

Videocheck

LIVING IN THE CITY

ANNARES' recent production for Islington Council, based on the 'Koyaanisqatsi' film, which is entitled 'LIVING IN THE CITY' is a 16mm time-lapse work aiming to compact a day in the life of Islington Council into 12 minutes. ("It sounds dull but the result is actually quite beautiful", said Annares). The tele-cined film will be on show throughout Islington early in '88 with sites in public and Council owned spaces. "We intend to reach about 100,000 people", say Annares. Watch this space for further details and a review of the tape in the next issue.

ACTIVISION STUDIOS

Presently scheduling screenings of their tapes - no details as yet - but meantime a 'scratch' and pop video compilation of their work featuring Pere Ubu, Easterhouse and Head is available. Contact Activision on 01-833 4488 for details.

FANTASY FACTORY - CHEAP RATES

This video production house has recently introduced new 'state-of-the-art' equipment to their edit suites and are offering the facility to community groups and artists at cheap rates until March 1st. Ring 01-405 6862 for details.

EAST END CULTURE VULTURES

Note two upcoming events at the TOM ALLEN CENTRE in Newham. First up is a night of "dance/video/performance" from SCOPIC DRIVE on January 15. Meanwhile, on January 16, NORTH EAST LONDON INDEPENDENT ARTS presents a showcase of Super 8 and 16mm films including a "fis'n'n'chips Western" and JOHN SMITH's 'Black Tower'. Tom Allen Centre, Grove Crescent Road, Stratford E15. Tel:01-519 6818.

CONVERSE PICTURES

Over in Brixton, they are currently in the process of locating a distributor for a new work, 'REFRAMING AIDS', which aims to "investigate the notions of disease, its spread and homophobia", and will be launching the tape in February.

TOWER HAMLETS ARTS PROJECT

In the pipeline is new work. Expect a new DESPITE TV production based on ideas of the City and Bangra-beat video.

CHAPTER ARTS CENTRE

Will be running a series of screenings, events and workshops throughout January and February for women only. As part of this film/video programme WOMEN MAKE MOVIES I, a programme including 'Chickflicks', An American compilation, will be screened at 7.45 on Thurs January 21st. The second screening of different work will be on Thurs January 28th. Contact Chapter Arts Centre in Cardiff on 396061 for details of workshops and events.

NEWHAM

Videoniks and media activists should note that NEWHAM ARTS COUNCIL will be organising the SECOND MEDIA FORUM at the Tom Allen Centre on February 25th. The forum is open to all parties interested in developing media from music to film/video in the Borough but is restricted to residents of Newham. Contact Newham Arts Council on 01-519-4622 for details.

CINESTRA PICTURES

This video production training unit aimed at black women, will be running two weekend courses in U-matic video at the end of Jan/beginning of Feb. No experience is needed and the courses are £15 unwaged and £40 waged. Phone CINESTRA for further dates and details on 01-793-0157.

BFI

News is that next year's London Film Festival will feature a major video festival to be organised by the BFI. Currently in the unenviable position of fundraising for the event, Ben Gibson-BFI Video Officer- also gave some provisional details of a new funding initiative for Super-8, 16mm and video projects to be launched in March. Details to be announced.

SIGN OF THE TIMES

At one London college, film/video students are currently being put on unpaid placements with schools and foundation arts courses in order to pass on skills and pick up "work experience". A fine idea but a dodgy trend perhaps as the pressure comes on for Fine Art courses to prove their vocational content. Whatever next? Oxbridge language students teaching French in secondary schools?

FESTIVAL OF PLAGIARISM

February sees an intriguing screening of tapes at COPY ART.

Featuring tape works of Fluxus events and Futurist happenings alongside titles like 'Disconcerted States Of Mind' the programmes are on view Feb 16th and 23rd at Community Copy Art, Culcross Buildings, Battle Bridge Road, Kings Cross, London NW1. Details of other plagiarist goings on from Stewart Home on 01-987-9895 or Graham Harwood on 01-735-0589. "More virulent than Modernism; More critical than Post-modernism", runs the blurb.....

LONDON VIDEO ARTS

Feedback from LVA's input to the London Film Festival at the London Film Makers Co-op indicates favourable response to works selected from their new Distribution Catalogue. Also on show was a 15 monitor installation from video team St. John Walker, Clive Gillman, Sven Harding and Pam Smith. Rumour has it that Gillman and Co. will be headed Eastward in the near future after the successful marketing of the Gillman/Walker collaboration 'Timezones' in a Tokyo store.

CANADA HOUSE

'In Search of the Far Shore' The Films of Joyce Wieland. The first full retrospective of the films of Joyce Wieland comes to Canada House in the New Year, starting on Friday January the 15th at 6.30 pm. Joyce Wieland's commitment to experimental cinema extends to over 25 years and includes some of Canada's best-known experimental film work. Ms Wieland will be present and an exhibition of her recent paintings will also be shown. For extra details ring 01-629-9492 ext 284.

UNDERCUT MAGAZINE IS RESURFACING!

This elusive magazine originally based at the London Film-makers Co-op is presently producing issue 17 which should be out in February. Based on the transcripts of the successful event 'Cultural Identities' which took place at the Commonwealth Institute in March '86 which aimed to "...provide a context for discussion of issues ranging from cultural representation in cinema to the redefining of political and aesthetic paradigms...to provide a focus for different cultural constituencies currently engaged in debates and practices around questions of identity." Apart from the edited transcripts the issues include introductions, contextualisations, extensive filmographies, biographies and stills.

LONDON FILM-MAKERS CO-OP

Moirá Sweeney the new programmer informs us that the January/February programme will be a season of films, videos and performance under the theme of DANCE. Classics such as 'The Red Shoes' and the original 'West Side Story' to the work of Merce Cunningham, Maya Deren and Yvonne Rainer plus 'Rhythmical' experimental films will be screened next to combined dance/film evenings. For further details contact the cinema on 01-586-8516.

THE MEDIA SHOW

The Media Show, Channel 4's magazine programme about cinema, broadcasting, advertising, video, the press and music industry is coming back - and twice as often. From March the Show will have a regular hour-long slot every week.

The Media Show is edited by Alex Graham, formerly editor of Diverse Reports. The producers are Andy Lipman and Jane Root, who both worked on the last series. Andy Lipman: "The Media Show is inevitably about power and money, but it's also about the television shows we watch at home and the films we see at the local cinema. Above all, it is for people who care about the media they use". And we certainly do! For further information call Jane Root or Andy Lipman on 01-323-3270.

RELAY COMMUNITY MAGAZINE

"Fact: the majority of community radio supporters in Britain have no experience of actually operating a radio station." That's the premise on which the special pull-out supplement for RELAY 20 is based. Third in the series, RELAY 20's supplement covers station profiles from around the world and is edited by Caroline Mitchell, radio lecturer and former worker in a neighbourhood community radio project in South East London. The 12-page supplement has articles on volunteer contributors, programmes, ownership and money from stations in Ireland, Nicaragua, Italy, Augstralia, Canada, USA and Britain. It is provocative yet practical and provides principles on which community radio dreamers can build community stations in the future.

There's also news of the Home Secretary's visit to the Afro-Caribbean Radio project, happenings in the North East, broadcasting research reports and the Community Radio Association. There's coverage of the often neglected