

PRESS RELEASE
JUNE 2009

VIVID

PARTICIPATION

THE FILM AND VIDEO WORKSHOP MOVEMENT, 1979 - 1991

THU 02 JUL – SAT 01 AUG 2009 | PREVIEW FRI 03 JUL, 6-8 PM
OPEN THU – SAT | 12-5 PM | admission FREE

VIVID is excited to announce details of Participation (Thu 02 July to Sat 01 Aug 2009), an exhibition and archive project centred on the emergence of new film forms, politics and practices in the 1980s. Presented in two parts, the works react to and document the rise of Thatcherism and the social and cultural events the period from 1979 engendered: inner city disturbances, the miners strike, and increasing social disparity.

Participation

The Film and Video Workshop Movement 1979 — 1991

Participation brings us rarely seen works from key film and video workshops and groups who, motivated by a desire to effect social change, forged new approaches to political and social themes that emerged nationally. The show includes works by Amber Films, Black Audio Film Collective and Sankofa amongst others, and has a special focus on the Birmingham Film and Video Workshop whose largely unknown yet groundbreaking work is presented for the first time in decades.

Participation Part I collects key texts and moving image documents from the period, and mixes these with first hand accounts "and documentary images" from the period. Part II will be presented in November 2009.

VIVID will celebrate the launch of this exciting programme with a drinks reception on Fri 03 July, 6-8 PM. The evening will include a screening of works by Birmingham Film & Video Workshop introduced by Roger Shannon.

SATURDAY SCREENINGS | 2 PM | admission £5/ £3

In addition, VIVID will host weekly Saturday screenings with special introductions from the film makers for the duration of the Participation exhibition.

Sat 04 Jul	Isaac Julien/ Sankofa
Sat 11 Jul	Amber Films (introduced by Ellie Hare)
Sat 18 Jul	Black Audio Film Collective (introduced by David Lawson)
Sat 25 Jul	Supersonic Festival workshop (SOLD OUT)
Sat 01 Aug	ICO Essentials: PROTEST

Check www.vivid.org.uk for programme details.

Contact

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Notes to editor:

1. For further information and images please contact Laura Coult on +44 (0) 121 766 7876 or email laura@vivid.org.uk
2. VIVID is a non-profit organisation and is supported by Arts Council England. The VIVID project space in Birmingham's Eastside district has been active in presenting a dynamic programme of exhibitions and events since April 2005 and was developed with support from Advantage West Midlands.
3. VIVID is a leading media arts agency committed to the development of media arts practice through research, production and commissioning programmes. Established in 1992, VIVID produces a wide range of exhibitions, events, publications and touring initiatives through a dedicated project space which combines production, exhibition and technical resources. Alongside the public programme, VIVID provides innovative research and development opportunities for emerging artists in addition to commissioning new work from international artists. VIVID's curatorial policy is to increase audience access to both emergent talent and work of international significance.
4. PIONEERS is a three year programme which aims to juxtapose new and contemporary practice with key historical work through an expansive and diverse programme of predominantly moving image based work. PIONEERS launched in April 2008 with Endurance featuring moving image work by Marina Abramovic, Vito Acconci and Tehching Hsieh and live performance including Kira O'Reilly, Eitan Buchalter and William Hunt. This was followed by FLUX-FEST in June-July 2008, a three week season of performance, film, food and print featuring established artists such as Nam June Paik, Larry Miller, George Maciunas alongside lesser known practitioners including SharedTable, Melissa Bliss and Andy Abbott. Future programmes include The Act of Drawing (October 2009); a programme exploring the physical act of drawing and it's representation on screen in various forms.
5. Screen WM is the regional agency that support, promotes and develops a sustainable and thriving screen media sector in the West Midlands. Screen WM will:
 - Promote the West Midlands region by raising the profile of its diverse locations
 - Promote the West Midlands by highlighting the abundance of talent within the region's screen media sector
 - Support businesses through skills development and financial assistance
 - Develop talent, from new entrants to professional freelancers and employees, within the West Midlands through skills development
 - Support the region's moving image heritage and develop access to it
 - Develop and inspire audiences across a broad range of screen media
 - Promote and develop the cultural diversity of the region through the moving image

We are supported by Screen WM and The National Lottery through the UK Film Council. For more information please telephone 0121 265 7120 or visit www.screenwm.co.uk.

6. UK Film Council is the UK's lead film body, ensuring that film's economic and creative interests are properly represented in public policy, and using Lottery money and Government grant making to deliver lasting cultural and economic benefits through creativity, industry and education. For more information visit <http://www.ukfilmcouncil.org.uk>



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