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to George Maciunas  
6241 Ehlhalten  
Grdfliche Strasse 17  
West Germany

from Jackson Mac Low  
965 Hoe Avenue  
Bronx 59, New York  
USA  
Day of Niagara  
25 April 1963

Dear George

I'M SORRY TO SAY THAT I'M NOT IN FAVOR OF MOST OF THE PROPOSALS CONTAINED IN FLUXUS NEWS-POLICY LETTER NO. 6 APRIL 6, 1963, I. I'M NOT OPPOSED TO SERIOUS CULTURE -- QUITE THE CONTRARY. I'M ALL FOR IT & I HOPE & CONSIDER THAT MY OWN WORK IS A GENUINE CONTRIBUTION TO IT. OF COURSE I AM OPPOSED TO CERTAIN ASPECTS OF WHAT IS CALLED SERIOUS CULTURE & ESPECIALLY TO THE WRONG KINDS OF PRESTIGE ATTACHED TO SOME REAL & SOME BOGUS KINDS OF SERIOUS CULTURE & MOST ESPECIALLY I'M OPPOSED TO ITS COMMERCIALIZATION & USE (BY PEOPLE WHO ARE AT HEART MUCH MORE OPPOSED TO IT THAN ARE YOU OR HENRY) FOR VARIOUS ANTI-SOCIAL & EVEN ANTI-CULTURAL PURPOSES. THIS IS A COMPLEX & COMPLICATED PROBLEM & NO BLUNDERBUSS ATTACK AGAINST CULTURE (SERIOUS OR OTHERWISE) AS A WHOLE (SUCH AS HENRY'S 'DESTROY ART' CAMPAIGN OR MOST OF YOUR PROPOSALS) WILL DO ANYTHING TO REMEDY WHAT'S WRONG IN THE PRESENT SITUATION. I AM NOT AT ALL AGAINST ART OR MUSIC OR DRAMA OR LITERATURE, OLD OR NEW. I'M AGAINST THE OVERBALANCE OF MUSEUM CULTURE (INCLUDING 'MODERN-MUSEUMISM') AS AGAINST PRESENT-MINDED & PRESENTLY 'USEFUL' CULTURAL ACTIVITIES & WD CERTAINLY LIKE TO SEE THE BALANCE TIPPED THE OTHER WAY, BUT I WD NOT WANT TO ELIMINATE MUSEUMS (I LIKE MUSEUMS) OR CONCERTS OF OLD MUSIC OR PRODUCTIONS OF OLD DRAMAS -- MERELY TO FIND WAYS TO KEEP THEM FROM BEING MISUSED OR MISTAKEN FOR THE CULTURE OF THE PRESENT OR (AS THEY STILL DO) VASTLY OVERSHADOWING CULTURAL ACTIVITIES IN & FOR THE PRESENT. YOUR FESTIVALS & ACTIVITIES SUCH AS YAM-DAY ARE STEPS IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION. SO WD BE REAL PERFORMANCES IN PUBLIC PLACES -- IF DONE IN THE RIGHT WAY. I AM, HOWEVER, AGAINST ALL SABOTAGE & NEEDLESS DISRUPTION. I CONSIDER THEM UNPRINCIPLED, UNETHICAL & IMMORAL IN THE BASIC SENSE OF BEING ANTISOCIAL & HURTFUL TO THE VERY PEOPLE WHOM MY CULTURAL ACTIVITIES ARE MEANT TO HELP. IT SEEMS ALL SILLY SADISM. & AS SUCH IT SMACKS MORE OF FASCISM THAN OF ANY KIND OF SOCIALISM WORTHY OF THE NAME, WHETHER LIBERTARIAN, DEMOCRATIC OR BENEVOLENTLY AUTHORITARIAN (I'LL LEAVE OPEN THE POSSIBILITY HERE THAT THE 3RD KIND EXISTS & WHETHER IT REALLY IS A SOCIALISM). I INSIST THAT ALL CULTURAL ACTIVITIES BE TRULY BENEVOLENT & POSITIVE & DONE IN A SPIRIT OF LOVE RATHER THAN ONE OF SCORNFUL CONTEMPT OR HATRED OR POLEMIC. I WD NOT, EXCEPT IN CERTAIN EXCEPTIONAL CIRCUMSTANCES, BOTHER TO ATTACK & /OR DEFILE WRONG TYPES OF CULTURAL ACTIVITY. I WD RATHER CARRY ON THE RIGHT KINDS OF CULTURAL ACTIVITY (OR ANY OTHER ACTIVITY, FOR THAT MATTER) & BY DOGGED PERSEVERANCE DO ALL I CAN TO REPLACE THE NEGATIVE BY THE POSITIVE, TRUSTING THAT ANY STEP IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION IS A STEP IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION & THAT BY ENOUGH SUCH STEPS WE WILL BE ABLE TO SUPERSEDE AN UNDESIRABLE SITUATION BY A DESIRABLE ONE. WE WON'T BE ABLE TO DO THIS BY MAKING IT HARDER FOR THE ORDINARY WORKER TO MAKE HIS LIVING OR TO GET ABOUT THE CITY OR TO COMMUNICATE. RATHER THAN CLOGGING THINGS I WD PREFER (IF FUNDS WERE AVAILABLE) TO HELP UNCLOG THEM. I WD PREFER, TO BREAKDOWNS OF FLUXUS TRUCKS, TO INSTITUTE FREE FLUXUS BUSES & PRIVATE-CAR POOLS TO MAKE THINGS EASIER FOR PEOPLE TO GET TO WORK RATHER THAN HARDER. I'D GIVE OUT FREE MUSEUM, GALLERY, CONCERT & THEATRE NEWS IN FLUXUS PUBLICATIONS CONTAINING OUR WORKS & DISTRIBUTED LIKE HANDBILLS ON STREET CORNERS. WHERE THERE ARE STRIKES OR LOCKOUTS IN PROGRESS, I WD DISTRIBUTE LEAFLETS & BOOKLETS HAVING ON THE FIRST COUPLE PAGES STRONG MESSAGES OF SUPPORT & SOLIDARITY FOR THE STRIKERS OR LOCKED-OUT WORKERS & THEN HAVE THESE MESSAGES FOLLOWED BY ANNOUNCEMENTS OF OUR CONCERTS, EXHIBITS & PUBLICATIONS, ALONG WITH SEVERAL EXAMPLES OF OUR OWN WORKS. WHERE THERE ARE PICKET LINES OR WALKS FOR PEACE & FREEDOM OR AGAINST THE WAR IN VIETNAM OR THE HARASSMENT OF CUBA OR NUCLEAR TESTING OR BOMB SHELTERS OR MANDATORY SCHOOL SHELTER DRILLS OR CAPITAL PUNISHMENT OR RACIAL SEGREGATION & DISCRIMINATION, I WD SIMILARLY ADD OUR VOICES TO SUCH AN ACTIVITY WHILE AT THE SAME TIME 'PROPAGANDIZING'



