

Aug 2

Dear David and Valda,

We are organizing a project that will explore work which began in the early sixties around Judson Church, involving activity in dance, music, and visual arts. The project is designed both as documentation and as a meeting place for the continuing work in these areas. The project is conceived by and will be arranged by Tony Garnuthers, who teaches design at Bennington, and me (who teaches dance). We would like to invite both of you to Bennington to be part of the first stage of the project, which, as it now stands, includes:

1. A two week period of performances and workshops and discussions to be held at Bennington College between April 1st and 3rd, 1980. Some of the students participating in this will be enrolled in a course taught by Tony called "Performance Installation;" others will be enrolled in my course called "Visible and invisible systems of composing." Both courses will attempt to incorporate the spirit of Judson ~~experientialism~~ as well as ideas for further experimentation.
2. We plan to videotape a series of twelve interviews with artists who were involved in early Judson performances, employing Christie Sykes and Lisa Wilson as the main interviewer/videotapers.
3. During the fall of 1980, an exhibit of photographs and videotapes will be held at the College and then at Judson Church in N.Y. for one week in October. It will include photographs from the Judson Archives as well as those taken of the April performances given at Bennington in April. Juliette Hanolte has agreed to do some work for us; we are considering having her do a two-week workshop along with the other things.
4. A catalogue documenting the work of any of the Judson artists will be compiled, with interviews edited by me and photographs selected by Tony. Jill Jouston has agreed to write an introduction.

We are working on various grant applications now. It is too late to apply to the NEA, but the college administration supports this endeavor and is thinking of other possible sources.

We would very much like for you both to come for, say, a two-day visit in mid-April. Please tell us whether and to what extent you're interested in participating--an informal performance, a master class, a talk on what happened in the early 60's and how that has affected your current work? Or, if you are busy in April, would you consent to being interviewed, most likely by Christie?

Please get back to me soon. You can call me in NY at 925-5419, or write to me at Bennington. I hope your summer is going well.

Sincerely,

Wendy Perron
Bennington College
Bennington, Vt. 05201

Called 8/18 - He said
his busy then. Call
him when we know
about videotaping