

## CINENOVA BOARD MEETING 25 JANUARY 1995

### Minutes

1. APOLOGIES were received from Kavita Hayton.  
PRESENT: Liane Harris; Elaine Burrows; Margaret Trotter; Paula Graham; Deborah Wearn; Azza Rahman; Julia Knight; Kate Norrish; Helen de Witt.
2. MINUTES of the last meeting were accepted.
3. AGM date was set for 1 March 1995.
4. INTERNATIONAL WOMENS' DAY: It was decided to produce a special promotional leaflet for IWD to be sent to 200 colleges and universities, as well as women's organisations. The leaflet would offer three different packages of films on VHS for a special price of £50 each per screening.
5. MANAGEMENT TRAINING: The dates were set for 8 and 20 February from 6.45 to 9.00.
6. NEW LETTERHEAD: Cinenova is running out of headed paper so it was decided that the new paper would be slightly redesigned to make the address clearer. It would also include the charity number, the new BT phone and fax numbers, remove the VAT number and correct the postcode.
7. POSTCODE CORRECTION: The post office has written to us to inform us that we have been using the wrong postcode for the last fifteen years. The correct post code is E2 0QN.
8. OVERSEAS VISITS: Cinenova has been invited to Finland, Germany and Italy. Helen and Kate will visit Finland from 7-12 March for the Tampere Film Festival with a programme of films, meetings with Mediagallery in Turku and a screening of work from the Cinenova catalogue at the Finnish Film Archive. The trip has been arranged by Mediagallery and funded by an Arts Council grant from the Women in the Arts International Networking fund. Kate will be visiting Femme Totale in Dortmund at the end of March with a programme of new work and she will be speaking on a panel about women's film distribution. Femme Totale are covering all expenses. Helen will be going to Rome from 18-20 May to give a paper on the role and function of specialist women's film distribution at a University of Rome conference on Youth Culture and Metropolitan Conflict. The conference will cover accommodation costs and paying £280 for the hire of VHS tapes from Cinenova.
9. NEW MENTAL HEALTH PACKAGE: With acquisition of *Dialogues with Madwomen*, it was felt that it was important to up-date our mental health package in order to reach the training and health sectors with the film. We will be applying for a grant from the BFI's Regional Exhibition Fund to produce appropriate publicity material. Lucy Kimble, formerly of Womankind in Bristol will be invited to research the campaign and will be paid from the Freelance Fund.
10. MEETING WITH COMEX: Cinenova was invited to speak to COMEX at their last meeting on 17 January. We presented a short programme of new work and explained what we could offer programmers in terms of programmes of short films, shorts to accompany features, customised programmes, booking information, pricing structure and so on. The response was very favourable and Edinburgh Filmhouse said they would be interested in taking Cinenova's Broads' Perspectives programmes after they have played at the ICA.
11. PROGRAMMES FOR VENUES: Cinenova has recently provided special programmes for the Whitechapel Art Gallery on Women and the Body to accompany the Kiki Smith exhibition, and for the new David Lean Cinema in Croydon's opening week to accompany their first feature presentation.
12. FINANCE: The figures for 9 months were presented and showed a surplus of £2635.20, due mainly to sales to TV.

13. LfvDA ASSESSMENT: The Board has asked the staff to write to Steve McIntyre in response to his letter of 16 January to point out that he had been informed of the dates of all Board meetings and that although the Assessment has been a positive and useful process it has also been long and time-consuming for the workers and needs to be concluded as soon as possible. The Board also decided to reply to the letter from Larry Chrisfield, Chair of LfvDA, to point out that the Development Document had been passed by the 'relevant sub-committee' as stated in Steve McIntyre's letter of 20 September 1994. The Board also expressed its astonishment and disappointment that the Board of LfvDA requested that no further direct communication come from the Board of Cinenova, as this could result in serious problems if Cinenova were ever to lose faith in any of the officers of LfvDA. The Cinenova Board were surprised that their letter of 10 January was regarded in this way as their object was to clear up a misunderstanding and to represent the interests of Cinenova, which is their responsibility as a Board. Steve McIntyre has since invited the workers to meet with him to discuss the situation and to clear-up any remaining problems, this meeting is set for 7 February.

#### 14. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- i. An advertisement has been bought in the BFI National Viewing Sessions Brochure for Spring 1995.
- ii. Cinenova has met with Karen Alexander of BFI Distribution and as a result has submitted work to be considered for their Sapphic Shorts II touring package and a programme on 'Masculinity in Crisis'.
- iii. The Board stressed that the workers kept a tally of all unpaid hours worked with a view to them being paid should the financial situation permit.
- iv. A letter has been sent to the Four Corners Board indicating that Cinenova could meet the rent on additional office space.
- v. Cinenova will be providing a programme of work for the Cinewomen Festival in Norwich which will now take place in the Autumn. It will also be suggested that we organise a discussion along the lines of the discussion at the Women Make Movies event at the ICA.
- vi. The Sheffield Documentary Festival has asked us for a programme of new work.
- vii. The Policy Review meetings will take place after the Financial Training has been completed.

There being no further business, the meeting was closed.