

CONFIDENTIAL

Minutes of the ARTISTS' FILM AND VIDEO COMMITTEE Meeting held on Monday 27th September 1982 at 10.30 am at 105 Piccadilly.

Present: A.L. Rees - in the chair
David Critchley
Tamara Krikorian
Mary-Pat Leece
Anne Rees-Mogg
Roger Wilson
John Bradshaw

Rodney Wilson - Film Officer
David Curtis - Assistant Film Officer
Tom Dolan - Assistant Accountant
Anna Kruger - Assistant Subsidy Officer
Valerie Haigh - Secretary
Trisha Anderson - in attendance

Simon Field attended the meeting from 2.00 p.m.

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- 1 Apologies for absence were received from Joanna Drew, Susan Barrowclough and Stuart Marshall.

- 2 Minutes of the Policy Meeting on 25th January

Mary-Pat Leece asked if there was anything further to add to item 2.3 regarding offering bursaries to 'buy time' rather than the 'materials only' basis and the tax requirements thereto. The Assistant Accountant advised that generally bursaries for buying time with no return of work were not taxable. If the Committee wished to do this the nature and terms of the awards would be changed. However, the Inland Revenue had treated all film and video awards as potentially taxable. It was agreed that it should be looked into further at the next policy meeting. The minutes were accepted as a true record.

Minutes of the 46th Meeting

The Chairman informed the Committee that he had explained to the applicant in 9.4.1. the reasons for his rejection and that he had subsequently received funding from another source.

The minutes were accepted as a true record.

Minutes of the 47th Meeting

The minutes were accepted as a true record.

Minutes of the 47th Meeting Part II

The minutes were accepted as a true record.

3 Financial Report

The Chairman thanked the Assistant Accountant for all his good work in the past and welcomed the Assistant Subsidy Officer, Anna Kruger, who is to take over from him. He also thanked her for her thorough financial report.

The Assistant Subsidy Officer pointed out to the committee that there was a balance for the Film Makers on Tour/Video Artists on Tour allocation of £7,993. However the heaviest period of use is about to start. The Film Officer said that the Council was to consider the 1983/84 allocations on the basis of a 4% uplift which called into question whether the film allocation would be reinstated. Therefore finances would be very difficult next year. The committee also was informed that the sum of £26,767 is available for exhibition/capital for the items on hand at this meeting.

4 Matters Arising

4.1. Bursaries

4.1.1. Brighton

The Chairman commented that the report was very readable and informative. The Film Officer reminded the committee that a letter and request for an extension of one term by Neil Armstrong had been mislaid and that as the term had already started before this meeting a decision on the extension had to be made. The committee had been circulated with the recommendation of the Film Officer and Chairman that the extension be agreed particularly as the loss of papers was the Council's fault. As a result of the committee's response an additional £1,000 had been paid to Neil Armstrong. This was formally approved by the Committee.

RECOMMENDATION £1000 extension to the bursary from
1982/83 Artists Film & Video Allocation

4.1.2. N.E.L.P.

The Film Officer reported that the closing date had been Friday 24th September, the short-listing was to take place on Friday October 1st, with interviews on Thursday 14th October and that the response was very good.

4.1.3. Reading

The Film Officer said that the next Reading Bursary was to start in January with a closing date of 30th October 1982. Enquiries were higher than usual. Following discussion of David Dye's report the Film Officer agreed to find out details of his show of work.

4.1.4. Maidstone

There was a general discussion about the teaching element in bursaries. It was thought that the assertions in David Hall's letter about student contact did not satisfy concern about the demands on the bursary

holder. It was agreed that David Hall should be informed that a new application was required. It should include a) a complete re-statement about the aims of the bursary b) what provision would be made for the bursary holder in the form of studio space c) whether accommodation might be made available d) what the current situation was with Kent Education Authority concerning the status of the bursary holder, and the fee which they impose. In addition it was agreed that while David Hall need not incorporate any teaching element into a Maidstone bursary holder's residence, a clear procedure for reporting back would be required.

4.2. London Film-Makers Co-op Bursary

It was reported that Claire Keating had received the bursary and had been working successfully since the beginning of August.

4.3. LVA Show Subsidy

It was agreed that the information submitted on the first six months show was sufficient for approval of the application for support for the second half of the year's programme. The request to vary the terms of the offer for the first six months was approved. L.V.A. would be asked to submit programme details as soon as they were known to the Film Officer.

AGREED A variation on the guarantee against loss agreed at the 26.4.82. meeting of £1,045 and further guarantee of £1,755 making a total claimable in 1982/83 of £2,800

4.4. Film-Makers and Video Artists on Tour

The Assistant Film Officer commented on the scheme further to the papers circulated. During the subsequent discussion the question was raised of how the scheme would be funded, John Bradshaw said that the regional arts association would contribute to the publicity costs and the BFI Regional Department would also assist, and each RAA would provide the subsidy for the film-makers in its region. The extension was endorsed and the Chairman wished those involved success, suggesting that it would be worth having a meeting of all the institutions involved after a year, for an assessment of progress and possible revision of the terms.

