Hello Woody,

How are you doing, since we met at Las Vegas?

As I told you, there would be a deep interest in presenting your "interactive-installation-in-progress", at the next fall 92 show - Artifices - in Saint Denis.

The space is not that big and it should be able to work for one month. It may be touring in Eastern Europe (your country, Bulgaria and Poland). Of course it should not be too expensive!

Do you still pick up some mushrooms in the woods? The collect as never been so good in France.

Hope to hear you soon.

Sincerely yours,

Martine BOUR
Dear Martine,

I am writing to you on behalf of Woody. He is very sorry about the delay in responding to you. If we understand correctly, you are looking for an interactive video installation that would stand alone and be activated automatically. You also mention the potential of travelling this installation and that means it must be able to be assembled and reassembled in different sites. You have indicated that Woody's installation will be on exhibition in Saint Denis as a part of "Artifices" for the month of October 1992.

The fee of $20,000 (including transportation) that you suggest is agreeable to Woody for the one month installation. Woody has a good idea of what he wants to make for you but we have a few questions.

What is the date of the opening?
What size is the space? Can you send a floor plan?
Part of the installation will use some conventional equipment, for example - video monitors, audio speakers, video projector. Will you be able to provide equipment locally, and if there is a rental charge would this come from Woody's fee?
How will rental equipment be handled if the exhibition travels?
For what length of time may the exhibition travel?
If the exhibition travels and woody is needed for the installation, what additional fees will he receive?

For this kind of installation Woody must receive one third of the budget at least 60 days in advance of the opening date so that he can develop and produce original sores, software, and update the hardware. We have had difficulties in the past with receiving funds from France, and would appreciate your assistance in this matter. Do we need to fill out any special forms so that we do not have to pay exorbitant taxes? The Vasulka, Inc. is a tax exempt organization under the section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Service code (the United States tax administration).

We will hope to hear from you as soon as you have reviewed our letter.

MaLin Wilson
Special Projects Coordinator
Hello Woody,

I am glad to hear that the mushroom collect has been great!

To come back to Artifices 92 that will take place in October 92, I have to give you details about the financial possibilities.

Can you show an edition (a special one) of your piece for 20 000 $? This should include transportation and fees.

As usual we have a very limited budget.

The other artists would be:

- Bill Fontana
- Piotr Kowalski
- Pietro Gilardi
- Thierry Kuntzel
- Matt Mullican (No woman!)

Hope to hear from you soon.

Martine BOUR
**Artifices**

*N°2 : PAYSAGES*

SAINT-DENIS, OCTOBRE-NOVEMBRE 1992

*Artifices* a lieu à l’initiative de la Ville de Saint-Denis, dans le contexte des recherches menées à l’Université Paris 8 (Saint-Denis), et dans la perspective de l’établissement d’un pôle d’innovation et de réflexion dans le domaine des arts plastiques. La manifestation est organisée en coproduction avec le Ministère de la Culture, le Conseil Général de Seine Saint-Denis, et avec le concours de l’association Ars technica (Cité des Sciences de La Villette).

L’exposition décline la notion classique d’artifice à partir des implications des technologies informatiques dans les arts plastiques et de l’image. Elle envisage la création dans ses résonances avec la recherche scientifique et technologique.

Une première édition, en octobre 1990, portait sur les relations entre mutation technologique et la tradition artistique : 16 pièces d’artistes et chercheurs internationaux, installations interactives et vidéos d’images de synthèse, étaient présentées.

La deuxième édition d’*Artifices* à l’automne 1992, devrait prolonger cette compréhension des spécificités artistiques des nouvelles technologies numériques, sur le thème de l’espace, de l’environnement, du *paysage*.

Avec l’expansion de l’informatique, c’est tout un ensemble de techniques et de procédures qui s’offrent à l’exploration artistique : maîtrise des événements, des situations, des interactions gestuelles, optiques ou acoustiques, hybridation du réel et du virtuel, des espaces naturels et artificiels, des objets et des images. La simulation, la modélisation, l’interactivité, le « temps réel », les interfaces, la robotique, permettent à la fois une production imaginaire et une appréhension logique et sensible du réel que certains artistes adoptent aujourd’hui dans un sens poétique et critique.

Les travaux seront sélectionnés de façon à présenter une certaine variété de registres esthétiques et technologiques : installations environnementales lumineuses, acoustiques ; objets et événements programmés ; images de synthèse, y compris les environnements virtuels générés par ordinateur.

