

File

Ethnic Arts Decision

Greater London Council

ARTS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

ETHNIC ARTS SUB-COMMITTEE

AMENDMENT TO DECISION SHEET ISSUED ON 1 APRIL 1985

Item 5

Black Arts - Future Policies and  
Priorities - (E/AR 391)

Agreed - (1) the objectives as set out in  
paragraph 17(a)-(e) of E/AR 391;

(2) the criteria and priorities for funding in  
1985-86 as set out in paragraph 19(a)-(i)  
of E/AR 391;

(3) the following priorities for initiatives on  
an interim basis, subject to consideration  
of similar reports dealing with literature  
and dance, to be incorporated into the Race  
Equality Unit programme; and that a report  
on the Race Equality Unit's programme of work  
be submitted to the next meeting of the sub-  
committee (1 May 1985).

Black Music

(a) To develop a programme of concerts aimed at  
promoting black music in mainstream venues.

(b) to organise prison tours of Black Musicians  
throughout the prison system;

- 2009
- (c) to assist in the establishment of a Black Music Agency concerned with the promotion of Black Musicians and the distribution of production;
  - (d) to organise a London-wide seminar on the Black Music business;
  - (e) to seek input from the music advisers on the assessment of all music applications to the Ethnic Arts Sub-Committee;
  - (f) to ensure the participation of Black Musicians and promoters in all the GLC organised arts and entertainment events. Officers to report regularly to the Sub-Committee on the implementation of this policy;
  - (g) to encourage a policy of joint funding with Community Arts Sub-Committee and the main Arts and Recreation Committee;
  - (h) to develop courses related to all aspects of the music business.

#### Black Film and Video Workshops

- (a) To consolidate the already funded franchised and non-franchised black film and video workshops;
- (b) to assist in the establishment of the Latin American Media Association and Media Resource Centre in West London;
- (c) to assist in the establishment of an Association of Black Film and Video workshops;
- (d) to assist in the establishment of a Black Distribution Network concerned with the active promotion of films produced by the Black Independent Film and Video sector here in Britain and the production of information sheet on the availability of Black and Third World Films from existing distributors;
- (e) to assist in the development of a cinema circuit for the promotion of Black and Third World Films;
- (f) to develop long-term training programmes aimed at getting people employment and union tickets. Such training schemes to be developed in conjunction with CH4 and the National Film and Television School;
- (g) to find production monies whenever possible.

### Black Visual Arts

- (a) The Sub-Committee should establish a permanent collection of Black Arts;
- (b) to assist in the establishment of a Black Visual Arts Forum;
- (c) the Sub-Committee should initiate a research project subject to identification of appropriate legal powers tracing and recording the contribution of Black Visual Artists over the last 45 years. The research should be developed in the context of an historical perspective which reflects the experience of Black people and not an anthropological view of Black people. The completed research should be published and distributed widely. The research to be conducted in conjunction with the Black Visual Arts Forum;
- (d) to fund a series of small exhibitions around individuals or themes linked to the research and aimed at providing a visual documentation of the contribution of Black Visual Arts. The selection of the exhibition to be made in conjunction with the Black Visual Arts Forum;
- (e) the Sub-Committee should organise a series of seminars on Black Visual Arts with an historical and contemporary perspective;
- (f) to assist the Black Visual Arts Forum in the mounting and presentation of a major Black Visual Arts exhibition at a mainstream art gallery;
- (g) to assist in the establishment of a Black Visual Arts touring circuit including mainstream and community based art galleries;
- (h) to assist in the acquisition of a building for the purpose of converting into small working studios for use by Black Artists;
- (i) the Sub-Committee should establish a fund to buy works of contemporary Black Artists.

[For Arts and Recreation Committee also]

## Black Theatre

- (a) Theatres funded by the GLC should be obliged to make provisions for the inclusion of Black companies in their programming. Theatres should be required when devising their artistic policy to demonstrate an equal opportunities policy not only in employment, but also in making the theatre available to Black companies. Such a policy would bring into being a circuit of venues for Black companies. It would also open up a dialogue between the theatres and the Black companies.
- (b) to assist in the establishment of a marketing agency responsible for the marketing, advertising and public relations of the Black theatre companies. The agency would also be able to do the same for other art forms.
- (c) to assist in the acquisition of a theatre which is managed and programmed by the Black Theatre Companies.
- (d) support for the Black Archives. The need for a Black Theatre Archive is essential. It is felt that such an archive would duplicate the work of the Black Archives. Black Archive should be supported to the extent that they can also pay particular attention to the acquisition of plays and theatre related material.
- (e) to assist with the establishment of the Black Theatre Forum.