Dear Competition Entrant:

The Athens International Film and Video Festival will take place April 27 - May 5. We have sent you a program for the festival, which lists all competition entrants, and those films and tapes chosen by the pre-screening committees as competition finalists.

To reiterate the competition process, because of the number of entries, we must pre-screen, by category, all entries. There is a separate pre-screening committee for each category. Each committee is comprised of filmmakers, videomakers, teachers, programmers and others connected to the Athens Center for Film and Video. All pre-screeners have considerable experience with independent media and with the genre of the category they are reviewing. Each entry is viewed in its entirety. We do not "fast-forward" or view the first few minutes of a film-print. Each pre-screening committee watches all the entries in a category before voting on which works will be competition finalists.

Competition finalists are presented publically during the week of the festival in screenings which are free and open to the public. Prizes are awarded by the outside competition jurors, who are listed in the program, and who are either guest artists or others specifically brought to the festival as jurors. Immediately following the Festival, an announcement of which entries were awarded prizes, and who the jurors were for particular categories will be mailed to you by first class mail.

All films and tapes will be shipped, via U.P.S. ground (unless you specifically call us and ask otherwise) the week of May 6 - May 12. We keep the films and tapes until after the festival, in case any of the guest jurors want to view anything which the pre-screening committees did not select as a competition finalist. We do this because we fully acknowledge that the pre-screening process involves a selective criteria of personal taste, and because we feel that the guest jurors should have the right to check on the decisions of a particular pre-screening committee.

On behalf of our entire staff, and especially the audiences of Athens, Ohio, I thank you for participating in the Athens International Film and Video Festival. We hope to see more of your work in the future.

Sincerely,

Ruth Bradley, Director
Athens Center for Film and Video

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