

15. internationales forum des jungen films berlin 1985

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35. internationale
filmfestspiele berlin

perspektiven

THE VISITING ARTIST

Bundesrepublik Deutschland 1984
Produktion: Hochschule für Bildende
Künste, Braunschweig (Filmklasse)

Konzept, Kamera, Realisation:
Bettina Ammer, Joachim Grommek, Martin
Hansen, Walter Hettich, Christoph
Janetzko, Hiltrud Köhne, Norbert
Meissner, Siegfried Musiol, Uli Versum,
Grahame Weinbren

Schnitt, Musik: Grahame Weinbren

Produktionsjahr: 1984
Uraufführung: 12.11.1984, Hochschule
für Bildende Künste, Braunschweig

Format: 16 mm, Farbe.
Länge: 13 Min.

April 2nd, 1983

Dear Christoph:

Here is a short description of the film I propose to make with the members of the Braunschweig film class. During the winter semester of 1982 - 1983, we spent a week in a discussion of the theoretical foundation of experimental film. The students and I developed the idea of film's necessarily reflecting an ideology, and discussed methods by which we could use film so that the ideology it reflected was one with which we were in sympathy. Next year I would like to make such a film with the students. Its subject will be something we share in common: my foreignness (in Germany), the film theory we are discussing, the teaching situation, and the fact that we speak in a language which is not that of the

students (English). A major aspect of the radical film theory I propose is that we try to make films which do not insist that all viewers adapt their perceptions to that of the filmmaker: films in which the viewer is given space to think for him- or herself. But it is a contradiction for the theory to be presented, imparted to the class by a male figure of authority in a language that is not even that of the students. So in the film the students will teach the foreign visiting professor how to speak his theory in their language. In so doing, it will undercut the currents of authority and patriarchal values that the teaching situation implies, while also representing these values through the mouth of the one who proposes them, but in words that he himself cannot understand. The filming will take place in several settings in the art school: the mensa, the administration offices, the parking lots. Students and visiting professor will film, tape sound, and edit together, so that it is a truly collaborative project. Is this OK? I have to go to work now. I hope you are well and happy.

Grahame

herausgeber: internationales forum des jungen
films / freunde der deutschen kinemathek,
welserstr.25, berlin 30 (kino arsenal)
druck: b.wollandt, berlin 31