Outre cette section dédiée aux créations, deux sections de recherche et de documents de références présenteront des images de synthèse et des dispositifs multimédias interactifs appliqués à l’architecture, au paysagisme, et plus généralement à l’appréhension de l’espace.
artifices

N°2 : PAYSAGES
SAINT-DENIS, OCTOBRE-NOVEMBRE 1992

Saint-Denis, Salle de la Légion d'Honneur
6, place de la Légion d'Honneur, 93200 Saint-Denis, France
Octobre-novembre 1992

Maître d'œuvre :
Mairie de Saint-Denis

Coproducteurs :
Conseil Général de Seine Saint-Denis
Ministère de la culture — Délégation aux Arts Plastiques

Conseil :
Association Ars Technica

Direction :
Anne Perrot,
directrice des affaires culturelles de la Ville de Saint-Denis

Commissaire :
Jean-Louis Boissier,
maître de conférences en arts plastiques à l'Université Paris 8

Coordination :
Marjorie Micucci
Gestion :
Valérie Bouet
Assistant de réalisation :
Vincent Faure
Architecte :
Philippe Délis
Graphiste :
Intégral Concept, Ruedi Baur
Communication presse :
Yvette Sautour
Rédaction du catalogue :
Liliane Terrier

Tél. : 33 (1) 43 79 12 32
Fax : 33 (1) 43 71 28 94
DATE : 21 août 1952

EXPEDITEUR : Mairie de St Denis . Direction des Affaires Culturales

DESTINATAIRE : Monsieur Woody Vasulka

Attribution
Information
Avis
Autres

Suite à donner :

Objet : Artifices

N° TELECOPIEUR DESTINATAIRE : 19. 1. 505 473

NOMBRE DE PAGES (y compris celle-ci) : 2

Sur tout problème de réception, veuillez contacter le numéro suivant :

49.33.66.66 POSTE 6208
ou
49.33.62.08

Observations :
Dear Ms. Micucci,

I am very glad to see that my request for the first installment confirmed and on the way. In order to speed up the money transfer, please use the full code of my bank account: The Vasulkas, INC. :107002383: 56643, The Bank of Santa Fe, P.O.Box 2027, Santa Fe, NM 87504-2027

I am involved in the design and construction of the installation full time now and the money has become an urgent component of the projects' success, so any possible expedition on your side would be greatly appreciated.

With thanks,

Woody Vasulka
Dear Vincent,

Here is more detailed communique:

As far as technology, I want to bring the fully and easy to re-assemble package which contains the inner cube with the all performing hardware (to fit neatly into your "shell"). There are two areas though, which I will need certain level of help. First is the power. All my equipment runs on 110-115VAC. I presume, Paris runs 220VAC and I shall need a good power converting plant, something close to 1000 Watts in total. I hope you could prepare this to a plug-in condition. (I will bring the American AC strips to re-distribute the power)

Second problem concerns a good quality projector. I am eyeing a Sharp three gun (see the spec sheet), but this is beyond my means to purchase, so the rental would be the option. Is there such a possibility? How much would it cost?

This brings me to an overall need to know, how the budget is set up, what part of rentals, shipping, installation work, supplies, travel, ECT could be shared if any.

The design of the space looks very fine, I wish the top were taller of at least 3/4 of a meter, to enclose fully the installation (see drawings). I am also thinking seriously of being able to separate most of the computer and power amplification gear in a somewhat sound isolated area to get rid of the fan noise.

I am hard at work on the project, enjoying most of it and looking forward to the show.

Best regards,
[Signature]
To: Vincent Faure / Ars Technica

Dear Vincent,

As of today I have not received any additional finances necessary to conclude the Artifices project. This is beginning to present great difficulty in getting to Paris all the parts of the installation on time and in finishing of all necessary details. I am facing my shipping deadline on Monday and I must be sure to have some money by then. I hate to fail on such a trivia as lack of money since so much has already been invested. Please forward this letter to proper authorities, since the project could be in jeopardy.

Thanks for your attention during the preparation of the show and lets be sure we can continue to the very end successfully.

Sincerely, Woody

Oct. 21
To: Vincent Faure / Ars Technica

Dear Vincent,

Unfortunately, the height of four meters is necessary and cannot be otherwise. I do not need more. As far as the "shell" I am not planning to place anything on it. I can see the problem in the support of the projector and now I am trying very hard to incorporate the projector platform into my structure. As of today the shell is not engaged in my construction.

