

From : Mike Leggett, Convenor,

To : LONDON FILM-MAKERS DISTRIBUTION AND EXHIBITION WORKING PARTY

Stardate ; December 1978



Arising out of the discussions based on a prepared paper that took place at the LFMC General Meeting held on 28th October, nine Co-op members volunteered to meet on three occasions before the next AGM to discuss further and in greater detail various areas of concern amongst these matters raised by the membership.

The Working Party consists of the following people;

- Andrew Dunlop, [redacted] London SW11 Tel: [redacted]
- Mike Leggett, [redacted] Devon. Tel; [redacted]
- Malcolm Legrice, [redacted] Middex. Tel; [redacted]
- Jeanette Iljon, [redacted] London SW 7.
- James Mackay, [redacted] London N 4. Tel; [redacted]
- Andrew Nicolson, [redacted] London SW2 1QW Tel; [redacted]
- Stuart Pound, [redacted] Lincs.
- Al Rees, [redacted] Tel; [redacted]
- Rod Stoneman, [redacted] Devon. [redacted]

It is important, if the proposed project is going to be successful in its task, that its members resolve to attend all three meetings, this being the only way of assuring continuity of discussion with maximum of efficiency leading to the production of a set of recommendations which, if ratified at the AGM could become the basis of future LFMC practices in these areas. (It should also be pointed out that since the first meeting has yet to take place it is still possible for other members of the LFMC to join the Working Party; contact me forthwith!)

From the unspecific minutes kept of the discussions of the GM the following points were amplified from within the discussion paper;

1. State of current LFMC Archive, depository of information written etc.
2. Film-maker involvement with venues and organisers.
3. Writer/editor/publisher for keeping publishing track of 'the discourse'.
4. Distribution strategy through combination of marketing, ~~and~~ information research and the creation of specific contexts.
5. Feedback and syllabus formulation with Open University and television.

It would seem these points could be described and grouped in either of the following two ways;

a) that the theoretical, critical and informational basis, ('the discourse'), for the film work is not as available as the films themselves. That its distribution is patchy, unreliable and at best is left to individual film-makers and writers, (who do the best they can).

b) That the actual contact film-makers have with film-viewers and the venues is increasingly becoming more remote. (By which it is seen to mean that areas of responsibility from the ~~moment~~ ^{moment} a film is completed to its arrival on a reflective surface, are becoming compartmentalised and are often being assumed to exist where in fact they don't, thus allowing outside interests to take over such responsibilities.)

It is proposed that at the first meeting we spend some time dealing with matters arising from that general discussion. Possibly the above account is inaccurate but could form the basis of a critical assessment of what has happened so far. Essentially the morning session could be used to sort this out ^{AND} what we are capable of dealing with effectively before the next AGM; the afternoon could make a start into some of that and include a definition of what we could individually research and prepare before the second meeting. The third meeting would be for drafting a document for presentation to the AGM in May.

It has been suggested by a couple of people that a long week-end after the initial meeting would see the thing through. The house here in Devon would certainly accommodate any (?) requirements if people were prepared to travel but we could sort that out at the first meeting which I propose take place at the LFMC on Saturday 27th January at 11 am.

If a long week-end was out of the question then I suggest the second meeting be February 24th and the third at the end of March.

Please let me know if you are dropping out of the Work Party or cannot possibly make the suggested dates. Also whether you require additional copies of the original discussion paper or think that copies of any other relevant documents should be circulated before the event. I consider it essential that people prepare themselves (in whatever way!), for a concentrated and to the point series of discussions - I feel the situation demands our urgent attentions.

WITH BEST WISHES FOR 1979



PS If you want a good book of critical interpretation to do with ~~prehistory and~~ social history (centred on Mexico) for festive reading try THE LABYRINTHS OF SOLITUDE by Octavio Paz. A votre sante!!