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page 2 -- answer to Geo. Maciunas' FLUX/NEWS-POLICY LETTER NO. # 6 6 Apr 63  
FROM Jackson Mac Low, 965 Hoe Ave., Bronx 59, NY, USA

FOR OUR OWN CULTURAL ACTIVITIES. I WD ALWAYS DO WHAT IS POSSIBLE & FEASIBLE TO ASSOCIATE OUR CULTURAL ACTIVITIES WITH POSITIVE SOCIAL ACTIONS -- NEVER WITH ANTISOCIAL ONES. GIVE -- HELP -- SERVE -- MAKE THINGS PLEASANTER & LESS UGLY NOT MORE SO. LIFE IS UGLY & PAINFUL ENOUGH FOR MOST PEOPLE. MAKE IT A LITTLE NICER FOR THEM RATHER THAN EVEN WORSE. THUS I FAVOR ALL PROPOSALS FOR PUBLIC & PRIVATE EXHIBITS, CONCERTS, &C., WHICH HAVE A BENEVOLENT & HELPFUL AURA ABOUT THEM -- I OPPOSE ALL WHICH HAVE A SCORNFUL, HATEFUL, DESTRUCTIVE TONE. CONSTRUCT THE BETTER & THE WORSE WILL COLLAPSE OF ITS OWN WEIGHT. "FORM THE STRUCTURE OF THE NEW SOCIETY WITHIN THE SHELL OF THE OLD", TO QUOTE E.V. DEBS, THE AMERICAN SOCIALIST, & ALSO THE PREAMBLE OF THE INDUSTRIAL WORKERS OF THE WORLD, THE AMERICAN ANARCHO-SYNDICALIST UNION. THUS I WD FAVOR I.C. 1, 2, 4 & 5 IF PROPERLY CARRIED OUT IN THE RIGHT SPIRIT. ALSO I.D. ALSO II. 1, 2, 4, & 5-WITHOUT-THE GARBAGE-DISPOSAL. BUT I WD WANT TO SEE MANY MORE POSITIVE MANIFESTATIONS SUCH AS THOSE I'VE MENTIONED ABOVE -- ONES ASSOCIATING OUR WORKS WITH POSITIVE & AMERIORATIVE SOCIAL FORCES. THE OTHER STUFF IS OLD TIME MIDDLE-CLASS (TO SHOCK THE MIDDLE CLASS IS A FAVORITE MIDDLE-CLASS ACTIVITY) SADISTIC DADA & SADLY OUT OF PLACE IN OUR PRESENT WORLD. I HAVE NO IDEA WHY YOU THOUGHT I WD WANT TO ENGAGE IN SUCH ACTIVITIES. OR WHY YOU THOUGHT GEORGE BRECHT OR LA MONTE OR BOB MORRIS OR RICHARD MAX-FIELD OR ANY OF THE OTHERS EXCEPT MAYBE HENRY (WHO ALSO THINKS THEY ARE, FOR THE MOST PART, UNPRINCIPLED & NOT AT ALL USEFUL (EXCEPT FOR PICKETING CULTURAL ACTIVITIES & GIVING HIS OWN LECTURES -- HE MIGHT FAVOR THOSE ACTIONS) FOR HIS ENDS -- WHICH ARE VERY DIFFERENT FROM MINE NOW). I'M INTERESTED, BY THE WAY, IN HENRY AS AN ARTIST -- AS THE INVENTOR OF CONCEPT ART & AS A BRILLIANT INSTRUMENTAL IMPROVISER -- NOT AS AN ANTI-CULTURAL PROPAGANDIST OR AS A POLITICAL THINKER (ALTHO SOME OF HIS POLITICAL NOTIONS ARE OK -- I TOO FAVOR THE FREEDOM MOVEMENTS OF COLONIAL PEOPLES & OF THE AFRO-AMERICANS & PUERTO RICANS & A TRADE & CONCILIATORY NEGOTIATION