The Vasulkas: Pioneers In Image Processing

UCVideo will be sponsoring a series of events in July with pioneering video artists Steina and Woody Vasulka. Scheduled in part as a prelude to the 1984 SIGGRAPH (Special Interest Group on Computer Graphics) Conference, which will be held in the Twin Cities from July 23-27, the series will consist of two video installations, an evening of Steina and Woody Vasulka exhibiting and discussing their work and an advanced workshop in computer processed video production.

The West is a two-channel multi-monitor installation which will be located in the Pillsbury Atrium on 5th Street and 2nd Avenue in Minneapolis. The West is a video environment which demonstrates how human expression results in marking the earth with dwellings, ceremonial structures, and scientific instruments of landscape proportions which create works of art in themselves. The work features beautiful images shot by Steina in the austere Southwestern environment that are well complemented by a quiet electronically processed soundtrack by Woody.

A second installation, a variation of Vasulka’s AllVision series, will be at the Science Museum of Minnesota. For this piece two cameras are mounted on the ends of a slowly revolving axis with a perfectly spherical mirror at the center of the axis. On the accompanying monitors, viewers see an artificially created 360-degree image. While the viewers are part of the “real space”, they can at the same time see themselves in the “imaginary” dimension created on the screens. Such an interactive approach is well suited for the Science Museum context.

Steina and Woody Vasulka will also present a selection from their vast output of video works. An overview of their productions, which spanned a fifteen year period and have been closely intertwined with new developments in image-making technology, will provide a telling commentary on the history of image-processed video production.

Steina and Woody Vasulka are pioneers in technical innovation, particularly in the realm of computer generated video art. Their concentration on machine vision as distinct from human vision, i.e., the machine itself making “choices” instead of an eye in the camera’s viewfinder, has generated criticism of their work as being too cold and technological. Such criticism ignores the creative, human energy at the core of the majority of the Vasulka’s artistic work and also avoids dealing with the changing conceptual frameworks posed by new developments in image-making technology.

The final portion of the series of events will be a master workshop on image-processing to be conducted by the Vasulkas. Registration will be limited. For more information, call 376-3333.

The Vasulka residency is sponsored in part through a grant from the Metropolitan Regional Arts Council.

Video Primer
Skip Davis
Saturdays
12-6 p.m.

A 3-day course, offered on consecutive weekends, designed to give a participant basic operational skills in video production. The use and operation of black and white and color cameras, Betamax and 1/4” recorders, editing systems, audio and lighting equipment and accessories will be learned through lecture, demonstration and an abundance of hands-on experience. Class members receive a copy of the Portable Video Handbook published by UCVideo and certification allowing them access to field production and editing systems.

June 16, 23, 30
July 14, 21, 28
August 4, 11, 18

If you are interested in taking a UCVideo workshop, call, write or stop by. Workshops are available on a first come, first served basis. To reserve a place in a workshop, payment in full at time of registration is necessary. We suggest you contact us well in advance.

No refunds will be given unless we have been notified at least two working days prior to the workshop you cannot attend.

If our fees present a considerable hardship, we may be able to reduce fees in exchange for volunteer work. Please inquire.

All workshops begin promptly. Latecomers may be refused entry. UCVideo reserves the right to cancel any workshop due to inadequate number of registrants.

UCVideo workshops and exhibitions are supported in part by the Minnesota Student Association, the National Endowment for the Arts, the Minnesota State Arts Board, the Dayton-Hudson Foundation, the Northwest Area Foundation, and the Metropolitan Regional Council with special assistance from the McKnight Foundation, and General Mills.

Registration

Class Workshop ___________________________ Tuition ___________________________
Class Date and Time ___________________________
Name ___________________________
Address ___________________________

Phone Number (day) ___________________________ (evening) ___________________________
UCVideo Member? □ No □ Yes Institution Sponsored? □ No □ Yes
UCVideo Volunteer □ No □ Yes Have you taken a class at UCVideo before? □ Yes □ No
Charge to: VISA □ MasterCard □
Make checks payable to: UCvideo
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