

ARTS COUNCIL TOURING EXHIBITIONS

EXHIBITION INFORMATION

NEWS SHEET

Film-makers on tour

This is a new scheme designed to encourage the screening of artists' films and to off-set some of the costs that are incurred in showing experimental film. Eight film-makers whose work has been supported by the Artists' Films Committee have been selected to personally present programmes of films and expanded cinema shows and to be available to answer questions. The total cost of each programme, which run on average for ninety minutes, is only £10 with other costs met by the Arts Council. The film-makers are David Dye, Marilyn Halford, Ron Haselden, Tony Hill, Derek Jarman, Jeff Keen, Malcolm le Grice and William Raban. For an illustrated catalogue giving full details please contact the Film Officer at the Arts Council.

John Blakemore – Stand Before the World

The Arts Council now owns the 56 photographs that comprised John Blakemore's exhibition *Stand Before the World* organised by the Arnolfini Gallery, Bristol and shown there in January/February 1976.

"I am concerned with landscape as the external manifestation of Nature – the source of all life, eternal yet everchanging. I am fascinated by the fecundity and tenacity of life, the cycle of birth, growth, decay and regeneration. I see my photography as visual poetry, utilising the power of the straight photograph to at once reveal and to transform reality. I seek to produce images which function as both fact, and as metaphor, reflecting both the external world and my own inner response to, and connection with it.

The exhibition is organised in the form of five linked sequences, each complete in itself, but contributing to an overall theme. The first three sequences symbolise the forces which formed and which continue to shape the physical world. The fourth sequence explores the processes of growth and decay at the organic level. The final sequence explores the same process, but on the level of consciousness, of my subjective awareness of the fundamental mystery of life and death, of my own mortality." (John Blakemore)

Any organisation that would be interested to exhibit or preferably tour this material on a regional or local basis should contact Barry Lane, Photography Officer at the Arts Council.

The Old Testament in World Music

This exhibition was prepared by the Haifa Music Museum and AMLI Library and is available through the Israeli Foreign Ministry for a showing in Great Britain in May 1977.

It traces the importance of the Old Testament in the

history of music, attributing its great influence to the wide scope of its themes, the historical range and its adaptability for both religious and secular presentation.

This documentary exhibition consists of 170 panels featuring manuscripts and printed scores accompanied by contemporary images of the composers and photographs and models of the buildings in which the performances took place. It also uses reproductions of contemporary paintings, sculpture, stained glass and mosaic to give a comprehensive picture of the influence of the Old Testament through two millennia of cultural history. It is divided into eight sections:

- 1 Liturgical music, the influence of the Jewish chanted prayers in the Byzantine, Catholic and Lutheran liturgies.
- 2 King David and the Psalter, The importance of the Book of Psalms for secular music as well as for the liturgy.
- 3 Liturgical drama, contemporary with the development of the New Testament-derived 'miracle plays' but capable of greater narrative and comic exploitation.
- 4 Oratorio – Old Testament themes presented as a musical rather than a theatrical, production, within the church.
- 5 Opera – contemporary developments in secular settings, drawing on the wealth of military and love themes in the Old Testament.
- 6 Folk song – translated into over a thousand languages, Old Testament themes, heroes and narratives formed the basis of folk songs in many countries.
- 7 Vocal and instrumental music – diffusion of Old Testament inspiration in all types of music.
- 8 Jewish and Israeli music – the particular influence of the Old Testament on Jewish music.

The exhibition requires approximately 180 metres of hanging space, and is available in May 1977 following the showing at the Royal Festival Hall in London. Suggested showing period is 4 weeks; a week will be necessary for installation, and a further week for packing. The exhibition is loaned on condition that packing and one-way transport is paid by the gallery – total weight of the show is about one ton.

For further information please contact Moshe Dior Counsellor for Cultural Affairs, Embassy of Israel, 2 Palace Green, London W8 4QB. Telephone: 01-937 8050.

February 1977

