Experimental filmmakers to show tapes at library

Two more visiting artists will be in El Paso to present their recent video tapes for the Southwestern Alternate Media Project (SWAMP) at 2:30 p.m. tomorrow in the El Paso Public Library downtown.

Woody and Steina Vasulka will screen and discuss their original films with the audience. Among their works to be shown are “Cantaloupe,” “C-Trent,” “Urban Episodes” and “Vocabulary.” Admission to the screening is $1.50.

The Vasulkas have been seminal forces in the development of the electronic arts since 1970. They were co-founders of The Kitchen, a major exhibition center in New York City, and explorers of the possibilities of generation and manipulation of the electronic image through technological tools and aesthetic concerns.

Steina, a Guggenheim Fellow in Video in 1976, has received grants from the New York State Council on the Arts and the National Endowment for the Arts. Her tapes have been shown in Europe and in the United States. Together with Woody, she created six programs for WNED, Channel 17, in Buffalo, N.Y., and had an exhibit, called “Machine Vision,” at the Albright-Knox Art Gallery.

Woody began experimenting with electronic sound and stroboscopic lights with filmmaker Alphons Schilling in 1967. He was tech advisor to the Alternate Media Center in New York and was associated with Electronic Arts Intermix.

In 1974 he became a faculty member of the Center for Media Study at the State University of New York in Buffalo and began investigating computer controlled video image research. He built the Vasulka Imaging System, a digital computer controlled personal facility.