

F I L M A N D V I D E O U M B R E L L A

REPORT AND FUNDING APPLICATION

FOR YEAR APRIL 1987 - MARCH 1988

Objectives

1. To increase awareness of experimental film and video in this country.
2. To reach as broad an audience as possible on the basis of the above aims.
3. To produce written and visual supporting material for events.
4. To maintain reports of contemporary British experimental film and video through exhibition.
5. To keep close contact with new work by video makers and artists through screenings, group shows, festivals etc.
6. To liaise and develop links with Arts Council of Great Britain and British Film Institute to particular to order to facilitate loans, funding, publicity, programming advice, research and educational types.
7. To liaise with other programmers, festival organisers, film exhibitors, galleries, universities, gallery directors etc. in order to develop exhibitions and programming.

AIMS

1. To promote experimental film and video through exhibition in this country and abroad.
2. To place experimental film and video in a cinematic or video art/television context through programming.
3. To provide an educational framework for such work.
4. To liase with other individuals and institutions in order to promote experimental film and video programming.
5. To advise and stimulate venues and exhibition outlets in general on experimental film and video programming and exhibition.

Objectives

1. To tour programmes of experimental film and video in this country.
2. To reach as broad an audience as possible on the basis of the above aims.
3. To produce written and visual supporting material for tours.
4. To maintain support of contemporary British experimental film and video through exhibition.
5. To keep close contact with new work in this country and abroad through screenings, press shows, festivals etc.
6. To liase and develop links with Arts Council of Great Britain and British Film Institute in particular in order to facilitate tours, funding, publicity, programming advice, research and educational input.
7. To liase with other programmers, festival organisers, film officers, film-makers, animatuers, gallery curators etc in order to develop exhibition and programming.

Introduction

The year April 1986 to March 1987 has been a very successful one with four major tours - A Camera of One's Own, Alchemists of the Surreal, Heroic Times and Strong Language. Three other touring programmes from the previous year have shown their popularity by extending into the present year. In the case of the Recent British Super 8 and Subverting Television these tours have been going for almost two years.

The Umbrella would like to sustain the funding it is receiving in order to carry on and develop its aims and objectives. Its role in advancing independent and experimental cinema within historical and educational frameworks is recognised and it is unique in this country and probably even further afield.

The Umbrella intends approaching the British Film Institute's Distribution Division for an increase of funding from £5000, which it received for the first time last year, to £8000 and would like to request the same amount from the Arts Council. In view of the uptake from BFI Regional Film Theatres and the close relationship established over the years with the Distribution Division this equality of funding between the two organisations would seem to be justified and appropriate.

Tours from April 1986 to March 1987

A Camera of One's Own

This tour was programmed and organised by Cordelia Swann and a report has been submitted at a previous date to the Committee.

Venues involved were as follows:

Leicester Super 8 Festival May 29

Watershed Bristol June 4, 26

Brighton Workshop June 10

Ipswich Film Theatre June 19

Spacex Gallery Exeter June 24

Whitechapel Gallery London June 29

Cardiff Workshop July 3

Rendezvous Cinema Portsmouth July 9

Filmhouse Edinburgh May 1

Correrhouse Manchester May 13, 22)

Alchemists of the Surreal

This tour comprised new work in distribution in this country from the Czech animator Jan Svankmajer and a selection of films by the Brothers Quay set in context of surrealism. Three programmes of short films plus six feature films were offered to venues.

The tour is proving immensely successful and attracted a lot of publicity. This tour was very much a joint venture with the BFI Distribution Division, with Jayne Pilling and Paul Taylor assisting with print acquisition, research, writing, programming and publicity. There has been strong interest from abroad too. Raul Ruiz in France has expressed interest in touring it there and we have already had a firm booking from the Cinematheque Quebecoise in Montreal.

Venues are as follows to date:

ICA London Oct 6-25
Phoenix Leicester Oct 26, Nov 2, 9
Stoke Cinema Nov 4, 11, 18
Plymouth Arts Centre Nov 11, 18, 25
Filmhouse Edinburgh Oct 15-18, 22-4, 29-31 (3 screenings)
March 10, 22, 29 (repeat)
Cornerhouse Manchester Nov 17, Dec 1, 15 (2 screenings)
Watershed Bristol Nov 21, 28, Dec 5
Glasgow Film Theatre Jan 13, 20, 27
Oxford Cinema Jan 20, 27, Feb 3
Chapter Cardiff Jan 25, Feb 1
Dukes Playhouse Lancaster Jan 22, Feb 8, Mar 3
Arts Cinema Cambridge Jan 17, 24, 31
Metro Derby Feb 15, 22, Mar 1
Ipswich Cinema Feb 22, Mar 1, 15
NFT London Mar 6, 11, 17, 20, 24, 27 (2 screenings)
Canterbury Film Theatre Feb 10
Norwich Cinema Feb 8, 15, Mar 1
Warwick Arts Cinema Feb 9, Mar 9, 23
Rendezvous Cinema Portsmouth Mar 18, 25 April 1
Anvil Cinema Sheffield April 2, 16, 23
Brighton Festival May 10, 17, 24
Tyneside Cinema April 19, 26 May 3
Nottingham April 30, May 7, 19

