

THE VASULKAS

Harn Museum Auditorium
Thursday, January 14, 1993
7:30 p.m.
Free and open to the public

STEINA VASULKA

Steina, born in Iceland in 1940, attended the Music Conservatory in Prague from 1959 to 1963, and joined the Icelandic Symphony Orchestra in 1964. She came to the United States the following year and has participated 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 United States and Europe. In 1978 her exhibition, *Machine Vision*, opened at the Albright-Knox Gallery in Buffalo, New York. She was a Guggenheim Fellow in 1976, and has received numerous other distinctions, including recently the Maya Deren Award from the American Film Institute.

Since moving to Santa Fe, New Mexico, in 1980, Steina has produced tapes relating to the land, and several multiple-channel synchronous video matrix installations displayed on 4 to 48 monitors titled *The West*, *Geomania*, *Vocalizations*, *Ptolemy*. The newest, *Tokyo Four*, is based on images she collected during her six-month stay in Japan in 1988.

As a violinist, Steina was one of the first to interface video with musical performance, and she continues to develop this tradition through live interactive performing. In a cycle titled *Violin Power*, premiered at the Santa Fe Center for Contemporary Arts in October, 1991, she controls the presentation of video images by playing here MIDI-interfaced violin.

cover

photo still from *Art of Memory*
Woody Vasulka, 1987

WOODY VASULKA

Woody Vasulka was born in Brno, Czechoslovakia, where he studied metal technologies and hydraulic mechanics at the School of Industrial Engineering. Later, at the Academy of Performing Arts (Faculty of Film and Television) in Prague, he began to direct and produce short films. He emigrated to the United States in 1965, living in New York City, where he worked as a freelance film editor and experimented with electronic sounds and stroboscopic lights. In 1974, he became a faculty member of the Center for Media Study at State University of New York, Buffalo, and he began investigations into computer, constructing "The Image Articulator," a real-time digital video tool.

With his wife Steina, he founded The Kitchen in New York City. Woody has participated in major video shows worldwide, given lectures, published articles, composed music and made numerous videotapes. He is a Guggenheim Fellow, and the recipient of other grants and awards including the American Film Institute's Maya Deren Award in 1992.

Since his move to Santa Fe, New Mexico, in 1980, he has produced three videotapes: *Artifacts*; *The Commission* (an operatic work based on the legend of Paganini and Hector Berlioz); and *Art of Memory* (a series of "songs" thematically related to early 20th century political events). He is now working on a new, largely computer-assisted work, entitled *Brotherhood*, and continuing his investigations into "digital space" through *The Theater of Hybrid Automata*.

Both artists are Master Artists-in-Residence at the Atlantic Center for the Arts, New Smyrna Beach, Florida.