



# UNITED STATES PAVILION NEWS

HEMISFAIR '68

U.S. Department of Commerce/U.S. Expositions Staff

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Biography: FRANCIS THOMPSON

Francis Thompson, with his associate, Alexander Hammid, produced and directed the unique documentary film "U S" shown on multiple screens in the Confluence Theatre of the United States Pavilion at HemisFair '68.

The Academy Award-winning "To Be Alive," shown in the Johnson Wax Company's pavilion at the New York World's Fair, and "We Are Young," the film featured in the Canadian Pacific-Cominco Pavilion at Expo '67 in Montreal, also were Thompson-Hamid productions.

Mr. Thompson created his first film in 1939--"Evolution of the Skyscraper," commissioned by the Museum of Modern Art, New York City.

He worked with Julien Bryan and the International Film Foundation for more than a decade. His early works include documentaries for the Department of State, Ford Foundation, Colonial Williamsburg, and New York Stock Exchange.

In 1958, he formed his own company, Francis Thompson Inc., in New York City. Mr. Thompson's film "N.Y., N.Y.," was completed and released at the same time, following long research into color, optics, and new methods of controlling and using the filmed image. The film won prizes at Cannes, London, Edinburgh, and at the American Film Festival in New York.

Mr. Thompson's first three-screen film, "Atom," was produced for the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission and shown throughout South America, Europe, and the Middle East in conjunction with an Atoms for Peace exhibit.