Dear Mr. Vasulka:

Congratulations on having your videotape selected for the 1989 Whitney Biennial Film/Video Exhibition at the Whitney Museum of American Art. As you probably know, the American Federation of Arts Film/Video Program has for the past twelve years toured the film and video selections from the Whitney Biennial to an international network of media arts centers, museums and universities. Our tour of the 1987 Whitney Biennial Video Exhibition went to over 20 sites, including Cornell University, the First Street Forum in St. Louis, the Institute of North American Studies in Barcelona, Spain, and the Vancouver Art Gallery in British Columbia, Canada.

The Whitney Museum has already contacted you and made payment arrangements for your participation in the Biennial Exhibition at the Museum. I am enclosing the contracts for your inclusion in the three-year tour to be circulated under the auspices of the AFA, which will begin in July 1989, immediately following the Biennial presentations at the Whitney Museum. Please examine them, then sign and return them to me; a countersigned copy will be sent to you for your records.

The rental fee for each videotape is based on a scale of two dollars per minute, with a minimum rental of twenty dollars for works under ten minutes. Royalties resulting from bookings of the exhibition will be paid to you on a semiannual basis as explained in the contract. Works will be rented only as components of the entire Video Exhibition, never as single titles.

Please note that this contract also allows you to grant AFA the right to negotiate sales and video lease of your work. This is an optional arrangement, and your acceptance or rejection of this part of the contract in no way will preclude you from participating in the tour of the exhibition. Please fill in the desired sale price for your videotape in the appropriate space on Schedule A.
The AFA and the Whitney Museum are currently working to make several sets of 3/4" exhibition dubs for the Whitney's program and for the tour. The AFA will advance all costs involved in making these dubs, with the cost of the first set of dubs to be prorated among the videomakers represented. The AFA will absorb the costs of any subsequent exhibition dubs needed for the tour. We estimate that the cost to each videomaker for the first set of exhibition dubs will amount to $1.50 per minute, with a minimum cost of ten dollars per work. Under these conditions, the royalties resulting from the first two rentals of the Video Exhibition should cover the dubbing costs to the videomakers, which will be deducted from royalties accrued in the first royalty period following the exhibition at the Whitney Museum. Please note that one videotape copy of your work will be retained by the AFA for archival purposes only, upon completion of the tour. All other video copies will be returned to you, unless works by several videomakers comprise a single cassette. These copies will be destroyed.

If you have any questions or comments concerning the touring exhibition, please contact me at the American Federation of Arts. I look forward to working with you on the tour of the 1989 Whitney Biennial Film/Video Exhibition.

Sincerely,

Charles M. Vassallo
Film/Video Program

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