

December 1, 2003

Elaine Roth

Faculty Research Grant Final Report

“An Investigation of Steven Soderbergh’s Films”

Description of Grant-Supported Activity

I spent a productive summer researching and writing about the films of Steven Soderbergh. I read film criticism extensively, particularly on contemporary Hollywood cinema, as well as reviews of Soderbergh’s films, and his two books. I also re-viewed his thirteen films.

Completion of the Project and Project Results

At the end of the summer, I submitted the article, “Representations of Race in Three Steven Soderbergh Films,” to the Journal of Popular Film and Television. I have not yet heard back from this journal. I will present portions of this paper at the IUSB Women’s Studies Public Forum Series on January 23, 2004, in a talk entitled “Gender and Race in Steven Soderbergh Films.” In addition, work I began this summer resulted in my conference paper, “Formal Experimentation and Viewing Pleasure in Steven Soderbergh’s Schizopolis,” being accepted at the 2004 Society for Cinema and Media Studies annual conference. This is the major conference in my field. I have also begun to investigate the possibility of interviewing the filmmaker himself. Ultimately, I plan to bring all of these projects together in a co-authored study of Soderbergh’s films.

The time and focus this grant allowed me this summer also made it possible for me to revise, polish, and send out a second article, “Momophobia: Incapacitated Mothers and Their Adult Children in 1990’s Films,” which I submitted to Film Quarterly.