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## BELFAST, MAINE

“Belfast, Maine stands with the very best of the doc dean’s substantial body of work, a shrewd and meticulous late-October look at the various cells of the living organism that is this small New England port town.” - Eddie Cockrell, *Variety*

“Belfast, Maine conveys a deeply emotional sense of place, season and time of day. In contrasting the breathtaking landscape with the troubled lives of many of those living there, it reminds us that the fleeting beauties of the natural world the simple pleasures available to all are among life’s deepest consolation.” - Stephen Holden, *The New York Times*

“Mr. Wiseman trusts us to find our way among the homes, churches, businesses and other buildings that make up this town of nearly 6,500 people. It is a rewarding journey.” - Barbara D. Phillips, *The Wall Street Journal*

“Belfast, Maine is extraordinary in two ways. First, it is an immensely rich and immeasurably valuable microcosm of American life at the end of the twentieth century. Second, and most unexpected, it is a microcosm of Wiseman’s art... It reminds us, movingly, of the persistent strength and beauty of the natural world, which is made to serve the economy; and it pays tribute to the courage and good will of people who go out, day after day, to ease what suffering they can. A fitting summary of Fred Wiseman’s work, and of his life as well.” - Stuart Klawan, *The Nation*

“Of all Wiseman’s movies, none is more probing or intelligent than Belfast, Maine, a four-hour-plus film that ranks with his greatest work.” - David Sterritt, *The Christian Science Monitor*

“If Wiseman were a painter, he’d be a pointillist. He groups tiny daubs of color together, working meticulously across a wide canvas. It’s only when you stand back that you see a massive mural taking shape a mural that tells the story of a town, a society, a whole species.” - Matt Zoller Seitz, *Newark, Star Ledger*

“If nearly every Wiseman close-up of spellbinding minutia evokes New England images of Thornton Wilder’s *Our Town*, that goes doubly for Belfast, Maine, where before the lens are the relationships and casual routine that give a community its glue from one life cycle to another.” - Howard Rosenberg, *Los Angeles Times*

BELFAST, MAINE is a film about ordinary experience in a beautiful old New England port city. It is a portrait of daily life with particular emphasis on the work and the cultural life of the community. Among the activities shown in the film are the work of lobstermen, tug-boat operators, factory workers, shop owners, city counselors, doctors, judges, policemen, teachers, social workers, nurses and ministers. Cultural activities include choir rehearsal, dance class, music lessons and theatre production.—Zipporah Films

\* Running time is 248 minutes.