WITH CHINA, CUBA, RUSSIA & THE OTHER SO-CALLED 'SOCIALIST' COUNTRIES) (BUT I THINK MOST FORMS OF MARXISM ARE LOADED WITH HALF-BAKED REACTIONARY & ANTIHUMAN TENDENCIES & THAT IT WILL BE A HELL OF A LONG TIME BEFORE THESE ARE CLEANED AWAY FROM THE POSITIVE & VERY REAL ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE VARIOUS MARXIST-LED REVOLUTIONS & PEOPLES). I HOPE YOU WILL COME UP WITH A WHOLE DIFFERENT MODERN NON-DADA APPROACH TO "FLUXUS PROPAGANDA" & OTHER FLUXUS ACTIVITIES -- AN APPROACH BY WHICH WE WD READ & ATTRACT THE WORKING PEOPLE -- NOT JUST THE UPPER & UPPER MIDDLE CLASSES -- OR RATHER, THOSE ESPECIALLY DECADENT LAYERS OF THOSE CLASSES THAT ARE ALWAYS ON THE LOOKOUT FOR ONE MORE SADOMASOCHISTIC THRILL. THEY'RE THE ONLY ONES YOU WILL REACH AT ALL WITH MOST OF THE ACTIVITIES YOU PROPOSE IN FLUXUS NEWS-POLICY LETTER NO. 6. I WILL PROBABLY MIMEO OR OTHERWISE REPRODUCE THIS LETTER (TO THIS POINT) & SEND IT TO THE OTHERS ON YOUR DISTRIBUTION LIST, IF POSSIBLE.

DEAR TOMAS SCHMIT: IN ACCORD WITH LAST SENTENCE ABOVE I AM SENDING YOU A COPY OF MY LETTER TO GEORGE MACIUNAS. PLEASE LET ME KNOW YOUR REACTIONS TO IT AS WELL AS TO GEORGE'S FLUXUS LETTER NO. 6. DICK HIGGINS HAS STRONGLY RECOMMENDED YOU AS A POSSIBLE GERMAN TRANSLATOR FOR MY WORKS. I IMAGINE YOU MAY HAVE SEEN SOME OF THE ONES I SENT TO GEORGE FOR FLUXUS AS WELL AS SOME THAT WERE TO BE (OR WERE) PERFORMED IN FLUXUS FESTIVALS. I BELIEVE GEORGE GAVE CASPARI OF THE THEATER AM DOM MY 2 PLAYS THE MARRYING MAIDEN (PERFORMED FOR 10 MONTHS HERE BY THE LIVING THEATRE & VERDURIOUS SANGUINARIA (PERFORMED IN APRIL 1962 TWICE AT YOKO ONO'S LOFT IN LA MONTE YOUNG'S SERIES & ONCE AT GEORGE'S AG GALLERY). IF YOU SEE HIM OR WD WANT TO INQUIRE ABOUT THEM, I'D LIKE YOU TO TRY TRANSLATING THEM FROM HIS COPIES -- OTHERWISE (IF YOU DON'T OR THINK YOU WON'T SEE HIM) LET ME KNOW & I'LL SEND YOU COPIES. PROBABLY IT WD BE BEST TO LEAVE CASPARI HIS COPIES & GET NEW ONES FROM ME IF YOU ARE INTERESTED. ALSO IF ANY OF THE THINGS GEORGE HAS (HE HAS MANY THINGS OF MINE, SOME NOT IN FLUXUS, MANY IN) APPEAL TO YOU FOR TRANSLATION I'D GREATLY APPRECIATE YOUR GIVING THEM A TRY. PUT ALL ENGLISH WORDS INTO GERMAN: ALL GERMAN WORDS INTO ENGLISH: & LEAVE OTHER LANGUAGES AS THEY ARE. BEST WISHES. PEACE.

