

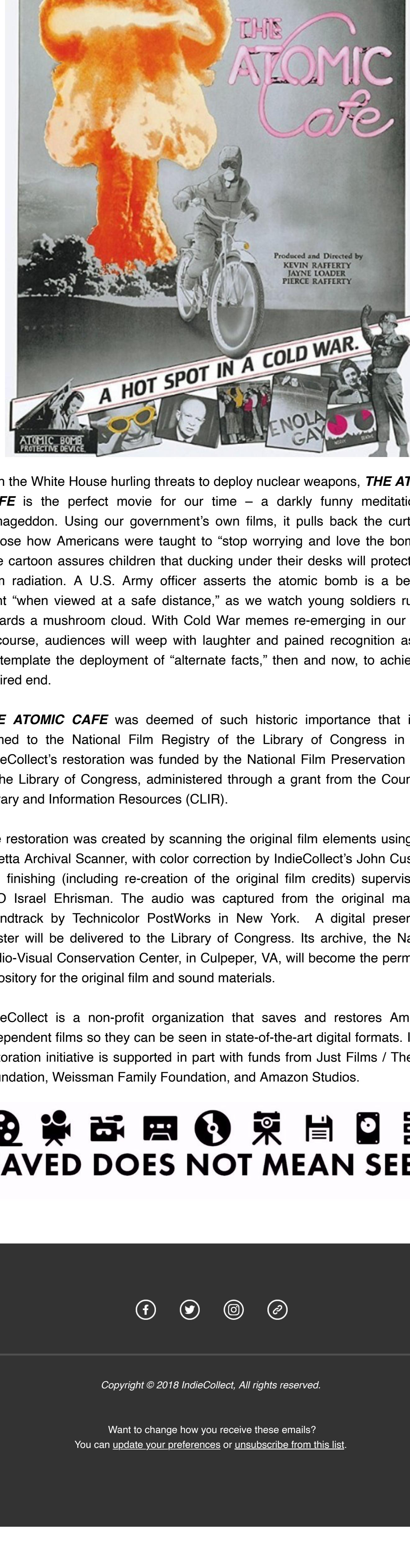
# INDIECOLLECT



IndieCollect's New 4K Restoration of **THE ATOMIC CAFE**  
Premieres at SXSW Film Festival, March 10, 2018

New York – March 7, 2018. IndieCollect's new 4K restoration of **THE ATOMIC CAFE**, supervised by filmmakers Kevin Rafferty, Jayne Loader and Pierce Rafferty, will premiere at the 2018 SXSW Film Festival in Austin, TX, on Saturday, March 10, at 9:45pm in the Alamo Lamar A Theater. [Kino Lorber is releasing the newly-restored film nationwide.](#)

Composed entirely of civil defense and propaganda films created by the U.S. military and other agencies, **THE ATOMIC CAFE** exploded myths about nuclear weapons and landed the filmmakers on [Late Night with David Letterman](#). It created a sensation when it opened at the Film Forum in March 1982 and played around the country to capacity audiences, garnering extraordinary reviews, including from the *New York Times*, whose critic Vincent Canby called it "A stunner! Has one howling with laughter, horror and disbelief."



With the White House hurling threats to deploy nuclear weapons, **THE ATOMIC CAFE** is the perfect movie for our time – a darkly funny meditation on Armageddon. Using our government's own films, it pulls back the curtain to expose how Americans were taught to "stop worrying and love the bomb." A cute cartoon assures children that ducking under their desks will protect them from radiation. A U.S. Army officer asserts the atomic bomb is a beautiful sight "when viewed at a safe distance," as we watch young soldiers running towards a mushroom cloud. With Cold War memes re-emerging in our public discourse, audiences will weep with laughter and pained recognition as they contemplate the deployment of "alternate facts," then and now, to achieve a desired end.

**THE ATOMIC CAFE** was deemed of such historic importance that it was named to the National Film Registry of the Library of Congress in 2016. IndieCollect's restoration was funded by the National Film Preservation Board of the Library of Congress, administered through a grant from the Council on Library and Information Resources (CLIR).

The restoration was created by scanning the original film elements using a 5K Kinetta Archival Scanner, with color correction by IndieCollect's John Custodio, and finishing (including re-creation of the original film credits) supervised by CTO Israel Ehrisman. The audio was captured from the original magnetic soundtrack by Technicolor PostWorks in New York. A digital preservation master will be delivered to the Library of Congress. Its archive, the National Audio-Visual Conservation Center, in Culpeper, VA, will become the permanent repository for the original film and sound materials.

IndieCollect is a non-profit organization that saves and restores American independent films so they can be seen in state-of-the-art digital formats. Its film restoration initiative is supported in part with funds from Just Films / The Ford Foundation, Weissman Family Foundation, and Amazon Studios.

  
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