

- 1. To promote experimental film and video art through exhibitions in this country and abroad.
- 2. To place experimental film and video art in a cinematic or video/television context through programming strategies.
- 3. To provide an educational framework for such work through publication of brochures, newsletters and film notes and by guest speakers and seminars etc.

FILM AND VIDEO UMBRELLA

REPORT AND FUNDING APPLICATION

APRIL 1987 - MARCH 1988

January 1988 Michael O'Pray

AIMS

1. To promote experimental film and video art through exhibition in this country and abroad.
2. To place experimental film and video art in a cinematic or video/television context through programming strategies.
3. To provide an educational framework for such work through publication of broadsheets, catalogues and film notes and by guest speakers and seminars etc.
4. To liase with our individuals and institutions in order to promote experimental film and video art through programming, writing, funding, exhibition, distribution etc
5. To advise and stimulate venues and exhibition outlets in general on experimental film and video art programming and exhibition.

OBJECTIVES

1. To tour programmes of experimental work in this country and abroad.
2. To reach a broad audience through accessible programming, documentary back-up material, publicity materials, co-ordinating with programmers at venues, providing speakers.
3. To produce written and visual supporting material for tours e.g. broadsheets, film notes, publicity hand-outs, stills etc
4. To monitor new work in this country and as far as possible abroad through attending screenings, press shows, festivals and private viewings of work.
5. To liase and develop links with Arts Council of Great Britain, British Film Institute and British Council in particular in order to facilitate resources, funding, publicity, advice, research, purchase of prints and educational input.
6. To liase with other programmers, festival organisers, film officers, film-makers, animateurs, gallery curators and organisers, magazine and newspaper editors, journalists and critics in order to develop exhibition and programming.

REPORT

In this financial year, four major tours have been in progress. Alchemists of the Surreal (began Sept 1986); Art in Cinema, Junk Aesthetics and Deeper into the Labyrinth.

ALCHEMISTS OF THE SURREAL

This tour was astonishingly successful, with thirty venues, some taking the programmes twice, between October 86 - July 87, and with a Canadian venue. The following bookings are purely those occurring within the present financial year.

| | | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------|----------|-----|
| Anvil Cinema, Sheffield | 1 | April 2 | 97 |
| | 2 | 16 | 73 |
| | 3 | 23 | 61 |
| Tyneside Cinema, Newcastle | 1 | April 19 | 45 |
| | 2 | 26 | 76 |
| | 3 | May 10 | 46 |
| City Lights, Nottingham | 1 | April 30 | 67 |
| | 2 | May 7 | 69 |
| | 3 | 19 | 39 |
| Barn Theatre, Dartington | 1 | May 19 | 57 |
| | 2 | 26 | 56 |
| | 3 | June 9 | 43 |
| Cornerhouse, Manchester | 1,2,3 | April 11 | 82 |
| Exeter College of Art | 1,2 | June 24 | 80 |
| Chapter, Cardiff | 1 | July 18 | 19 |
| Brighton Festival | 1,2,3 | May | 240 |
| Cinematheque Quebecoise, Montreal | | Oct | 210 |

ART IN CINEMA

This programme was constructed from the successful NFT programmes which have been curated over the past few years by A.L. Rees and David Curtis. A number of venues had expressed interest in a similar long-running repertory season of avant-garde work. This was very encouraging being a demand from the venues for this kind of work. As it was, the season in terms of audiences was not very successful, much depending on local conditions. For example, in Leicester with its workshops, Super 8 Festival, sympathetic and knowledgeable programmer, audience figures were higher than in venues where no strong avant-

garde/independent cinema connections or traditions, programming e.g. Ipswich.

Eleven Programmes of work. See attached folders.

1. Cubist Cinema
2. Telling Tales...
3. Realism/Politics/Abstraction: The Cine Clubs of 20s and 30s
4. Rituals in Transfigured Time: Maya Deren
5. Free Radicals: Experimental Animation
6. Surrealism and Film
7. Sexuality Reclaimed
8. Artists' Films of 50s and 60s
9. Beat Cinema and New York Dada
10. In The Street: New York/Paris/London
11. The International Co-op Movement: Re-Inventing the Cinema

The programmes were taken by six cinemas, each running two programmes per month from April- June and Sept - Nov. Number of venues was limited by sheer mechanics of shifting programmes around country.

Audience figures

| | Filmhouse | Chapter | Leicester | Ipswich | Manchester | Portsmouth |
|-------|-----------|---------|-----------|---------|------------|------------|
| Progr | | | | | | |
| 1 | 104 | 16 | 36 | 7 | 22 | av 15-20 |
| 2 | 37 | ? | 20 | ? | 59 | |
| 3 | 23 | 2 | 18 | 4 | 12 | |
| 4 | 66 | 11 | ? | 16 | 22 | |
| 5 | 15 | 12 | 24 | 17 | 37 | |
| 6 | 17 | 15 | 31 | 2 | ? | |
| 7 | 46 | 27 | 27 | 23 | ? | |
| 8 | 27 | 17 | 17 | 6 | 6 | |
| 9 | 40 | 23 | 15 | 11 | 56 | |
| 10 | 15 | 3 | ? | 11 | 4 | |
| 11 | 5 | 2 | 27 | 2 | 15 | |
| | 395 | 128 | 215 | 99 | 233 | @ 175 |

JUNK AESTHETICS: THE FILMS OF BRUCE CONNER

Three film programmes of work plus optional programme 4 of video. BFI bought six prints of Conner's films previously unavailable in this country, and which are to be distributed by the LFMC after this tour.