965 HOE AVE. BRONX # 59, NY, USA

JACKSON MAC LOW



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Dear JACKSON MAC LOW -

thanks for your letter - i would like to translate things of yours, no question - better you send them to me, for caspari is terrific busy (i think, writing some mysterious books) "no time, no time!" is all i hear from him when i ask him for something - just now i am translating Dick Higgins' design plays for him, may be a two more weeks' work, after this i may start translating your things, OK?! - - now to fluxus news policy letter etc.: the question is the "sadism" of the things: well, the fluxus polemic things may look sadistic, but i think or hope that their purpose is not sadistic (of course, i don't agree with really sadistic things)- i don't like the fluxus things too much, too, ~~the purpose~~ the purpose they have may be only to show that there are some people who don't agree with the usual culture-, traffic-, art- etc. system, and this is not too bad, too, i think - but taking another example (my Sanitas nr. 79): "a bus carries the audience some distance out of the town, there audience is deposited": you think, this is sadistic? - the purpose is, to force people to think, even to act (simply to get home again by themselves) - this is my only proposal, to make people think (or act) - that this must be done by forcing them, is a pity, but momentarily it is the only way (i speak of europe, may be different in USA) - of course, as soon as there will be other ways to make people think (which is the only way to improve the situation of all societies, i think) besides forcing them to, we have to stop forcing -- another example: a performance of let's say your "letters for iris,..." (a piece i like very much, but:) the two only ways of reactions in (european) audience are: 1) people laugh about it, think it is a not too good joke and - forget about it. 2) people see that it is "avantgardistic", so somebody will print it, you get a lot of money, everybody ~~xxxx~~ buys the book (not because they like Jackson Mac Low, but because they like to have the most "avantgardistic" books - nobody reads it) - and then it is nicely inserted into the art-economy-rush. these are the only possible ways, which both should be strongly avoided, i think - another example: bible's ten commandments are so terrific good literature, that everybody likes it and hangs them in nice letters to their walls.



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instructions - in this sense I am against "art" (besides, I am against most of christian thoughts, too)----- I call art what people makes think (or act), and this can be done only by things, which may look sadistic sometimes, : which for the people : - you can't improve a very old, wrong and useless building (European culture is a such) by changing it, you have to destroy it (and to build a new one) - some people think, only the former should be done and the latter people should do by themselves - I don't agree with this but think we should all help to build the new one -- I don't agree with your quotation of Debs: the shell is too bad to use it again, I think! I would rather quote Hippokrates : quae medicamenta non sanant, ferrum sanat, quae ferrum non sanat, ignis sanat. for: I think you agreed that sanare, to help the people is the thing that should be done, but: medicamenta don't help !!!

4

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① With H.T. simply: End gültig: general  
excuse,  
first aspect: I am against all "art" which is ~~dead~~

so has a so great long distance to  
reality, that ~~the more "artistic" it becomes,~~  
the more and the more people like this kind of  
"art" the more they hate reality.

~~(we should make people like all day life)~~  
~~I think (therefore, b), is~~

And regard ~~call~~ ART  
as an more or less ~~unavoidable~~  
evil. — I call ART what people  
makes like all-day-life and  
regard "art" as a ~~un~~ — will =  
=

② ~~we have to~~ change  
rec + p's  
thinking  
about r.)  
one way is to declare  
things as "art" which obviously aren't  
(what first DADA did) — or to avoid

as much as possible that ~~determined~~ on the ~~form~~ ~~doesn't~~  
by the "art" himself (that many people do)



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**All 4**

**8**

**main ways**

**ways, BUT:**

**ridiculous**

**hell**

**work**

**work**

**but not**

**only**

I tried to tell many people did and do  
and there is a report to "them, subjects"  
the duty to go to the "hell"  
in the hell (large ways) the great bad thing  
I agree with the hell, **ways, BUT:**  
the **main ways** taken by the people  
are: (I speak of Europe, they be different in USA!)  
**ridiculous** is all people think to be gayed, what  
I think should be **hell** strongly avoided, or people  
regards it as very "avant-gardiste", somebody  
prints it, many people buy the book (not because  
they like it, but because they like to have  
the most "av." **work** and **work** inserted  
into the at-home - much - **work** should  
be strongly avoided as well. **but not**  
I know NPL 6 - the **only** **work** which avoids all  
things (that people ignore it, don't understand it, that)

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④ if — you have to destroy it (and to build a new one) (some people think, only the <sup>former</sup> should be done and don't <sup>do the</sup> latter — people should do that (building a new one) by themselves) — I don't agree with that too much, but things we should help building the new ~~one~~ <sup>after having...</sup> — that's so I don't agree with your quotation of — The shell is too bad to use it again! (always: in Europe) — rather I would quote the 11th (which some people call a fact) for he wasn't against war. — That's a very bad misunderstanding (that story about the 'war' sentences), mainly by translation or the impossibility to ~~translate~~ translate his language. he said too.

