



West Midlands Arts

13th March, 1980

Parminder Vir
C/O Midlands Arts Centre
Cannon Hill Park
Birmingham B12 9QH

Our ref:DW/AC

Dear Parminder,

Further to our very useful meeting on March 11th, I am now writing with the various pieces of information I promised. Firstly, the correspondent for the Foyle Trust is Miss M. Bunce, Charles Henry Foyle Trust, Boxfoldia Limited, Dale Road, Bournebrooke, Birmingham B29 6AJ. Telephone: 021-472--383.

Secondly, the name of printers able to to print books in Punjabi in this country are as follows:

Panjabi Bhawan name C. S. Chan Sandhu, 91 Mantilla Drive, Coventry, CV3 6LJ
Telephone: 020/-415531.

Chamak Punjabi Press, 208 Harrington Street, Derby. Telephone: 0332-372369.

I hope this will be of help.

Regarding the newly formed working party to review the Music and Dance Advisory Panels policy towards ethnic music and dance, I think you already have a copy of the Music and Dance policy paper which was presented to the Executive Committee and I would draw your attention first of all to the summary of working party recommendation number 6, wherein it is recommended that the panel addresses itself specifically to the problems of ethnic musicians and dancers and their audiences and that a report be drawn up dealing particularly with these areas. In a more general way this area is covered under desirable developments in music and dance panel policy and I quote. " The working party acknowledges the great quantity range and quality of arts activities generated by ethnic communities in Britain, though regret the limited extent to which these activities are known about or supported outside their own communities. The problems faced by the communities are legion; lack of premises to rehearse, lack of essential back up facilities and resources, lack of acceptance by the indigenous arts structure and, perhaps most sadly, lack of exposure. The level of activity within ethnic communities is high and the working party would wish to encourage wider acceptance and exposure of these vital art forms before it is too late!"

It is in these two particular areas the working party is to address itself, that is to say, in the establishment of when, where and what is already happening within the ethnic communities in the region, secondly, how these activities may be improved, perhaps through the injection of professional performances by musicians and dancers from outside the region and finally how we may assist the activities within the region to gain more exposure both within their own communities and to the indigenous population of the West Midlands. I would be very grateful for any thoughts you have on this matter and if you could perhaps

PARMINDER VIR
GLC
1981-1986
THE BLACK & ETHNIC ARTS ARCHIVE

Working for London

archive.parmindervir.com

prepare a very brief report for our first meeting which is likely to be in early May this would be enormously helpful.

Please dont hesitate to contact me if there is any further information I can provide before then. In the meantime have a wonderful time in India and take care.

Yours,

pp. Dorothy
WJ

Dorothy J. Wilson
MUSIC/DANCE OFFICER