4.5. Programme Advisor - 'Programming Advice Sheets'

A report on twelve months activities and future plans.

In opening discussion, Simon Field said that he was aware of the lack of video in the suggestions for programmes and admitted that they represented the area he knew best. All the films suggested had been seen by him. He added that further video programmes were in preparation and intended to organise a day event around them. He also intended to use the programme advice sheets as a calling card in order to reach new organisations. He had discovered that there was a wide spread lack of

experience and knowledge of the films and how to programme them and little awareness of the Artists Film & Video Committee's exhibition policy. In discussion Anne Rees-Mogg felt his programmes were rather dated. During discussion it was agreed that efforts to improve the exhibition of artists film and video could not be purist and that the programmes were a good basis for encouraging venues to consider avant-garde work. It was emphasised that the important point was to build audiences and to develop interest in a variety of ways.

4.6. Arnolfini Video Access Library

The Film Officer explained that there was an agreement in principal to provide funds for the acquisition of new work for the Arnolfini Video Library, conditional on a list of proposed purchases being approved. Unfortunately it had not arrived in time for the last meeting. It was agreed that the information in the letter circulated was sufficient to release the funds.

4.7. Programme of Funded Work

The Assistant Film Officer reported that he had sent circulars to all funded artists but that the response to date was patchy. Roger Wilson suggested there should be a more active way of gathering the work in and it was agreed a schedule for viewing work needed to be drawn up. The Chairman encouraged this venture and looked forward to programme suggestions as soon as possible.

4.8. 'Modular' Exhibition Scheme

4.8.1. Proposed Subsidy: paper to be tabled by AFO

The Assistant Film Officer tabled a paper suggesting ways in which the scheme could be funded and the level of charges. A proposed basic package plus programme notes would be £25 and with lecturer £40 which would be made up of £25 for the films/video and £15 standard Film Makers on Tour. It was agreed to proceed with the level of fees and subsidy proposed.

4.8.2. Proposals for 2 programmes by Cecile Starr

The Assistant Film Officer informed the committee that Cecile Starr would be showing many of the films on her forthcoming visit to England, providing an opportunity for the committee to see them. He confirmed that the programmes would be part of the modular scheme and that they would be the only programme of animated films. It was decided that both programmes held enough interest for development and £50 was proposed for both programmes, as most of the research had already been done.

It was agreed to offer £50 for developing the programme from the 1981/82 Exhibition Allocation.

4.9. Distribution Reports

The results of meetings 17, 18, 19 and 20 were noted.

Mary Edkins	Animation I	£49	Rejected
Jayne Parker	Free Show	£215	Agreed
	I Cat	£191	Agreed
	RX Recipe	£238	Agreed
	I Dish	£190	Agreed
Lezli-Ann Barrett	An Epic Peom	£200	Agreed
Bruno de Florence	35 Portraits of Hollywood	£86.97	Rejected
Deborah Lowensberg	What Just for Me?	£235.78	Deferred
Iain Faulkner	Abstract Relations	£500	Agreed (reserved)
Deborah Lowensberg	What, Just for me?	£235.78	Agreed
Free Work Group	The View from Industrial Britain	£442.50	Rejected
Rob Gawthrop	Preservation	£413.50	Agreed
	Coastal calls	235.94	Agreed
	Married Print	116.90	Agreed
Susan Stein	Work in Progress	339.35	Agreed
Nicky Hamlyn	Anagram	420.66	Agreed
Martin Sercombe	Job no 9981	452.00	Agreed

The committee were informed that it had been decided that the application for a film bursary of £2,000 for Iain Faulkner delegated to Meeting 18 was not agreed following the viewing of 'Abstract Relations'.

5 Applications

5.1. Exhibition

5.1.1. and 5.1.2. Programme adviser's viewing sessions and Italian Films Tour

Simon Field reported that neither exhibition had been worked out in detail. The Film viewing sessions would be at the London Film-Makers Co-op and two video events in Manchester. The Italian Tour was in question as Baccigalupo may not be coming to Cambridge now. Mary-Pat Leece felt the tour should still go ahead if possible, ideally with someone else who knew the subject and could translate, Simon Field agreed to pursue this. It was also agreed that the Italian programme could be considered as part of the modular exhibition scheme. The Chairman suggested that the committee agree to ear-mark an amount and two people from the committee should discuss the programmes with Simon Field. David Critchley and Roger Wilson agreed to undertake this and £820 for the viewing sessions was ear-marked, and £370 for the Italian Tour.

5.1.3. Circles

There was a lengthy discussion with many different views on the question of funding paying shows where admission was restricted to women only. The majority

of the committee felt that it was not acceptable to fund film exhibition with public money when it was exclusively for one section of the general public. It was decided that the present proposal by Circles was not approved but that a new application would be considered for funding at a lower level and perhaps under the auspices of a Circles Workshop. This could be considered at the next meeting on November 8th. Mary-Pat Leece felt that it is very important for this kind of work to continue and that there were no other sources of support; she felt that the application should have been approved.