Quod medicamentum in sancto...



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(3) a number example: Bible's ten  
 commandments are no terrible good  
 literature, that everybody takes it and  
 brings it to their necks in nice letters,  
 but nobody <sup>regards</sup> ~~sees~~ them simply  
 as instructions. — in this sense I am  
 against "art" — <sup>most</sup> ~~my~~ things are not <sup>in this way, at all</sup> ~~in this way, at all~~ <sup>but then I noticed</sup> ~~but then I noticed~~  
 that there is a ~~good~~ <sup>reaction</sup> to them — so  
 I think we should <sup>force</sup> ~~to resign~~ <sup>(what should be with the</sup> ~~the rational)~~ <sup>if we don't want</sup>  
 long as there is no other way to <sup>make people</sup> ~~to think on & act by themselves~~ <sup>(but</sup>  
 things which do that are what I call art)  
 (I hope you don't misinterpret me  
 to agree with sadistics, if but ~~it~~ a  
 very old, wrong and useless building you can't  
 improve ~~by~~ (European culture is a such) by changes

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② different in (US) - of course, as soon as there  
 are other ways to ~~make~~ <sup>make</sup> people think (which is,  
 I think, the only way to improve the situation  
 of all societies), we have to stop ~~the~~ <sup>them</sup> ~~being~~  
 forcing, we have to stop forcing them. Another  
 example: a performance of your letter for women  
 (in Europe): the two only ways of reactions  
 in ~~society~~ (European) audience are: 1) people  
 laugh about it, think it is a not-to-good <sup>joke</sup> ~~subject~~,  
 and - forget about it -- 2) then notice, it ~~is~~  
 be "wanted", so they will some people will  
 print it, you get a lot of money, every-  
 body buys the book ~~and now its mainly~~  
 invested (not for people like NYC, but  
 for people like to have the most <sup>actual</sup> ~~modern~~  
 books - nobody needs it) - and then it's  
 mainly invested into the ~~it~~ <sup>the</sup> economy - rush.  
 there are (in Europe) the only possible  
 ways, which ~~should~~ <sup>should</sup> be strongly avoided,  
 I think.





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B (11)

this may look sadistic, but the purpose  
is really a HELPFUL one, for  
it shows something about (good) about  
(against) Sadism! - in this sense  
I agree with all things ~~is what~~  
(which may be originally "bad"), in  
which people have to free themselves or  
in any other way to them or to act,  
(for people must "learn" to this by themselves <sup>free</sup> ~~freedom~~)  
I don't agree with ... DEBS:

111

the the cinema-banquet should surely not be  
done (without sense it's a very good thing)  
other, like pornography show, P. Watts  
Subway event, I don't know -



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1, or 2, or 3, or 4, or 5, or 6, or 7, or 8, or 9, or 10, or 11, or 12,  
or 13, or 14, or 15, or 16, or 17, or 18, or

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A10

Of course real Sadism and bad hunting  
of the people must be avoided - a way must be  
found to hunt the "institutions" instead of  
the people themselves - it's a pity, that  
today (in Europe) the only way to  
make people think (or act) is to force  
them to think (or to act) - of course,  
as soon as there will be other ways  
to, forcing must be stopped; but  
momentaneously ~~is he even a~~ HELPFUL  
even doing "wrong", "bad" things ~~way~~ <sup>way</sup> ~~even~~  
good, distasteful, HELPFUL Purpose: if you  
say 2 times 2 makes 4 & nobody notices that -  
but if you say 2 times 2 makes 3, soon people will  
start thinking, know that 3 is wrong and 4  
is right - in the same sense my Santos  
no. 79: ~~fixer~~ "d bus ... " is a simply  
way to force people to think, even to act  
(simply to get home again by themselves -  
and: perhaps people will start to know, that they  
should start think and acting in other (pol.,  
soc. etc.) areas, too



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1, or 2, or 3, or 4, or 5, or 6, or 7, or 8, or 9, or 10, or 11, or 12,  
or 13, or 14, or 15, or 16, or 17, or, 18, or

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8 (x) (for "didactic" purpose, ~~see~~  
~~'bad' character in social domain~~)

14 It's OK to disrupt courts,  
 galleries entrances etc.

It's terrific good, to drag &  
 slowing in through town  
 a PAIK's thing, quoted

it's good to make any court  
 in streets etc.

