Steina, a month shy of departing Buffalo for a year's sojourn in Santa Fe, New Mexico, will initiate the Fall, 1979 Video/Electronic Arts exhibition series showcasing her digital video work of the past year. It has been produced on a system developed by the Vasulkas with digital design by Jeffy Schier. The system, known as both the "Image Articulator" and "Image Emulsifier," utilizes a high-speed digital computer specifically intended for the manipulation and processing of television images. The image is stored in computer memory as a group of numbers, each number representing a picture element or pixel; the artist is therefore able to change the image with precision—via mathematical operations—moving pixels to different locations in the total image, or changing the color, brightness or other aspects of the pixels. Steina will elucidate these processes.

Steina, born in Iceland, attended the Music Conservatory in Prague from 1959-62, 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 video 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 shown in Paris, Tokyo, Berlin, Bucharest, Sao Paulo, Reykjavik, and throughout the United States. She has worked at the National Center for Experiments in Television at KQED in San Francisco and at the Television Laboratory at WNET in New York as an artist-in-residence. She was a Guggenheim Fellow in Video (1976) and has received grants from the New York State Council on the Arts and the National Endowment for the Arts. With Woody Vasulka, she had an exhibit, Machine Vision, at the Albright-Knox Art Gallery in October, 1978. Steina is Adjunct Professor at the Center for Media Study, State University of New York at Buffalo.