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GULBENKIAN FOUNDATION VIDEO FELLOWSHIPS

The Calouste-Gulbenkian Foundation UK and Commonwealth Branch today announced that its first Video Fellowships have been awarded to

PETER DONEBAUER and GRAHAM SNOW

Each Fellowship is held for two years and gives the artist the opportunity to work in well equipped colour television studios at Heriot-Watt University, Edinburgh, and West Surrey College of Art, Farnham. The Fellowship commences with a three-month study attachment at Aidanvision Studios in Carlisle (the only non-commercial independent broadcast-standard colour video facility in the UK). It includes an award of £5,500 and additional support towards video production costs. The two Fellowship holders are:-

Peter Donebauer: studied film and video at the Royal College of Art. In 1974 he became the first British video artist to have a tape broadcast on national television when his work Entering was shown on BBC2. He received the first video arts awards from the Arts Council of Great Britain and the British Film Institute, in 1974 and 1975 respectively. In collaboration with Richard Monkhouse, an electronics designer, he designed and built the Videokalos Colour Synthesiser, a portable image processing instrument. In 1979 he formed Video and Music Performers to present colour video in live concerts with contemporary music, and is now appearing with this group in major arts centres throughout Britain.

Graham Snow: studied art and theatre design at Hornsey College of Art and the Slade School. He worked with Steven Berkoff on designs for two productions at the Roundhouse, and formed his own multi-media performance company. Between 1974 and 1977 he was a Research Fellow at Nihon University, Tokyo, studying traditional Japanese theatre, including Kabuki and Bunraku styles. He again created a multi-media performance group which was invited to give a show at the Tokyo Museum of Modern Art. In 1978/9 he was artist-in-residence at the University of Cambridge creating an installation and performance piece at Kettle's Yard.

There is no equivalent in this country of the creative co-operation between broadcast television companies and video artists which is practised in some overseas countries, for example at WGBH (the public broadcasting station) in Boston USA. The Gulbenkian Video Fellowship scheme was established in recognition of the growing number of video artists in the UK and the difficulties they face in gaining funds, in finding access to equipment and ways to present and distribute their work. The Foundation acknowledges the co-operation of the educational and independent television studios taking part in this scheme. The very high number (145) and quality of applications for the Fellowships indicate the extent of the need for production opportunities for video artists in the UK.

Further information is available from:

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