

Firstsite film charts influence of the godfather of reggae

A PORTRAIT of a true musical icon is being screened at the Firstsite Art Gallery next month.

Lee Scratch Perry is a godfather of both reggae and dub. Starting in the late Sixties with The Upsetters, he wrote the book on Jamaican mixing desk trickery, then constantly ripped it up to create new aural blueprints for the music.

He has since then charted a waywardly idiosyncratic path, which has ensured legions of followers absorbing his every move.

To celebrate Lee's 80th birthday, Lee Scratch Perry's Vision Of Paradise will be in cinemas across the UK.

For the past 15 years director Volker Schaner has followed Perry on a spiritual and geographical journey taking in Jamaica, Ethiopia, Switzerland and London.

Over this period Volker has earned Perry's trust, resulting in a never-before-granted level of access and insight into Perrys' fantastical, spiritual world.

In addition to the filmed footage of the man himself, plus an all-star cast of dub and reggae-related musicians, Lee Scratch Perry's Vision Of Paradise is illustrated by animated scenes by Maria Sargarodschi using traditional painting techniques.

The film will be screened at the Firstsite gallery, Lewis Gardens, Colchester, on February 5 at 7.30pm.

Tickets are £6, £3.50 for concessions, available from the box office on 01206 577067.



■ Dub and reggae maverick – Lee Scratch Perry

