

May 1981

Dear Friend

Last January the 1st National Independent Video Festival was held at the London Film-makers Co-op and was a great success. The participants decided to form a representative and supportive organisation for people working or interested in independent video.

A working party was formed at the festival to draw up a constitution. The final draft of this constitution was formally accepted at the 1st open public meeting of the IVA held at the Film Co-op on 25th April 1981 and a working committee was elected.

- Our immediate objective is to increase membership, represent the views of the Association to the BFI, Arts Council, the Regional Arts Associations and to produce a regular newsletter (your contributions for this will be welcomed).
- In the long term we are determined to fight for better funding for independent video production, the establishment of an efficient independent video distribution system and to make the IVA an effective video information resource for its members.
- By the end of 1981 we hope to establish a permanent office with a paid worker, a regular magazine with video news from home and abroad ... articles on theory and practice of video, video tape reviews, letters, regular information about projects and grants and advertising space for services and equipment.
- We will be going to the BFI and Channel 4 to raise money for weekend workshops and intend to cover production techniques and scripting in these workshops as well as lighting and sound etc.
- We will organise seminars and screenings to provide a framework for the critical and theoretical development of independent video. IVA members will be charged reduced rates to attend these events.

The 2nd National Independent Video Festival is being planned for early next year 1982. We want this to become an annual event.

The IVA annual subscription will be £10, or £5 for the first six months, this will include the cost of the newsletter.

Please provide six foolscap stamped and self addressed envelopes to receive the newsletter as well as other information. A copy of the constitution and an application form is attached. Complete and return the form together with a cheque or PO made payable to the IVA. You will then receive a membership card.

Yours

the IVA working committee, Penny Dedman John Dovey
Terry Flaxton Viv Hurley Alex Meigh Tony Nicholls Tim Norris
Jini Rawlings Jessica Skippon Nick Smart Ann Wolff

INDEPENDENT VIDEO ASSOCIATION CONSTITUTION

● NAME

1. The name of the Association shall be Independent Video Association (IVA), hereinafter referred to as 'the Association'.

● AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

2. The Association shall seek to develop and gain recognition for the practice of independent video production and provide a forum and representative organisation for individuals and groups engaged in this practice, and to do so shall pursue the following aims:-

- (a) to exchange information about the uses of video, developments in equipment, and work opportunities. To facilitate this process of developing and sharing ideas the Association shall organise meetings, exhibitions, workshops and seminars and publish a regular newsletter;
- (b) to act as a pressure group to lobby for the interests of its members, including adequate funding and access to every avenue of public distribution;
- (c) to present the views of the Association to any official organisation carrying out research or policy making on video, broadcast, film and other associated fields;
- (d) to help establish suitable rates and conditions for the use of video;
- (e) to develop access for members to suitable equipment and other facilities for the production, distribution and exhibition of our work;
- (f) to maintain contact, co-operate or affiliate with similar organisations.

● MEMBERSHIP CODE

3. A member shall not originate or process material which encourages discrimination on the grounds of race, colour, creed, gender or sexual orientation.
4. A member shall defend the principle of the freedom of information and the expression of comment and criticism. S/he shall strive to eliminate the suppression and censorship of information.

● MEMBERSHIP

5. Full membership shall be open to anyone involved in independent video work - including technicians, theorists, critics and others - in agreement with the above aims, objectives and membership code, upon payment of the annual subscription.
6. Associate membership shall be available to any individual or group the Association deems appropriate, upon payment of the Associate subscription.

● CONDUCT OF BUSINESS

7. The Annual General Meeting shall be the main policy making body of the Association.
8. The AGM shall elect 10 members to form a working committee. The committee to consist of Secretary, Treasurer and others. Equal representation of women and men will be a priority on the working committee. The committee shall have the power to co-opt to achieve this and other aims of the IVA.
9. The committee shall mail out minutes of all its meetings to the membership.
10. The working committee shall submit a report of its activities to the AGM to be made available to all members at least six weeks in advance of the AGM.

● STANDING ORDERS

11. The business of the Association shall be conducted by majority vote of FULL members at the AGM.
12. Notice of the AGM shall be submitted at least six weeks in advance.
13. Motions for the AGM to be submitted to the working committee four weeks in advance of the AGM.
14. The agenda and motions for the AGM shall be circulated to all full members at least two weeks in advance of the AGM.
15. Amendments to motions may be submitted to the working committee up to 24 hours prior to the AGM.
16. The quorum for the AGM or the EGM shall be one third of the full members.
17. An Extraordinary General Meeting may be called at any time by 10% of the full membership, with a minimum of two weeks notice.

● CONSTITUTION

18. The constitution may be amended by an Extraordinary General meeting or AGM, subject to the conditions laid down in the standing orders.

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

CATEGORY: FULL/ASSOCIATE (Delete as necessary)

1. Surname
2. Forename
3. Mailing Address
4. Telephone - Day..... Evening
5. Video skills/interest
6. Equipment available (please specify whether it is yours or you have access to it)
7. Are you a member of a trade union? YES/NO
If YES, which?
8. Any other relevant information

I have read the Independent Video Association constitution and agree with its aims and objectives. I also accept the conditions of membership.

Signed Date

Membership subscription: For first six months, 1st June - 30th November, 1981

FULL: £5.00
£2.50 - unwaged and students

CASH/CHQ/PO

ASSOCIATE: £30.00

Please provide 6 large S.A.E.'s for monthly mailings.