Television has been attacking us all of our lives, now we can attack it back.

Nam June Paik video artist

Video—as a medium distinct from broadcast television—began with the introduction of the first portable camera/recorder in America in 1967. Since then TV making has become more accessible to people outside the industry, and an alternative media movement has emerged. Independent organisations have produced programmes about people and events neglected by the mass media. Video has proved itself as a relatively low cost direct means of recording social and political issues. At the same time it has attracted many artists, excited by the possibilities of a new medium. Some have been chiefly concerned with the potential of television as an art form in itself.

The Video Show is Europe's most comprehensive survey of independent video. The show includes daily changing programmes of videotapes from Britain and sixteen other countries, and a series of closed circuit installations and performances. You will be able to take part in most of the live events, many of which make use of a giant TV screen. A tape library will enable you to view tapes of your choice and a composite programme of selected short tapes and excerpts will be shown every day. Further information from the Serpentine Gallery, telephone 01-723 6473.

The Video Show
first festival of independent video at the Serpentine Gallery

1-26 May  Weekdays 12-8  Sundays 11-8  Kensington Gardens  London W2  Admission free

Arts Council of Great Britain