

A NOTE FROM CHANGING CHANNELS/RADICAL SOFTWARE IN RUBY, NY

The following is a petition we drew up in light of experiences video people have confronted in pursuing exhibition of their works. It was presented to the delegates of the Matrix International Video Conference in Vancouver, B.C. on January 19, 1973 and approved in principle. Below are some of the signatures of people who attended that conference as well as some others we've been able to pass this petition around to. If you agree with what is printed below please mail us your signature and we will publish the completed list in a future issue of this magazine.

I. Schneider, B. Korot and F. Gillette

PETITION

As with Film and Art Competitions and Contests, Video Competitions serve primarily to aggrandize the institution hosting the competition or contest. These competitions are rarely beneficial to the entrants who often must pay to submit their tapes which are shown to audiences where admissions are charged. Typically money awards are meager and subsequent distribution deals don't pan out favorably for the videotape artist/producer. Often the only advantage is publicity, and sometimes not even that.

We, the undersigned, are not interested in competing with each other in video contests and competitions. We welcome non-competitive festivals and the development of honest and reliable distribution and exhibition networks where videotapes are purchased or rented after selection by the distributor, exhibitor, or viewer.

We are willing and we encourage the rental and exhibition of our videotapes separate from and independent of any competitive context.

Competitions serve only to alienate videotape artists/producers from each other; they reflect less the quality of the tape and more the bias of the judges and they may enforce sanctions and political restrictions on the artist/producers future work. This "reinforcement syndrome" breeds a star system which we the undersigned wish to avoid.

This does not mean that we the undersigned feel there exist no qualitative and/or aesthetic differences amongst videotape artists and producers. However, we do feel that in this emerging communicational art form there remains a chance to avoid the entrenchment of a small group of taste dictators who have limited the viability of diversity in other media. We wish to avoid the creation of a group of such taste makers who would arbitrate values in tape production while never having made tapes themselves.

Therefore, we the undersigned hereby agree not to enter videotape competitions or contests, or to accept any awards derived from the exhibition of our tapes (rented or purchased) in support of such contests.

Mail to:  
Changing Channels/Radical Software  
POB 135, Ruby, NY 12475

\_\_\_\_\_  
Your signature

H. Allan Frederickson  
alias Johnny Videotape

Nike Goldberg  
Steve Stanton  
[Signature]

Stac Christensen  
Barry Verdi +  
A. die - irois

David Foster  
Kenneth O'Connell  
Grant Richards  
Paul Ryan

on the Lowain  
[Signature]  
[Signature]  
Lisa [Signature]

Ryle Stern  
[Signature] [Signature]  
[Signature] [Signature]

Paulo Weinberg  
Frank Gillette  
[Signature] [Signature]

Eric Schreiner  
Beril Korot  
[Signature] [Signature]

Ship [Signature] + Nelson Baker  
[Signature] [Signature]  
Nancy [Signature] [Signature]  
Dann Woodward

[Signature]  
[Signature] Charles Kennedy  
David M. [Signature]