

# Vogel of Lincoln Center Film Unit Resigns in Financial Crisis

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## *Vogel of Lincoln Center Film Unit Resigns in Financial Crisis*

By VINCENT CANBY

Amos Vogel, director of the New York Film Festival and the Lincoln Center Film Department since their inception in 1963, is resigning from both positions Jan. 1. This is one result of the financial problems that face the performing arts center.

Last September, Schuyler G. Chapin, the center's vice president in charge of programming, announced that unless the center could raise \$300,000 by the end of this year, it would discontinue its film activities, of which the annual festival at Philharmonic Hall is the most expensive and conspicuous event. At that time, the center had raised about \$130,000.

It was subsequently announced that although the center still had not raised the needed funds, the festival and other film activities would continue at the center, but on an independent basis. It was understood that the



Associated Press  
Amos Vogel

budget for these activities would be drastically cut. In announcing his move yesterday, Mr. Vogel said the

festival and the film department had originally been set up as the first steps toward the organization of an independent Lincoln Center film constituent, on a par with such other constituents as the Metropolitan Opera and the New York State Theater.

"Recent developments," he added, "have convinced me that a film center of the scope and quality envisioned and planned for during the past five years cannot be created."

As of the first of the year, the responsibility for all film activities at the center falls to the Lincoln Center Film Committee, which was originally set up to raise funds for the department. Its chairman is William F. May, chairman of the American Can Company.

It is understood that the duties that have been handled by Mr. Vogel, who is reported to have earned \$25,000 a year at the center, will be taken over by Mr. Chapin, with the title of executive director of film projects.

Richard Roud, the program director of the festival, will continue in that post.

In addition to the annual festival, Lincoln Center's film department has co-sponsored a number of other events, including the National Student Film Awards, various film education projects and special film showings, such as a Greta Garbo retrospective this spring.

The department's budget has been running approximately \$330,000 a year, of which about \$120,000 was supplied by ticket sales to the festival. The deficit has been made up by the Lincoln Center Fund.

Mr. Chapin expressed regret yesterday at Mr. Vogel's resignation. He declined to discuss the Film Committee's future plans, saying only that they would be announced shortly.

Mr. Vogel said he believed there would not be enough money to run the festival properly and no money at all for the other film projects.

"It's ironic," he said, "that this curtailment should come at this time, just when the festival is finding its widest acceptance, both with the public and the critics."

At the time he joined Lincoln Center, Mr. Vogel was the head of Cinema 16, the avant-garde film society. Two years ago Grove Press acquired the film society's name and its library of films.

Mr. Vogel, who is on vacation, said he would announce his plans in February.