Other are some art to good none  
 really is so-called \* not at all <sup>surely the</sup>  
~~agree to do only with~~ the <sup>done both</sup>  
 (see ~~any~~)

~~was phone example to~~  
~~this is all saying "Art~~  
~~is defense, "accuse"?~~

\* But I am against any kind  
 of (artistic) protection, for then  
 what we want to say will be ignored  
 (see better the eye  
 come etc.)



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see, "interior" of (x) (y)  
(remains in the same 'box')

15: no use to attract  
working people, they are OK,  
don't need art/culture -  
design for middle class media,  
these address, change, improve  
Sadomasochism How to avoid:

that's not what I want

purpose hate with good  
effects,

it's  
not  
(same as)

\* not like usual, like

Art - no effect

qua se defendere?

~~not different~~  
~~deducting~~  
~~well~~

with this (the) (situation) to  
will not, interesting  
business of this most famous to have  
not that we  
(the) (the)



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⑦ the people <sup>13</sup> AND THIS .  
SHOULD BE DONE FIRST

within Marx ~~it'll~~ see the FLU  
NE POLES : its a good  
thing to make public demonstrations  
and picketings <sup>+</sup> its is good to  
show in public, that there are some  
people which don't agree with the  
"usual" traffic <sup>and with it</sup> system and show  
that this can <sup>be</sup> done different  
: this is not ~~impossible~~ to do by  
great break-downs, and yes, it  
is originally a bad thing to  
clog up subway cars, but we  
can't "empty" them <sup>(optional)</sup>, and so its  
still better to change the situation  
in any way <sup>(\*)</sup> than to agree with it



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⑥ ~~to the~~ 12  
 I don't agree with your  
 quotation of DEBS: the shell  
 is too bad and too wrong to use  
 it any more, we have to  
 destroy it (and to build a new  
 one) !! ~~with would quote H.:~~

~~I~~ <sup>totally</sup> agree with you saying that  
~~never~~ to help the people is the  
 thing to do - BUT "medicaments" don't help  
 AND: ~~the today's humans:~~ it is too  
 late, to 'give' something to today's  
 humans, for they can't receive it in the  
 right way, <sup>but</sup> ~~with~~ <sup>with</sup> ~~think~~ <sup>think</sup> ~~to be~~ <sup>to be</sup> ~~good~~ <sup>good</sup> ~~and~~ <sup>and</sup> ~~etc.~~ <sup>etc.</sup>  
 The today people of today  
 are so immensely loaded burdened  
 and blockaded by an immense lot  
 of absolutely wrong cultural, social<sup>pol.</sup> etc.  
 ballast, that as soon as we  
 DESTROY some of this ballast, we FREE

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⑤ thing. in this sense I  
 agree with all things, which  
 people have to free themselves,  
 to act, think ~~or act~~ <sup>in my own way</sup>  
~~themselves~~; things like this may  
 look sadistic, but they are  
 not; for their purpose is a  
 very HELPFUL one, and they show  
 something to people — in the same  
 sense, <sup>as</sup> if in some ~~artistic~~ <sup>social drama</sup>  
~~drama~~ is ~~not~~ a very 'bad', sadistic,  
 "bad" person's character, that is  
 not sadistic, but shows something  
 (HELPFUL) about (against) Sadism.



The Museum of Modern Art Archives, NY	Collection:	Series.Folder:
	Fluxus	1. 1103

GEORGE BRECHT, JOSEPH BYRD, JERRY  
 BLOEDOW, PHILIP CORNER, WALTER DE  
 MARIA, LARRY EIGNER, HENRY A. FLYNT  
 JR., BRION GYSIN, ANN HALPRIN, DICK  
 HIGGINS, SPENCER HOLST, TERRY  
 JENNINGS, DENNIS JOHNSON, RAY JOHN-  
 SON, ALLAN KAPROW, ALISON KNOWLES  
 GYORGY LIGETI, GEORGE MACIUNAS  
 RICHARD MAXFIELD, ANGUS MAC LISE  
 JACKSON MAC LOW, JONAS MEKAS  
 ROBERT MORRIS, ROCHELLE OWENS  
 BENJAMIN PATTERSON, LARRY POONS  
 MARGARET RANDALL, RON RICE, MARY  
 C. RICHARDS, TERRY RILEY, GRIFFITH  
 ROSE, EDSANDERS, STAN VANDERBEEK  
 DIANE WAKOSKI, JAMES WARING  
 ROBERT WATTS, EMMETT WILLIAMS  
 LA MONTE YOUNG, MARIAN ZAZEELA

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	Fluxus	1. 11 03

② New **③** almost nobody  
style, but not many people regard the  
as simply as introductions (which they are) <sup>the</sup>  
(~~but~~ by the way, I don't agree with most  
of the christian thinking) —

