



-compiled by Jonas Mekas, director-

6. April, 1970: Directors' meeting at above address. Present: Breer, Emswiller, Ken Jacobs, Jonas, Snow and Yalkut (six directors); plus Jay Tanenbaum (lawyer), Brigante for FDC/CDC; plus members Ernie Gehr, Barry Gerson, Charles Levine & Naomi Levine.

+Follows a report of the meeting, as graciously recorded by Jonas in the absence of Leslie+

- \*Six cans (King Size) of Ballantine beer, sponsored by Robert Breer.
- \*Everybody's on time, 5:06PM.
- \*Ken Jacobs reports on his meeting with Mr. Jacoby who wants to prepare a TV series on independent film-makers. Some participants of the meeting expressed their fears that this TV project may be just another of those many tame timid abortive routine projects that keep coming our way, and then die. Naomi's opinion was that film-makers ("we") should take over a TV station and do it our way. Everybody seemed to agree that instead of letting the TV promoters have their free stupid hand in preparing pilots on "underground Film" for TV, we, the film-makers, should confront them with an unbending idea that each film-maker will make up his/her own program, and the promoters either take it or leave it. "We should do our own thing," said Ken. If they don't want it -- let them screw themselves, bye, bye.
- \*Breer, on TV: "Everybody's getting it; nobody needs it."
- \*Jonas proposed to advise those who are anxious to see their films on TV to get their own closed circuit TV sets and project their movies in their own rooms all day long or as long as they wish.
- \*Snow: "Dope is better than TV."
- \*Brigante said the umbilical cord between FDC and the Co-op hasn't been cut off yet, because legal work is still being done on the matter. The Directors regretted the slowness of it.
- \*More discussion of TV & cassettes. Some present expressed doubts (fears) (scepticism) as to how many of the cassettes would be sold. Why should people buy films if they can see them free on TV? Jonas: "We should push the PRIVATE PROPERTY idea..." A few members of the meeting felt that once our movies are being shown all over TV, the commercial people will "steal" and mis-use (etc., etc.) our ideas (etc., etc.) and "another dream will be shattered." Jonas: "I haven't seen a single dream shattered in my life."
- \*Concern was expressed that too many "big projects" are discussed. Breer: "We should never at Co-op meetings discuss big deals; only small deals." Jonas: "At the beginning of each meeting, we should look back and review all the big projects on which we have voted, and see what has been done to put them into practice. We shouldn't discuss new projects until the old are done."
- \*Snow reported a meeting with Van Dyke of the Museum of Modern Art a year ago, when Ken Jacobs, Hollis Frampton and Snow proposed that MOMA organize a huge, expanded cinema show and expand the Museum's film program in general. He reported that MOMA has done nothing. A ramble followed on what's better for the artist, government or private (millionaire's) money. Jonas and Emsw doubted that government-sponsored artists would be able to work with any artistic freedom. The consensus of the meeting was that MOMA should be reminded and pushed into expansion. Snow and Jacobs said they could and would prepare an Expanded Cinema Show for MOMA.
- \*Ernie: "TV is as polluted as New York air; forget it!"
- \*Breer, on TV people who want our movies for little or nothing: "Forget it. Fuck it."
- \*Charles Levine read a paper on EVR and cassettes. (He stood up.) (Silence prevailed in the room.) He proposed nationwide control of EVR by the Co-op. He proposed that the Co-op introduce nationwide laws concerning TV, EVR and cassettes. Jonas suggested that Charles has two-to-three years' time to become the Congressman for Brooklyn, go to Washington, D.C., and implement all the details and laws proposed in his paper. Charles didn't take Jonas' proposal too seriously.
- \*Was decided to have the next Co-op meeting at Breer's place (has to be confirmed)(see N.B., below!) on May 4th, and have a picnic. It was agreed that we need more picnics and fewer meetings.
- \*The meeting dispersed at 7:40PM.
- \*The above notes on the meeting were made by Jonas (in the absence of Leslie, who was moving to a new apartment).

N.B. The next directors' meeting will be held on MAY 4th, at 5:00PM, at the Cooperative. (Whew!)

THE DEADLINE OF MAY FIRST FOR BOTH PRINTS & INFO OF FILMS FOR NEW CATALOGUE STILL HOLDS!!!!!!!!!!

(Prepared: 13. April, 1970. Only the guilty know which names were changed to protect....)