

November 8, 1971

INTERNATIONAL PROGRAM

PROJECT PROPOSAL

TITLE: ACTIVITIES OF THE AMERICAN AVANT-GARDE

PROPOSED BY: Jennifer Licht

DESCRIPTION:

Showings of the exhibition TWO DECADES OF AMERICAN PAINTING in both Sydney and Melbourne during 1967 satisfied a long standing need for an introduction and background to contemporary American art. The exhibition was a resounding success attracting no fewer than 115,000 visitors in Sydney alone during a four week period. Since then, American art has continued to be the major outside influence on Australian work. Young artists come increasingly by preference to study and work in the United States, but the Australian public at large remains unaware of recent developments in American art. The American representation sent last year to the New Delhi Triennale could serve as a possible prototype for this exhibition. Australian museums expressed interest in both the contents and format of the selection and it is regrettable that additional showings could not be realized.

We now propose a group exhibition of recent avant-garde tendencies in American art, including new developments within the formats of painting and sculpture (such as Ryman, Lewitt, Rockburne), conceptual works (Bochner, Weiner, Barry), body and performance works on film (Naumann, Sonnier), land sculpture (de Maria, Heizer), etc. In addition to a group of strong works forming the nucleus of the exhibition, as an integral activity a number of artists would be asked to travel and execute projects in conjunction with the three major showings. The idea of the work of art assuming a form dependent upon its location, or of the act of execution constituting the work of art, are both very topical comments and relate closely to the format of the exhibition.

An ideal opportunity to provide a forum of cultural intercourse seems to offer itself. One senses a readiness and eagerness on the part of Australians to receive an exposition of new American art, together with an extraordinary reciprocal interest in the country of Australia on the part of American artists.

Suggested contents: 50 works by twelve artists
Suggested travel: 9 artists to three cities (i.e., three to Auckland, three to Melbourne, and three to Sydney)

POSSIBLE ITINERARY: Melbourne March - April 1973
Sydney May - June
Brisbane July - August
Adelaide September - October
Perth November - December
Auckland January - February 1974

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TOUR BUDGET:

Tour Costs		\$53,943.00
Income - Rental Fee \$2000 x 6 showings	\$12,000.00	
Insurance Contributions	7,425.00	
Artists Fares	9,288.00	
Artists Materials	<u>4,500.00</u>	
	\$33,946.00	<u>\$33,946.00</u>
Subsidy Required		<u><u>\$19,997.00</u></u>