THE VASULKAS

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NOVEMBER 1, 1975

During the past five years, I have had to be concerned with problems involving individual artists and funding agencies, first as co-director of the video program at The Kitchen, and then as a recipient of grants and a member and coordinator of grants panels. I have discussed these problems with many creative artists in media and related fields, and with individuals from funding and funded institutions.

Some of the recurrent problem areas that need discussion are (1) the direct funding of artists (2) the relative proportion of money going to artists and to institutions as funding for the arts increases, (3) the participation of artists in the funding process, (4) the place of conduit institutions and their fees, contracts and ownership agreements with artists, and (5) the artists as directors or coordinators of their own institutions.

Thus, I am inviting artists and other interested persons to mutually discuss and formulate their opinions on these issues in meetings at The Kitchen/59 Wooster Street/ New York, New York 10012 on Tuesday and Wednesday, November 25 and 26, 1975 at 8:30 P.M. each evening.

I have asked three artists to make short statements (5 to 15 minutes) each evening to introduce open discussions by all attending. These are their topics.

Juan Downey

High Art and Social Process

Jennifer Muller

Choreography and Funding

Frederic Rzewski

The Need for Action in Music

Paul Sharits

The Filmmaker and the Galleries

Stan Vanderbeek

Some Personal Experiences with Contracts & Ownership

Woody Vasulka

Unfundable Modes of Creation

I want to urge you to formulate problems and to write statements for discussion at this meeting. If you have any questions or suggestions please telephone me at home (716) 856-3385 before November 14 or at The Kitchen (212) 925-3615 after that.

STEINA VASULKA