RECOMMENDATION: Reject

5.1.4. East Anglian Film-Makers Co-op: £390

There was some discussion of whether the proposal could properly be considered a tour as there was not a definite series of venues. A catalogue was produced and the organisers then waited for a response. However the film-makers did accompany the films, introduced them and answered questions. The Chairman thought that as the bulk of the funding came from a large region with many developmental problems, the committee should encourage the scheme. It was agreed that in future years films from other regions should be included in the tour.

RECOMMENDATION £390 grant routed through Eastern Arts Association from the 1982/83 Artists Film & Video Allocation

5.1.5. Northampton's Arts Centre: £255

Simon Field said he has set up three events for Northampton and the Arts Centre wish to develop programming next year when it was hoped to become self-financing.

RECOMMENDATION: £255 guarantee against loss from the 1982/83 Artists Film & Video Allocation

5.1.6. North by North West Film Society: £435

The committee were informed that the society was subsidised by North West Arts but the application represented a radical departure in its programming policy. There was general approval.

RECOMMENDATION: £435 guarantee against loss from 1982/83 Artists Film & Video Allocation

5.1.7. Norwich Festival of Short Film & Video: £1,536

The Assistant Film Officer informed the meeting that whilst he thought there was a genuine committment to short films on the part of the festival organiser he suspected that the festival would not actually take place. The Chairman felt that the amount asked for

was excessively high and the committee did not support the programmes suggested.

RECOMMENDATION: Reject

5.1.8. Richard Layzell: £165

Roger Wilson felt this application was really for production but after discussion it was agreed to approve the application on the proviso that the equipment would be lodged with the LVA. It was also agreed that the applicant should consult with David Critchley about the equipment to be purchased.

RECOMMENDATION: £165 video award from the 1982/83 Artists Film and Video Allocation

5.1.9. Catherine Elwes : £800 - Time Based Art

Tamara Krikorian felt that it must be stressed that this exhibition, planned for January '84, should not only show work by RCA tutors and students, but it must be open to the public. It was finally decided that £400 would be offered for the period up to March 1983 when a more detailed proposal should be submitted. The Chairman emphasised the committee's interest in the project.

RECOMMENDATION: £400 film/video award from 1982/83 Artists Film & Video Allocation

5.2. Capital

5.2.1. Circles : £4,978

After discussion it was felt that Circles had been badly advised on the purchase of equipment and that the video projector was not appropriate to the use described in the application. It was agreed the £3,200 would be offered to cover the cost of a U-Matic Deck, monitor and ancillary equipment. It was also agreed that the purchase should be discussed with David Critchley before release of funds.

RECOMMENDATION: £3,200 capital award from the 1982/83 Artists Film & Video Allocation

5.2.2. Leicester Independent Film/Video Association:
£10,447

A compilation video tape was shown during the meeting as the committee was not familiar with the Association's work. The Assistant Film Officer explained that the Association was developed by staff and ex-students of Leicester Polytechnic and operated from the Phoenix Arts Centre. The Chairman felt that a visit should be made when such a large sum was being applied for. It was agreed that David Curtis, Roger Wilson and Anne Rees-Mogg would visit Leicester. The Film Officer from East Midlands Arts, Malcolm Allen, would be invited to accompany them. David Critchley thought that

the committee should know how the association was going to be administered, what the provision for premises would be and what the relationship would be with the Regional Arts Association.

RECOMMENDATION: Reject

5.2.3. London Video Arts £1,425 and £2,995

Tamara Krikorian declared an interest and left the meeting for this item.

The Film Officer reminded the committee that this application was for equipment refused at the last meeting because of doubts about the premises to house it. LVA had since concluded an arrangement with the AIR Gallery to take over the basement on a permanent basis. The only outstanding item was the exact amount to be paid in rent. The Committee were generally supportive and it was agreed to earmark the full amount requested to be released on receipt of details about the rent and administration in the new premises.

RECOMMENDATION: £4,410 capital award from the 1982/83 Artists Film and Video Allocation

5.2.4. Spectro Arts: £6,786

John Bradshaw reported that the management and administration of Spectro was very good and that Northern Arts had encouraged the application. After general discussion the sum requested was agreed subject to receipt of invoices, as it was thought by the committee that a 15% discount should be possible on such high cost purchases.

RECOMMENDATION: £6,786 capital award routed through Northern Arts from the 1982/83 Artists Film & Video Allocation

5.2.5. Fantasy Factory: £1,467

Anna Kruger informed the meeting that Fantasy Factory was a revenue client of the Community Arts committee and had given the Arts Council details of their capital expenditure until 1986. It was the general feeling of the Committee that there should not be an application to two sections of the Council and that given the level of support Fantasy Factory received there were other priorities, particularly in the regions. In addition Fantasy Factory would probably be receiving further support from Channel Four.

RECOMMENDATION: Reject

Slow Dancer

An application for £1,650 capital and two exhibitions totalling £650 was tabled. The Chairman reported that the committee had not funded this group before, the previous application having been passed to Merseyside Arts. The Chairman thought that Slow Dancer needed advice on equipment and more information was needed about future intentions. It was agreed to express the committee's interest but that a new application was needed.

RECOMMENDATION: Reject

6 Any Other Business

There being no other business the meeting ended at 5.15 p.m.