Heroic Times

A tour of Soviet films and recent British experimental work with strong aesthetic and thematic connections to this early period of cinema. Programmed by Cordelia Swann and involving six programmes.

Venues are as follows to date:

ICA London Jan 5 - 31 (6 programmes)

Phoenix Cinema Feb 15, 22 (2 programmes)

LIFVA Leicester Feb 26 (1 programme)

Metro Cinema Derby Mar 17, 31, April 7 (3 programmes)

Rendezvous Cinema Portsmouth Feb 11, 18, 25 Mar 4 (4 programmes)

Chapter Cardiff programmes and dates unconfirmed

Bradford Film Theatre and Museum programmes and dates unconfirmed

Plymouth Arts Centre programmes and dates unconfirmed

Strong Language

Two programmes of work representing the work of the Arts Council Prizewinners Scheme.

Venues as follows:

BAFTA Nov 27

Watershed Bristol Jan 7

NFT London Jan 19

Filmhouse Edinburgh Feb 10

Cornerhouse Manchester Feb

Plymouth Arts Centre Feb 17

Metro Cinema Derby March 24

Subverting Television

This tour was set up in 1985 and is still in demand.

Venues as follows for this year:

ICA London April 13, 20, 27

Granada Television Festival Spain May 26-31

Melbourne International Film Festival June 19-29

Sydney Video Festival Oct 6-19

Cork International Film Festival Eire Oct 24-31

Recent British Super 8

Originally a three programme tour set up in 1985, the single screen programme of work remains one of the best and most accessible in terms of distribution introductions to British Super 8. Venue

Melbourne International Film Festival June 19-29

Of Angels and Apocalypse...: Derek Jarman Films

Originally produced in 1985, this package exists as one of two programmes of super 8 films and videos.

The following venues taken the programmes since April 1986:

Glasgow Film Theatre May 15

New Romantics Festival Amsterdam June 5-9

Super 8 Festival, Berlin Sept 18-30

Walker Arts Center Minneapolis USA Sept 27-8

Stoke Film Theatre Oct 28

Rendezvous Cinema Portsmouth Nov 12

Proposed Tour April 1987 to 1988

Art and Cinema

This is an adaptation of the successful NFT season programmed by David Curtis and AL Rees, two programmes per month shown at NFT over the past year. Interest from some Regional Film Theatres in the idea of the season, with supporting programmes notes etc led to plans for 11 programmes to be shown from April 1987 to December 1987 at about seven major RFT cinemas including Filmhouse Edinburgh, Metro Derby, Watershed Bristol, Phoenix Leicester etc. Programmes have been devised and costings done. Hoped to begin April.

This would be a major advance in experimental film programme by establishing a long-running season of films with supporting written material, thus hoping to build up an audience in various major cities through Great Britain.

Found Footage Tour

This tour is aimed to start in Autumn 1987 and is based on new film material by Bruce Conner being brought into distribution by BFI and to be lodged in London Film-makers' Co-op library.

The stress will be on the recent developments in film and video using found footage material and techniques, both for aesthetic and social/political ends. This work will be contextualized .

Birth, Death and Analysis: Filmic Representations of the Body

A 3/4 part programme of experimental films centred on various notions of the "body" in relationship to personal experience and politics.

Beats, Punks and the "Underground" Cinema

Programmes of film for Autumn tour. To be selected by Simon Field and Paul Taylor and tracing the notion of an "underground" cinema and its contemporary influence, with film-makers such as Vivienne Dick, Cerith Wyn Evans, Maybury, Scott and Beth B and so forth.

The Art of Politics: British Documentary Past and Present

A 3/4 part programme of films relating past British work with the stress on form and its use of political ends, with documentary today - scratch, Black documentary.

East European Animation (provisional title)

A follow up and deepening of Alchemists of the Surreal tour using new Svankmajer material coming into distribution sometime this year and covering themes and film-makers past and present from East Europe.

