■ From 16 September through 20 September, **Andere Avant Garde**, an amazing Festival of Women's Art, will take place at Brucknerhaus in Linz, Austria. Included are performances by Meredith Monk and her vocal ensemble, Jana Haimsohn, Dana Reitz, Joan Jonas, Simone Forti, Pat Oleszko, participation of Gislind Nabakowski, Christina Kubisch, Heide Schlupmann, Ginka Steinwachs, Elfriede Czurda, Eva Meyer, Martha Rosler, Renate Bertlmann, Waltraut Cooper, Valie Export, Manon, Gina Pane, Katharina Sieverding, Chantal Akerman, Maya Deren, Marguerite Duras, Yvonne Rainer, among others.

■ The art world has lost a group of art activists that will long be remembered, and never replaced. Wies Smals, the Director of De Appel, one of the largest artist-run spaces in Europe and in the vocabulary of the visual arts world; Josine van Droffelaar, Co-Director of De Appel; Gerhard von Graevenitz; and Wies' small baby were killed in an airplane accident in Switzerland on 18 August. Von Graevenitz is an accomplished pilot, and the four were in a plane over the lake country between Interlaken and Basel, when caught in a downdraft, they were faced with an impossible situation and crashed. All four were killed instantly. The accident was not made known to the art world in Amsterdam until two days later.

The flight pattern and pre-accident route were reconstructed by a group to see how impossible the situation had been. A friend said in Holland that "They were a group of happy people in love, who took too many risks...' Amsterdam, Holland, and the whole art world must join hands around the world and remember, admire, love and respect those friends of ours who have gone. Martha Hawley has taken over the directorship of De Appel, and all artists in Amsterdam are going to keep De Appel going as a memorial to Wies and Josine.

LETTERS TO Umbrella

Dear Distributors, Fanzines, Related Organizations:

I'm opening a thrift store in Boston on November 1. I'm also very interested in a large selection fo fanzines and hard-to-find publications. Anything related to music and music history is also a concern. Please send me info on ordering, payment plans and any other info on your products. Send information to Wayne Podworny, 52 Queensberry St. no. 1, Boston, MA 02215.

Dear Umbrella Magazine:

I hope this letter can be a chance for me to get pen-pals from California, USA . I would be so glad if you could put a little notice in your magazine that I want pen-pals. My name is Monica Eliassen, Age 18, Lovangsvagen 13, S-77100 Ludviha, Sweden. My interests are writing, music, movies, horses, USA, dancing, etc. I welcome letters from people of all ages in California. I will answer all letters.

Dear People:

On June 6 some maniac stuck a stick of dynamite on the windowsill outside the 8 x 35 foot trailer which served as my studio and blew it up. My mail art archives are kept in the storage binders with slipcases sold by Light Impressions Corp., 439 Monroe Ave., Rochester, NY 14607. The binders were six inches from the blast and thrown across the room. Although rings in two of the binders popped open, one slipcase was punctured by flying metal, and the material on the spine of two of the slipcases came unglued along the seams as a result of the blast, *none of the art material stored in the binders was damaged.* I was, needless to say, greatly relieved and very impressed. Consequently, I would like to recommend this sturdy storage system to other artists for their irreplaceable archives and hopefully they will never have to undergo such an experience to test its effectiveness.

Peace,
Carol Stetser
P.O. Box 56
Oatman, AZ 86433

Dear Judith:

Thank you very much for the May *Umbrella* received here in Bowdoinham, ME, June 18, 1983. I especially enjoyed your profile of Rod Summers. While many artists may well be selfish and egocentric, Rod Summers is *not*. He is extremely generous, and very supportive of others. I attribute my own involvement in audio, particularly to Rod Summers. I bet many others can say the same. Bravo Rod! and thanks!

Sincerely,
Carlo Pittore

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Umbrella, May, 1983

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