⑤ there are some different ways to make people  
think by art: first, to say something in  
more or less artistic form — ~~and~~ let the  
people understand it ~~and~~ think about it. —  
right - or - wrong But ~~in~~ (see examples above)  
second, to express something by ~~an~~ artistic  
form itself. For instance: tonal system is  
a feudal system, "half-tone-system" is a  
**socialistic** system etc. but not many people

understand the, to ~~avoid a~~ **avoid a** ~~dis~~ **dis** ~~for~~ **for** ~~Shob~~ **Shob**  
~~problem of P. 6~~ <sup>1st</sup> to provide people. there <sup>expert</sup>  
are some different way. ~~of course~~ I don't  
agree with really sadistic ones, of course I don't, as



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~~(14)~~ <sup>another way is</sup> to eliminate, from it, what  
 generally makes art art: the deter-  
 mination of the formal elements by  
 the author (many people did not do  
 so, I tried it ~~in~~ in "Enc.T."  
 I respect to them, "indirect", and in  
 "Buff (1961)" in respect to "time"  
 both in an ending to you see)

→ ④ you think that is artistic  
 ? - Well, the purpose of that piece  
 is, <sup>in a very simple way</sup> to make the people think, even  
 out together (simply to get love  
 again) by themselves. And, I  
 think, that's a very HELPFUL





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1. 11 03

Hippocrates: Quae medic

I totally <sup>agree</sup> with you ~~wanting~~ to help the people, but (in any case in Europe) "medicamenta" do <sup>not</sup> help, <sup>that's</sup> so ~~there is the~~ necessity to do things, which may look sadistic and antisocial (but aren't ~~so~~ but are

how to / say some more ~~specific~~ about  
 FL NE PO LE 6  
 I like: I A, I B 6) 3%, all I C. (especially 1.)  
 I D. II 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8 (but without  
 with / unprepared, ~~really~~ good food)

And you ~~are~~ <sup>mean</sup> ~~the~~ <sup>of my</sup> ~~note~~ <sup>note</sup>  
 things you will hear through ~~read~~ <sup>read</sup> F. P. ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup>

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	Fluxus	1. 1103

## The Gilbert and Lila Silverman Fluxus Collection

## Inventory

Artist Jackson Mac Low; Tomas Shmit  
 Title a) carbon of letter to G.M.  
b) letter to Tomas Shmit  
 Date c) draft of letter to Jackson Mac Low  
25 April, 1963

Inventory No. 01701 a, b, c.

Silverman No. \_\_\_\_\_

Appraised Value \$ 450.00By Jean-Noël HerlinDate June 16, 1989

## Type of Work

- ☐ Audiotape  
☐ Master  
☐ Copy  
☐ Book  
     Edition \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Artist's  
☐ Reference  
☐ Broadside  
☐ Collage  
     for Fluxus label  
☐ Other  
☐ Drawing  
     Instruction  
☐ Architectural  
☐ Other  
☐ Equipment  
☐ Film  
☐ Fluxus Edition  
☐ Assembled by G.M.  
☐ Assembled by other  
☐ Made by Artist  
☐ Prototype  
☐ Flyer  
☐ Furniture  
☐ Flyer  
☒ Letter  
☐ Postcard  
☒ Holograph  
☒ Typed/Signed  
     No. of pages 2/14  
☐ Magazine  
     Vol. \_\_\_\_\_  
     No. \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Artist  
☐ Reference  
☐ Manuscript  
☐ Holographed  
☐ Typed  
☐ Mixed Media  
☐ Newsletter, Fluxus  
     No. \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Notes  
☐ Holographed  
☐ Typed

- ☐ Newspaper  
☐ Painting  
☐ Mixed Media  
☐ Oil  
☐ Other  
☐ Pamphlet  
☐ Performance Relic  
☐ Photograph  
     Photographer \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Vintage  
☐ Performance  
☐ Portrait  
☐ Negative  
☐ Contact Sheet  
     No. of images \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Velox  
☐ Copy photo  
☐ Poster  
☐ Exhibition  
☐ Performance  
☐ Other  
☐ Recto Verso  
☐ Print  
☐ Program  
☐ Press clipping

- ☐ Real Estate Papers, Fluxus  
☐ Record  
☐ Score  
☐ Original  
☐ Printed  
☐ Scrap Book  
☐ Sculpture  
☐ Mixed Media  
☐ Videotape  
☐ Xerox, vintage  
☐ Other

## Physical Identity

- ☐ Signed  
     Location signature  
☐ Bottom ☐ Top  
☐ Left ☐ Right  
☐ Back  
☒ Dated  
☐ Numbered  
     No. \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Stamped  
 Dimensions 18.1 x 25.5  
 No. of pages 18.5 x 14

## Condition

- ☐ Good tears and creases in  
☐ Fair edges, a few stains, but  
☒ Poor not affecting the text.  
 Remarks \_\_\_\_\_