Meanwhile, here is a suggestion for inclosure of the instrumentation rack, ideally it should have some fans for cooling, if that’s difficult, we should keep the back and the top open. It would be very nice if people could see what’s inside through the front. As far as the placement of the inclosure in the church I have no preference in particular, except it should be adjacent.

I may want to ship something ahead of time, so send me your shipping address. As I told you on the phone, I am planning to arrive on the 29th.

By the way, what’s the interior of the shell like? Does it have color? What’s the surface and texture?

Woody

Oct.9
September 14, 1992

Jean-Louis Boissier  
COMMISSARIAT D' ARTIFICES  
93BIS Rue de Montréal  
75011 Paris  
FAX # (1) 40 05 79 93

Dear Jean-Louis,

We are sending separately by air mail the complete package of information (i.e. title, description, short text, biographical summary, and answers to interview questions) including photographs. I have a question though: I presume your reference to “characters” might mean words? I send the texts in their natural length, please reiterate your needs and I can compress if necessary. If you need the orginals sooner, let me know right away and I can have it all sent via Federal Express (a $40 charge). I attach to this FAX the written materials (seven pages in all). I am also including an article called “Digital Space” (you may have it already), and some Xeroxes of computer pictures, some published before, most brand new. The pictures are small due to the printing process I use, so I recommend a table of six images to represent a single idea. Also, please let me know how much space I really have in the church. Although the cubical space of my construction is only 10 x 10 x 10 feet, I must have some throw-distance for possible projection.

Thank you very much for sending the payment so promptly. I am looking forward to seeing you and to participating in Artifices 2.

Sincerely,

Woody Vasulka
from: Vincent Faure / Ars technica
Cité des sciences et de l'industrie
75930 Paris cedex 19, France
tél: (33) (1) 40 05 76 95
tax: (33) (1) 40 05 76 93

Paris, 15th of september 1992

Dear Woody,

We hope you received now the money from the city hall of Saint-Denis.
We wanted to tell you few things:
First, here is the plan of the whole exhibition, plus your specific installation. It is a large cube of 7.5 x 7.5 meters and 3.5 meters high. If something is not clear on the plan, let us know and we can answer your questions.
Second, we'd like to have a list of the material you will need in Paris (for example, in Linz, you talked about speakers and monitors).
Then, there is an emergency about the texts of the catalogue. Did you well receive the questions to which we would like you to answer?
Could you send them as soon as possible and also the other document for the catalogue (theoretical texts, your work, photographs, biography)?

Thank you for this.
We would also like to have a description of the piece you will present in Saint-Denis to have an idea and also be able to answer to some technical questions.
Thank you woody and good work,
sincerely,

Jean-Louis Boissier, Vincent Faure / Artifices
To: VINCENT FAURE
ARS TECHNICA

DEAR VINCENT,

I AM WORKING ON THE SELECTION OF THE PHOTOS NOW, DO YOU NEED THEM VERY FAST OR JUST FAST?
I AM LOOKING THROUGH THE TECH AND THE SPACE NOW, SOON MORE INFO BOTH WAYS...

PLEASE ASK J-L ABOUT THE TITLE WE DISCUSSED. I CAN'T FIND THE RECORD. I SHALL PROVIDE THE NEW ONE IF NECESSARY.

Woody
Paris, 15th of september 1992

Dear Woody,

We hope you received now the money from the city hall of Saint-Denis.
We wanted to tell you few things:

First, here is the plan of the whole exhibition, plus your specific installation. It is a large cube of 7.5 x 7.5 meters and 3.5 meters high. If something is not clear on the plan, let us know and we can answer your questions.

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Jean-Louis Boissier, Vincent Faure / Artifices
Hello Woody,

I am glad to hear that the mushroom collect has been great.

To come back to Artifices 92 that will take place in October 92, I have to give you details about the financial possibilities.

Can you show an edition (a special one) of your piece for 20,000 $? This should include transportation and fees.

As usual we have a very limited budget.

The other artists would be:

- Bill Fontana
- Piotr Kowalski
- Pietro Gilardi
- Thierry Kunztra
- Matt Mullican (No woman!)

Hope to hear from you soon.

Martine FOUR
May 7, 1992

Martine Bour
Ministere Culture
Delegation aux Arts Plastrique
27 avenue de l'Opera
75001 Paris, France
Tel: 011 33 (1) 40 15 73 00
Fax: 011 33 (1) 40 15 74 14

Dear Martine,

Because of potential conflicting activities in the Fall, please give us the dates of "Artifices."