Pop Videos, TV Ads and Avant-Garde Film and Video (working title)

Hope to programme work for coming Animation Festival around this theme of "appropriation" of avant-garde work for commercial ends. Tour to follow festival.

Animateur Involvement

1. Romantic Aesthetics: Young English Filmmakers, Programme adviser, public lecture given and assistant organiser to festival of film at Ambassade 2 Gallery, Mickery and Shaffy cinema in Amsterdam June 1986.
2. Turner Prize lecture given at Tate Gallery, November 1986 and research assistance given for Turner Prize catalogue.
3. Short lecture course given (with AL Rees) for Thames Television staff (directors, producers, floor managers, camera persons, editors etc August 1986.
4. ICA Video Library Catalogue: research advice and article. November 1986.
5. Numerous talks given on Jarman, Super 8, Alchemists of Surreal at various venues.
6. Canadian Film at the Co-op selection of films for Canada House and London Filmmakes Co-op for hire with catalogue written and researched. August 1986.
7. AIR Gallery guest speaker at public discussion of state of video art.
8. London organiser of American tour of Derek Jarman retrospective based on Umbrella tour ...Of Angels and Apocalypse.
9. Adviser and article written for Japanese tour of Derek Jarman.
10. Regular contributor - writing on experimental film and video - for Art Monthly and Monthly Film Bulletin.
11. Adviser on programming to Berlin Super 8 Festival November 1986.
12. Adviser on programming for Pompidou Show of British Avant-Garde film. November 1986.

EXPENDITURE APRIL 1986 - MARCH 1987

A Camera of One's Own

Rentals to film-makers and film print costs	£941.00
Travel, accomodation etc	£241.80
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	£1182.80

Alchemists of the Surreal

Film Rentals	£120.00
Design/Printing Broadsheet (6000 copies)	£1610.00
Press show venue hire	£50.00
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	£1780.00

Heroic Times

Printing/design of broadsheet	£1080.00
Film print costs	£150.00
BFI Film hire	£190.60
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	£1425.60

Miscellaneous costs	£275.00
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Art and Cinema

Broadsheet/Folder printing, typesetting, design @	£1000.00
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<u>Total</u>	£4663.40
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**Please note, whilst hire charges mainly cover rental costs there is usually some shortfall within region of perhpas £500 which can only be estimated at end of tour which in cases of Alchemists of the Surreal and Heroic Times is early Summer.

AUDIENCE FIGURES

Alchemists of the Surreal

<u>ICA London</u> *Programme 1 (6 screenings)	300 (full houses)
2 (" ")	300
3 (" ")	300

* ICA requested repeat show in January but not possible.

<u>Phoenix Cinema Leicester</u> Programme 1	25
2	41
3	31

<u>Stoke Cinema</u> Programme 1	65
2	71
3	50

<u>Plymouth Arts Centre</u> Programme 1	10 27
2	41
3	21

<u>Filmhouse Edinburgh</u> Programme 1	241 (3 screenings)
2	259
3	161

<u>Cornerhouse Manchester</u> Programme 1	150 (2 screenings)
2	226
3	155

<u>Watershed Bristol</u> Programme 1	76 (2 screenings)
2	92
3	83

<u>Glasgow Film Theatre</u> Programme 1	154 (2 screenings)
2	139
3	(not screened yet)

THESE ARE ONLY SCREENINGS TO HAVE TAKEN PLACE TO DATE, THEREFORE FIGURES UNAVAILABLE FOR OTHER VENUES.

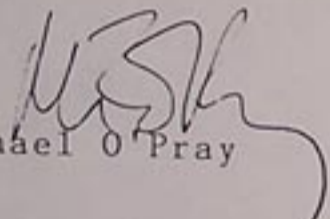
PLEASE NOTE: Edinburgh and Manchester REPEATING PROGRAMMES LATER THIS YEAR.

Proposed Figures for Funding 1987-8

Organiser's fee @ £40 per day for 250 days	£10,000
Expenses (telephone, travel, stationary etc)	1,000
Production Costs	
Broadsheet printing, design, typesetting for three broadsheets (@ 2000 print run)	3,600
Rentals for films	1,200
Speakers fees, travel, accomodation etc	1,200
Total	17,000
Less revenue on programme hire	1,000
Total	16,000
Less amount requested from BFI Distribution Division	8,000
AMOUNT REQUESTED FROM ARTS COUNCIL	8,000

16,000
11,000

5,000
Subsidy
for shows


Michael O'Pray