

Felicity Sparrow

In 1979, the moving image art world experienced its own moment of upheaval when, dismayed at what appeared to be attempts to frustrate their work, Lis Rhodes and Felicity Sparrow withdrew from the Hayward Gallery's now legendary Film as Film exhibition and were instead spurred on to form Circles, an empowering women's experimental film distribution network.

Circles provided an essential role in the promotion and distribution of exclusively women filmmakers, supporting filmmaking that varied from political and social documentary to more experimental practice.

Initially ten women put in one film each and some money towards the production of an A3 catalogue. Felicity Sparrow ran the distribution from her flat, and women-only screenings were organised at Four Corners in Roman road.

Circles operated as a collective, every woman whose film was in distribution had a vote and thus was considered a member of the Circles organisation.

Circles' inaugural film programme '*Her Image Fades as her Voice Rises*' (1982), with films selected by Lis Rhodes and Felicity Sparrow. A selection of four films by four filmmakers made across time and different generations of women filmmakers placed in dialogue with each other.

"We hope also to encourage discussion and support for other women to make and show their own work, whether the subject matter be personal or political, figurative or formal and create our own 'definitions' and 'contexts' as women artists".

Circles Catalogue 1979.

THAT TIME OF THE MONTH

"I'll leave it for 25 days after I come off that blood comes out and that I get it in a towel. It goes after 3 days, but I have to get a cloth, for being funny... I have to get the slightest... what happens!"

"THAT TIME OF THE MONTH" is a fast moving and witty video in which 14 girls from the Hoxy area of Liverpool act out scenes which explore how girls learn about periods. The video is intended to inspire discussion on the social environment that surrounds menstruation... for use in schools... 10-16 years...



FINANCED BY: MERSEY/SEVERN & ELDONIA RAILWAYS TRUST
MADE BY: WITCH & VAUGHAN ADULT EDUCATION 1988

A WITCH PRODUCTION

CIRCLES

Women's Film, Video and Performance

at FOUR CORNERS
113 Roman Road
London E.2. (Bethnal Green Tube)
(01 - 981 6828)

Thursday, 25th February 1982 at 7.30 pm.

A programme of women's films from the Circles catalogue showing contemporary work by British women alongside films by the first women directors.



(Still from THE SMILING MADAME BEUDET)

A HOUSE DIVIDED by Alice Guy (1913)

THE SMILING MADAME BEUDET by Germaine Dulac (1922)

OFTEN DURING THE DAY by Joanna Davis (1979)

LIGHT READING by Lis Rhodes (1979)

Women only screening. Coffee and discussion.

Admission £1.00