

AFUC mins file  
21st Feb  
- Nelson

### Snow Tour

A large proportion of my time over the last three months has been taken up by various involvements in the Snow exhibition at Canada House and planning the touring show. Not estimated in my time, but contributing to the success of the latter (I hope) was additional work on the Snow interview for Visions (which will be used in some of the venues) and the Snow Afterimage which will be available as a 'catalogue'.

Involving 3 installations this tour is far more complex than most tours would be - all the venues tend to need checking and advice/assistance. Most venues are taking a number of films (see separate application) and this - along with the presence of the installations - means the tour has needed the co-operation of a number of people: Sue Barrowclough, Renny Bartlett and Steve Chivers. The success in getting several venues (we could probably have got more of turnaround time allowed) suggests I think that this is a useful model for future film or video artists tours, exploiting the reputation that some artists have beyond the avant-garde film world, to get screenings in Regional Film Theatres etc. The London publicity, the presence of some of the work for a limited time - making it both special and constrained in time - are also important considerations in any future plans. I will report more fully on this on completion of the tour in April.

### Italian Tour

Using the financial support of the committee I helped to co-ordinate a tour by De Bernardi and Bacigalupo with a mixed selection of their work in 8mm and 16mm. This went (after screenings at the AIR Gallery) to the East Midlands film groups (Nottingham and Leicester) and to Portsmouth (combined Poly and film group). They were a rather limited success - due in part, I think, to translation problems and unfamiliarity with the type of work involved, not to mention the fact that the film-makers are not well known here. There were a limited number of venues for this tour, owing to the short notice involved. The tour confirmed the usefulness of the Film-makers on Tour scheme as a potential financial model for the visits of foreign film-makers, but it also confirmed the need to know more about the work of visiting film-makers/video makers in advance and the need for ample documentation.

### Other activities

#### Video

I am having continuing discussions with Dave Critchley and Ian Walsh at

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LVA to formulate a video equivalent of my programming sheets. A day event/information screening based in part on this is being set up, in co-operation with Paul Habershon in Manchester, to take place in late March/April. I hope this will be the first of series of such events to provide wider knowledge of current activity amongst both potential programmers and the general public. Due to the distractions of the Snow tour both this video event and the accompanying film event will be later than I anticipated and will actually take place in the next financial year.

### Portsmouth

With the recently formed and very active film group I have been involved in several on-going projects:

- 1) A very successful weekend event introducing teachers to the use of alternative forms of film in teaching in schools at which I presented a programme of hand-made films.
- 2) A series of screenings of independent film, which the Snow will initiate. Future plans include a series on 'montage' in Russian and other cinema.
- 3) An expanded cinema event for 10 days in June as part of the Portsmouth Festival - to include special pieces by Tony Hill and Chris Garratt, with presentations especially for schools.

Among my other visits/'consultations:

### Oxford

To advise on Snow, but also to discuss their present, apparently very successful (audiences of 100+) screenings of artists' films, of which the Snow is a part.

### Luton

To present a programme in the American Artists package but also to plan future programming/packaging-presentation of artists' films. Further visits due.

### East Midlands

Planning a day event/debate on avant-garde film with Malcolm Allen, Andrew Dunlop and Tim Cawkwell to take place late March/early April. Also presenting programmes for Metro Cinema, including 'beat cinema' based on programme sheet.

Both North by North West and Northampton series are under way, with visiting lecturers and film-makers. From all reports they are going well. Again I will give greater detail on these in my next report.

Simon Field, February 21, 1983.