

April 20, 1972

Mercer Hansberry

Woody & Steina Vasulka c/o The Kitchen

Mercer Shaw Arena Dear Woody & Steina:

Oscar Wilde Room

Mercer O Casev

Mercer Brecht

The Kitchen

Gene Frankel's "Work Shop"

Viveca Lindfors' "An Actor Works"

Directors:

Allan Albert

Roger Englander

Gene Frankel

S. C. Kaback

Viveca Lindfors

Rip Torn

Steina Vasulka

Woody Vasulka

I just noticed your ad for "Stardrive" in this weeks Village Voice and was shocked and dismayed by your continued personal preoccupation. As directors of Mercer Arts Center, it would seem to me that you would be in the forefront of the people publicizing the Center and its spirit and aims. Instead, you choose to push your own personal "little" endeavor.

I have been aware in a subliminal fashion that it has always been the Kitchen first and the Center second, when it was convenient for you.

Even all the other transient tenants have seen fit and are proud to advertise the Mercer Arts Center as their home in ads, flyers, brochures and in fact, all forms of advertising. It is particularly ironic in the case of the Kitchen, where I have granted all sorts of special dispensations; lease changes; and spent large sums of the Center's money on construction work in the Kitchen. You will recall that the basis of your first six months rent free payment was predicated on an investment of \$12,000.00 in building improvements by you. The \$12,000.00 has probably been spent in the Kitchen, but Mercer Arts Center must have contributed \$10,000.00 of the \$12,000.00.

In conclusion, I have only one question to pose -----

"Do you really want to be in the Mercer Arts Center after July?"

Kaback Seymour C

SCK:dr

(212) 673-3937