

Ian Breakwell : EXCERPTS FROM THE DIARY, Videotape, b&w, mono sound. 1975.

Dur: 45 mins

This, my first self-contained, distributed videotape, was made for The Video Show at the Serpentine Gallery, London 1975, on thenow obselete and unplayable Phillips tape format. However, from a U-matic dub made at the time which has recently been rediscovered, it has now been remastered onto Digi-Beta by the National Film Archive, who have also provided two VHS copies. The NFA does not transfer to any other tape or digital format, but from this new Digi-Beta master, which is mine, DVD copies could be made at a facilities house and at the same time be regraded to increase contrast and sharpen definition of the technically crude original. Hum during first silent section could be removed too.

The tape is in three parts : (1) A telecined film/slide superimposition version of GROWTH which is silent. Low contrast, bleached-out quality would benefit greatly from regrading. (2) A telecined version of the film ESTATE with sound: v/o narration by IB over a slomoed reggae backing track. Ditto regrading tech specs as for GROWTH. (3) Studio recorded t/h Diary readings by IB. The tape ends abruptly ( when the original DIY-wired recording equipment blew up) and there are no end credits.

IB. 3.5.2001