

# Arts

## Video Festival Seeks Submissions

By Mari Kirchner

Back in the 1960s, my father, then a commercial artist, having read a good deal of the writings of Marshall McLuhan ("The Medium is the Message") began making films. Given the high cost of 16 mm film production, and the need to collaborate with people who had more money than ideas, his dream was never fully realized. Today, technology is catching up with McLuhan and putting movie making equipment into the hands of individual artists.

Artists Shoshana Brand and Hadiya Finley, both recent MFA recipients from Claremont Graduate University, are hoping to attract experimental video work to their upcoming festival. The idea is to give video artists venues to show their work and to dialogue with audiences. They are soliciting submissions worldwide for short videos that interpret the theme "city life." Several screening locations have been secured, including Topanga Canyon Gallery on Sunday, February 8. It is hoped that artists will attend these screenings and participate in question and answer sessions following the screenings.

Shoshana Brand has been exploring the theme of the relationship of television and family life in a series of short videos. Her videos attempt to break through the confines of the small screen by having characters echo soap opera dialogue and through the repetition of scenes. Hadiya Finley has been developing short animations and abstracted video pieces. She is also experimenting with incorporating projected visual imagery with sculptural form and spatial relations in installation pieces.

Submissions are still being accepted. Guidelines may be obtained by e-mail to: [shoshanabrand@hotmail.com](mailto:shoshanabrand@hotmail.com) and can be left at Topanga Canyon Gallery, attention: Hadiya. ■