Sincerely,

[Signature]
Expéditeur
Nom: Mathieu Beur
Service: DAP/NT
Téléphone: 40 15 74 06
Paris, le: 14.05.92

Destinataire
Organisme: The UNGULAS, INC.
Nom: Woody STEIN
Service: Fax no 19-1-505-473.06.14

Concerne: Hélène Stone & Woody
I have asked Jean Louis Roisier to tell you the dates of Artilies. He is writing to confirm the show, as I am just suggesting it seems to be in November.
I'll meet you in Ljub !

Best regards,
Martin

Vous en souhaitant
bonne réception
December 30, 1991

Martine Bour
Ministere Culture
Delegation aux Arts Plastique
27 avenue de l'Opera
75001 Paris, France
Tel: 011 (1) 40 15 73 00
Fax: 011 (1) 42 60 39 78

Dear Martine,

I am writing to you on behalf of Woody. He is very sorry about the delay in responding to you. If we understand correctly, you are looking for an interactive video installation that would stand alone and be activated automatically. You also mention the potential of travelling this installation and that means it must be able to be assembled and reassembled in different sites. You have indicated that Woody's installation will be on exhibition in Saint Denis as a part of "Artifices" for the month of October 1992.

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Hello Woody,

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The space is not that big and it should be able to work for one month. It maybe touring in Eastern Europe (your country, Bulgaria and Poland). Of course it should not be too expensive!

Do you still pick up some mushrooms in the woods? The collect as never been so good in France.

Hope to hear you soon.

Sincerely yours

Martine BOUR
August 31, 1992

Jean-Louis Boissier
COMMISARIAT D' ARTIFICES
93BIS Rue de Montréal
75011 Paris
FAX # (1) 40 05 79 93

Dear Jean-Louis,

We are sending by mail the complete package of information (i.e. title, description, short text, biographical summary, photographs, and answers to interview questions). I will also send by FAX some of the shorter sections, hopefully today and tomorrow. I can recommend two writers who are qualified to discuss this work: If you would like to engage either, or both, to write a brief critique please let me know. Both live in Santa Fe.

I am sending you a bit more than you asked for in the interview. If you like, you may reproduce parts from it in the catalogue. Answers to your four questions appear first.

I have not yet received the plans in details of the room for my piece, nor the payment which you said would arrive around mid-August (FF 50,000). I would appreciate very much your expediting of the payment as it will help to get the work, titled Theatre of Hybrid Automata, into its final form for installation at Artifices 2.

Thank you.

Warm regards,

Woody Vasulka
Dear Woody,

we well received your fax dated 20th of July. We have already engaged the process with the production of ARTIFICES 2 (The City of Saint-Denis) for paying you the equivalent of FF 50 000 as soon as possible. That could be a little delayed because of the holidays.

In the other hand, I would like you to answer the questions we send to each of the artists for the catalogue.

We will send you the plans in details of the room for your piece around mid August.

Merci beaucoup encore une fois.

/Jean-Louis Boissier

Paris, August 4th, 1992
Hello Woody,

I am glad to hear that the mushroom collect has been great!

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As usual we have a very limited budget.

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- Bill Fontana
- Piotr Kowalski
- Pietro Gilardi
- Thierry Kuntzel
- Matt Mullican (No woman!)

Hope to hear from you soon.

Martine BOUR
Artifices

SAINT-DENIS, 5 NOVEMBRE — 3 DÉCEMBRE 1992

Artifices 2 catalogue

For Artifices 2, 1992, we are preparing a catalogue similar to the one published for Artifices 1 in 1990 (80 pages, format 105x210 mm), but according more space to descriptions of works and to artists' statements.

This is why I would be most grateful if you could send me (by September 1st, 1992) the following information:

1. the title of the work, its technical description (techniques and instruments used for its creation and presentation);
2. a short text (approximately 1000 characters) about the way the work functions and its artistic intentions;
3. a biographical summary;
4. 3 color photographs of the exhibited work, a portrait of yourself;
5. I would be happy if you could answer, regarding your work and the piece presented in Artifices, the four questions below, put to each of the artists. Your text should be about 2 pages long (=2000 characters).

In the prolongation of Artifices 1990 which questioned the innovative implications of electronic and computer technologies in the plastic arts and the arts of image, these questions put to you relate to the general theme of Artifices 1992 which is based on the notions of EXPLORATION and INTERACTION, on the question of the "landscape" and "scenography" of the electronics and computers arts, on the question of the "real apprehended by electronics and computers".

