. 9305