Audience figures:

| | | | | |
|------------|-------|----------|-------|----------------|
| ICA London | 9 | November | 2/22 | (2 screenings) |
| | 10 | | 11/11 | |
| | 11 | | 11/4 | |
| | 12 | | 10/22 | |
| | 13 | | 6/12 | |
| | 14 | | 16/24 | |
| | 16 | | 47/34 | |
| | 17 | | 25/14 | |
| | 18 | | 11/21 | |
| | 19 | | 17/18 | |
| | Total | | 338 | |

| | | | | |
|--------------------|---|-----|----|----|
| Phoenix Leicester | 1 | Nov | 21 | 49 |
| | 2 | | 6 | 21 |
| | 3 | Dec | 11 | |
| Bradford Film Th. | 1 | Jan | 4 | |
| | 2 | Feb | 11 | |
| | 3 | Jan | 22 | |
| Metro, Derby | 1 | Jan | 24 | |
| | 2 | | 31 | |
| | 3 | Feb | 7 | |
| Chapter, Cardiff | 1 | Jan | 31 | |
| | 2 | | 17 | |
| | 3 | Feb | 14 | |
| Stoke on Trent | 1 | Feb | 9 | |
| | 2 | Mar | 15 | |
| Filmhouse, Edinb. | 1 | Jan | 19 | |
| | 2 | | 26 | |
| | 3 | Feb | 2 | |
| Dukes, Lancaster | 1 | Feb | 21 | |
| | 2 | | 28 | |
| City Lights, Notts | 1 | Mar | 17 | |
| | 2 | | 31 | |
| | 3 | Apr | 21 | |
| Ipswich | 1 | Mar | 7 | |
| | 2 | | 21 | |
| | 3 | Apr | 11 | |
| Watershed, Bristol | 1 | Oct | 7 | 15 |
| | 2 | | 14 | 19 |
| | 3 | | 21 | 22 |

| | | | | |
|------------------|---|--------|-----|----|
| Cornerhouse, Man | 1 | Nov 25 | (2) | 87 |
| | 2 | 30 | | 28 |
| | 3 | Dec 9 | | 18 |
| | 4 | Dec 12 | | 9 |
| Canterbury | 2 | Mar 10 | | |
| Plymouth Arts | 1 | May 3 | | |
| | 2 | 10 | | |
| | 3 | 1 | | |

This tour still in progress and figures not yet available from most venues.

DEEPER INTO THE LABYRINTH: FILMS OF SVANKMAJER IN CONTEXT

| | | | |
|--------------------|---|--------|------------|
| ICA London | 1 | Jan 4 | 44/50 |
| | | 5 | 31/30 |
| | | 6 | 24/49 |
| | | 7 | 34/40 |
| | | 8 | 20/37 |
| | | 9 | 50/50 |
| | | 11 | 47/50 |
| | 2 | 12 | 22/27 |
| | | 13 | 31/29 |
| | | 14 | 41/34 |
| | | | Runs until |
| | | | end Jan |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| Phoenix Leic | 1 | Feb 11 | |
| | 2 | 24 | |
| | 3 | Mar 21 | |
| Warwick Arts (2) | 1 | Feb 15 | |
| | 2 | 29 | |
| | 3 | Mar 14 | |
| Filmhouse Edin | 1 | Feb 24 | |
| | 2 | 11 | |
| | 3 | Mar 8 | |
| Cornerhouse Man | 1 | Mar 6 | |
| | 2 | 13 | |
| | 3 | 27 | |
| Watershed, Bristol | 1 | Mar 9 | |
| | 2 | 16 | |
| | 3 | 31 | |
| Chapter Cardiff | 1 | Mar 20 | |
| | 2 | 27 | |
| | 3 | Apr 6 | |

| | | | |
|-------------------|---|-----|----|
| Bradford Film Th | 1 | Apr | 7 |
| | 2 | | 14 |
| | 3 | | 28 |
| Ipswich Corn Ex. | 1 | May | 28 |
| | 2 | | 22 |
| | 3 | Jun | 5 |
| Brighton Festival | 1 | May | 22 |
| | 2 | | 8 |
| | 3 | | 14 |

This tour begins early February, after the ICA run, and bookings still being taken.