Question 1. What place do you attribute to the new technologies in the conception of the work ?

Question 2. Is it possible to distinguish the specific aesthetic consequences of these new technologies ?

Question 3. In what way are these new technologies possibly necessary to the relationship which your work maintains with the environment reality ?

Question 4. Do the new technologies offer new modalities for the relations of the viewer to the work ?

6. Lastly, I would like to print in the catalogue a text written about your work by a theoretician, critic or aesthetician. Can you suggest an existing text or an author who would be willing to write one for this occasion ?

With my sincere thanks

Jean-Louis Boissier

COMMISSARIAT D'ARTIFICES : JEAN-LOUIS BOISSIER
TÉL. : (1) 43 79 12 22, 93BIS RUE DE MONTREUIL 75011 PARIS, FRANCE
SECRÉTAIRIAT D'ARTIFICES : ARS TECHNICA, VINCENT FAURE
TÉL. : (1) 40 05 78 95 or (1) 43 25 69 26, FAX : (1) 40 05 79 93
St. Denis Score
--------------

Synopses:

This Score contains four Sequences, each composed of full 360 degrees RPT orbit with some exceptions.

In the first sequence, the environment is initialized and prepared for the first Move: The RPT head starts panning, proceeded and trailed by lights ON or/and OFF which illuminate briefly Targets, placed at these five main locations: (Home) North, East, Sky, South, and West. Each location has a speech comment.

The second Sequence has a great similarity to the first one, except here in the brief pauses when camera glimpses at the targets, short scenes of landscapes are intercut from the Disk. Again, the Voice box comments, but this time the comment are assoteric, referring to regions of North America. (Copy the protocol of the Calib(ration) program)

The third Sequence deals with Camera/Sphere Chase: The Four Quadrants of the Sphere are examined in horizontal (pann) and vertical (tilt) movements suggesting the conceptual unity of the installation space. Here the transition between (dimly lit) images of the camera and images from the Disk could be linearly mixed.

Fourth Sequence involves participation of Lightning, the Buchla Musical Instrument where the Instrument Transmitters traverse the space, hitched on the RPT Head. As the Lightning is activated, the Midi evokes the memory locations of verbal count (1 to 23) stored in the Sampler. Additionally, "through" Midi signal calls the associated images from Disk. After this, the installation is ready for a repeated cycle.
ARTIFICIES 2

plan échelle 1/100°

your tubular structure

AC power line
wall ≈ 3 meters high

Kowalski
Mullican
Vasulka
Fontana
Gilardi

schéma général de l' alimentation électrique
gaine de protection alimentation
alimentation sous plancher

bloq autonome
éclairage ambient
ARTIFICIES  
att. Vincent Faure

Dear Vincent,  

Santa Fe, Sep 25, 1992

Here are more details:

As far as technology, I want to bring the fully and easy to re-assemble package which contains the inner cube with the all performing hardware (to fit neatly into your "shell"). There are two areas though, which I will need certain level of help. First is the power. All my equipment runs on 110-115VAC. I presume, Paris runs 220VAC and I shall need a good power converting plant, something close to 1000 Watts in total. I hope you could prepare this to a plug-in condition. (I will bring the American AC strips to re-distribute the power)

Second problem concerns a good quality projector. I am eyeing a Sharp three gun (see the spec sheet), but this is beyond my means to purchase, so the rental would be the option. Is there such a possibility? How much would it cost?

This brings me to an overall need to know, how the budget is set up, how the rentals, shipping, installation work, supplies, travel, stay, ECT are allocated. Are there any shared expenses?

The design of the space looks very fine, I wish the top were taller of at least 3/4 of a meter, to enclose fully the installation (see drawings). I may have to be in a direct communication with Mr. Delis about some details. I am also thinking seriously of being able to separate most of the computer and power amplification gear in a somewhat sound isolated area to get rid of the fan noise.

I am hard at work on the project, enjoying most of it and looking forward to the show.

Questions:

Do I make the travel arrangement? When should I arrive? Do I have a hotel? Do I have a crew to work with? Can I get invitations to mail out? Or send you a mailing list (short)?

More soon,

Woody
December 30, 1991

Martine Bour
Ministere Culture
Delegation aux Arts Plastique
27 avenue de l'Opera
75001 Paris, France
Tel: 011 (1) 40 15 73 00
Fax: 011 (1) 42 60 39 78

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Malin Wilson
Special Projects Coordinator