

"Plagiarism is the greatest compliment."

"Money is the hardest applause." - Terry Thomas.



In 1990, after I'd finished the first video-montage of my ~30 minutes [Edgar Palm](#) movie, just now (2021) transferred to a digital format, I showed the VHS copy to some people in Amsterdam I'd done work for when they were shooting in Curaçao. Their names are Gloria Lowe and Ray(o) Krill.

Back home, I showed the same copy to some friends, among whom was some woman I'd already talked to (Marion Hilhorst), who was working on a movie about the Curaçao Jewish community gradually leaving the island for greener pastures. Some years later Willy & I were invited to the first public screening of her production. Afterwards, it was Willy who pointed out to me that the Lady had ripped off the structure of my film, where I had intercut live Super-8 material with 35mm slides accompanying musical performances. I hadn't even noticed, because instead of photos she'd used not-moving video shots which is not the same thing at all. But obviously, she'd thought it a damn good idea, and there she went!

Now, a few days ago, after finishing work on my final cut, I thought I'd check YouTube as I wasn't sure of the exact name of one of the performing musicians. Easy to imagine my surprise when I came across a movie on the very same piano player Edgar Palm, by the very same Gloria Lowe and Ray Krill plus another guy from the very same outfit I'd worked with in the past as well, the crook Ronald Carrilho. It's been made in 1992. Makes you think a bit.

<https://youtu.be/vlhgy1QbExM>

I haven't seen it entirely (yet?) but again, there are amazing similarities. Suspiciously amazing, I must add. Worst, the credits say that it was subsidized by OKSNA (a cultural government outfit) who, just like the Prins Bernard Fonds, had refused me a grant -- which I'm sure was much lower than whatever they gave to that gang.

I'm not much worried by their competition; from what I've seen, in comparison it's utterly boring and a far cry from my very hairy and unconventional production. To quote the Duke of Ellington: "It don't mean a thing if it ain't got that swing." But of course, there's no denying it still hurts. And the repeat question: is it really that hard to come up with ideas of your own? Seems it is; for some people at least.

What are you going on about anyway? you ask. Good point:

That's Show Biz, Folks!

I still wanted to get it off my chest. The world is full of those types. Thank you for reading.