GENERAL COMMENTS AND FIGURES

In the present financial year April 1987 - March 1988

Audiences

| | | |
|-----------------------|-----|-------------------|
| Alchemists of Surreal | | 1360 (9 venues) |
| Art in Cinema | | 1245 |
| Junk Aesthetics | est | 1191 |
| Deeper into Labyrinth | | 1820 (one venue!) |
| | est | 680 |
| Total | | 6296 |

Overall number of screenings in year = 181 (this figure excludes contextualizing feature films).
This is an average of 3.5 screenings per week throughout year!

This shows a real growth in both audiences and screenings (e.g. 1985-86 the screenings were about 104, average of 2 screenings per week).

OTHER EVENTS

CHANNEL 4 AND ARTS COUNCIL GHOSTS IN THE MACHINE FUNDING SCHEME

Member of the Selection Committee for video and film commissions.

Co-organised and joint-funded the broadsheet of ten short-

listed works for British Council, for Festivals here and abroad.

ELUSIVE SIGN: TEN YEARS OF AVANT-GARDE FILM AND VIDEO

Selector of programme and contributor to catalogue.

CANADIAN EXPERIMENTAL FILM

Programme of work for NFT Art in Cinema season - January 1988

4th INTERNATIONAL LEICESTER SUPER 8 FESTIVAL, NOV 1987

Panel member of discussion session "To See or Not to See" on Super 8 distribution.

PICCADILLY FILM FESTIVAL

Member of Advisory/Management Board of this year's festival.

KLAUS WYBORNY

Organised Wyborny screenings at LFMC June 1987.

JAPANESE AVANT-GARDE FILM FESTIVAL 1988

Advisor on British selection.

DERBY METRO GUEST LECTURE SERIES

Talk on Ten Years of Avant-Garde Film and Video (Feb 1988)

SOUTHAMPTON ART GALLERY TALK

On Derek Jarman and relationship between art and film (March 1988)

WRITING

Articles and reviews for Art Monthly, Independent Media, Monthly Film Bulletin, Afterimage, New Formations, Japanese Retrospective Catalogue on Ken Russell, Fantasy and Film book (BFI forthcoming).

INCOME (APRIL 1987 - MARCH 1988):

| | |
|----------------------------|--------|
| Alchemists of the Surreal: | £1,140 |
| Art in Cinema: | £2,640 |
| Junk Aesthetics: | £1,040 |
| Deeper into the Labyrinth | £600 |
| Total | £5,420 |

EXPENDITURE (APRIL 1987 - MARCH 1988)

| | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------|--------|
| Alchemists of the Surreal: | £3135.98 | 203 |
| Art in Cinema: | £2534.00 | 2534 |
| Junk Aesthetics: | £1150.00 | 1392 |
| Deeper into the Labyrinth: | £1170.00 | ✓ 1170 |
| Total | £7989.98 | 5534 |

*Henri Time 875
 MFT 50
 Prigs 480*

According to these figures, the amount of subsidy totals to date: £2569.00 (against production costs set aside for the year of £6000)

*500
 |*

x

PROPOSED TOURS FOR 1988-1989

EISENSTEIN: THE SYNCHRONISATION OF THE SENSES

The major Eisenstein exhibition will open this year at MOMA Oxford; Cornerhouse, Manchester; and Hayward Gallery London. This tour will use excerpts from Eisenstein's film plus avant-garde work which develops and uses Eisensteinian ideas of montage, excess, politics, gesture, sexuality and total cinema. The tour will coincide with the exhibitions and attendant publications and publicity.

FREE RADICALS: THE CINEMA OF LYE, CAVALCANTI AND THE EUROPEAN AVANT-GARDE.

Planned for Autumn to develop further interest in Lye raised by 1987 Animation festival. Will be reappraisal of radical and avant-garde nature of 30s documentary movement.

VIDEO ON TELEVISION (provisional title)

Very much in planning stage, but a means of bringing together some of the best of video art shown on Channel 4 in the 80s with contextualisation material about its success or failure; the relationship between artists and broadcasters; funding between arts bodies and broadcast television, the nature of exhibition etc. Plan to have forum at ICA of tv programmers, video artists and arts body officers etc.

BIRTH, DEATH AND ANALYSIS: THE BODY IN FILM

A tour of work stressing the different representations and projects concerning the body in avant-garde work, past and present. The rise of censorship in recent years makes this package problematic for RFTs, but hopefully we can make it a possibility this year.

OTHER POSSIBLE TOURS:

RAUL RUIZ tour

KUCHAR BROS AND HUMOUR

PROPOSED FIGURES FOR FUNDING 1988-1989

Organiser's Fee @ £50 per day for 240 days p.a. £12,000

Expenses = 48 weeks: £1,000

Production Costs

Broadsheet printing, typesetting, design (3 broadsheets with 2,000 print run each) £3,600

Rental ~~subsidy~~ for films £1,000 ~~8110~~ (87-8)

Speaker's fees, travel, accomodation, writers fees £400

Total ~~£18,000~~ ~~25,000~~ 21,400

Less revenue on programme hire ~~£1,000~~ 5,500 (87-8)

Total ~~£17,000~~ 15,900

Less Amount granted by Arts Council £8,500

AMOUNT REQUESTED FROM BFI £8,500