

The University of Toledo Department of Theatre
and the Toledo Media Project present

MINDSCREEN

A Series of Films and Visiting Film/Videomakers
Supported by the Ohio Arts Council

Thursday, October 23, 1980 8:00 P.M. Scott Park Student Center Auditorium

STEINA VASULKA

Steina (born in Iceland 1940) attended the music conservatory in Prague from 1959-1963, and joined the Icelandic Symphony Orchestra in 1964. She came to the United States the following year and has been a seminal force in the development of the electronic arts since 1970, both as co-founder of the Kitchen, a major exhibition center in New York City, and as a continuing explorer of the possibilities for the generation and manipulation of the electronic image through a broad range of technological tools and aesthetic concerns. Her tapes have been exhibited and broadcast extensively in the states and europe, and in 1978 she had an exhibit "Machine Vision" at the Albright-Knox Art Gallery in Buffalo, New York. She was a Guggenheim Fellow in 1976 and has with her husband received grants from the New York State Council on the Arts, the National Endowment for the Arts and the Corporation for Public Broadcasting.

CANTALOUP (1980)

This tape is about the struggle to define the basis for computer control of a digital image device, for a descriptive language and necessary programming languages.

The device was designed to be low resolution/high speed field by field operating tool. Its microprocessor based architecture is a concept which can achieve transformations between two images at video field rate, pixel by pixel (pixel = picture element).

The tape contains sequences ranging from the first artifacts of the machine to more program demanding image transformations. For example, working with digitizing and storing the image in memory, gives the option of manipulating image in variable time. Another sequence (the zoom), shows the microprocessor at work as it must re-calculate the position of horizontal and vertical addresses for each point within the video field, in order to achieve multiplication of images on the screen.

CANTALOUP was made possible with public funds from New York State Council on the Arts, and is a production of the Television Laboratory at WNET/Thirteen.

URBAN EPISODES (1980)

In the spring of 1975 I started to work on a series of installations and tapes, all involving mechanized modes of camera control. The effort resulted in a collection of works which I call "Machine Vision."

Ordinarily the camera view is associated with human view point, paying attention to the human condition around. In this series the camera conforms to a mechanized decision making of instruments, with the movements and attention directed towards their own machine viewpoints.

Urban episodes, shot in downtown Minneapolis, is the latest in this series. It was produced for KTCA, St. Paul, Minnesota, with funds from NEA.

Steina Vasulka

The University of Toledo



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September 9, 1980

Steina Vasulka
1600 Old Pecos Trail
Santa Fe, NM 87501

Dear Steina,

This is to confirm our arrangement for your visit to Toledo on Thursday, October 23, for a screening of your past and current tapes. The screening presentation is scheduled for 8 PM; we'll take you out to dinner before then, and would like to schedule a reception for you at 7 PM, with your permission.

If there is time, we would like to schedule possible interviews before dinner to help publicize the screening series. My video class meets the same day at 11-1, and it would be delightful if you could join us, but at present I'm assuming you will arrive after class is over.

We can pay an honorarium of \$350, which will have to include any travel expenses. However, we can pay food and lodging while you are here. You are welcome to stay with us in our apartment, or in a motel, wherever you would be most comfortable.

Chris and I are delighted you're coming, and we'll be in touch with you again to work out details before your arrival.

Please say hello to Bob Gaylor for us if you see him.

Best to Woody,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Scott".

Scott Nygren
Co-Director, Toledo Media
Project