- ☐ Framed  
☐ Matted  
☐ Boxed  
☒ Protective Sleeve  
☐ Other

## Provenance

Date Purchased \_\_\_\_\_  
 Purchased from \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ George Maciunas Estate  
☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Purchase Price \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Latest Insurance Value \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ for this work  
☐ for similar work  
 Date of Valuation \_\_\_\_\_

## Former Owners

- ☐ George Maciunas  
☒ Other Jackson Mac Low  
Tomas Shmit

- \* a) carbon of letter from Jackson Mac Low to George Maciunas  
 b) typed at bottom; letter to Tomas Shmit from Jackson Mac Low  
 c) Tomas Shmit draft of response to Mac Low's letter

a. 2-leaf carbon copy Jackson Mac Low letter to Shmit with 16 lines  
 typed at the bottom of the second leaf  
 and typewritten

b. 12-leaf pen + pencil holograph reply from Tomas Shmit to @  
 leaves, holography and typed parts of Tomas Shmit

appraised  
 as a  
 ramp



The Museum of Modern Art Archives, NY	Collection: Fluxus	Series/Folder: I. 11 03
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**Bibliography**

- ☐ Fluxus Codex  
Page No. \_\_\_\_\_ ill. ☐ This ☐ Similar ☐
- ☐ Fluxus Etc.  
Page No. \_\_\_\_\_ ill. ☐ This ☐ Similar ☐
- ☐ Fluxus Etc./Addenda I  
Page No. \_\_\_\_\_ ill. ☐ This ☐ Similar ☐
- ☐ Fluxus Etc./Addenda II  
Page No. \_\_\_\_\_ ill. ☐ This ☐ Similar ☐
- ☐ Frohliche Wissenschaft. Das Archiv Sohm.  
Page No. \_\_\_\_\_ ill. ☐ This ☐ Similar ☐
- ☐ Happening & Fluxus  
Page No. \_\_\_\_\_ ill. ☐ This ☐ Similar ☐
- ☐ Fluxus. The Most... (Ruhé)  
Page No. \_\_\_\_\_ ill. ☐ This ☐ Similar ☐
- ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_  
Page No. \_\_\_\_\_ ill. ☐ This ☐ Similar ☐
- ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_  
Page No. \_\_\_\_\_ ill. ☐ This ☐ Similar ☐

**Exhibitions**

- ☐ The Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY  
Nov. 14, 1988–March 10, 1989
- ☐ Berlinische Galerie Im Gropiusbau, West Berlin  
Sept. 24, 1988–January 8, 1989
- ☐ Williams College Museum of Art,  
Williamstown, MA  
Nov. 7, 1987–January 3, 1988
- ☐ Walter Phillips Gallery, Banff Center, Banff,  
Alberta, Canada  
October 5–27, 1985
- ☐ Contemporary Arts Museum, Houston, TX  
July 7–Sept. 16, 1984
- ☐ Baxter Art Gallery, Cal. Tech., Pasadena, CA  
Sept. 28–Oct. 30, 1983
- ☐ Neuberger Museum, State Univ. of NY,  
Purchase, NY  
January 30–March 27, 1983
- ☐ Cranbrook Academy of Art Museum,  
Bloomfield Hills, MI  
Sept. 20–Nov. 1, 1981
- ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**Comments:**

- ☐ Similar to Silverman No. \_\_\_\_\_

- ☐ Photo Attached

Dear JACKSON MAC LOW -

thanks for your letter - i would like to translate things of you  
n - better you send them to me, for caspari is terrific busy (1

to George Maciunas  
6241 Ehlhalten  
Gräfliche Strasse 17  
West Germany

from Jackson  
965 No  
Bronx  
USA

Dear George

CONTAINED IN FLUXUS NEWS-POLICY LETTER NO. 6 APRIL 6, 1963. I  
POSED TO SERIOUS CULTURE -- QUITE THE CONTRARY. I'M ALL FOR IT  
CONSIDER THAT MY OWN WORK IS A GENUINE CONTRIBUTION TO IT. I  
OPPOSED TO CERTAIN ASPECTS OF WHAT IS CALLED SERIOUS CULTURE &  
THE WRONG KINDS OF PRESTIGE ATTACHED TO SOME REAL & SOME BOGUS  
PEOPLE WHO ARE AT HEART MUCH MORE OPPOSED TO IT THAN ARE YOU OF  
VARIOUS ANTI-SOCIAL & EVEN ANTI-CULTURAL PURPOSES. THIS IS A  
PLICATED PROBLEM & NO BLUNDERBOSS ATTACK AGAINST CULTURE (SERIO  
WISE) AS A WHOLE (SUCH AS HENRY'S 'DESTROY ART' CAMPAIGN OR MOS

**Location of work:**

- ☐ 10 West Adams Street Detroit
- ☐ 488 Greenwich Street New York
- ☐ Museum of Modern Art New York
- ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Date entered: 4/15/89

By

- ☐ Jon Hendricks
- ☒ Other: MA DAVIS