press release
THE KITCHEN
video • music • dance • performance

STEINA & WOODY VASULKA

-GALLERY OPENING: THE WEST

November 12 - 30, 1983
Opening: 3:00 - 7:00 p.m.
Gallery Hours: 1-6 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday
Video by Steina Audio by Woody

"Any action of man on land stays recorded for long in the South-West. In no other region of the country does the presence of the sun play such significant role in the ecology of land, arid and eroded, with an exceptional clarity of the night skies, forming notions of extra terrestrial importance in the minds of its inhabitants. The landscape, by its dimension and by its geometric and textural variety, inspires man to create harmonious structures, dwellings, and other earth works. The Very Large Array (VLA) radio telescope system utilizes these conditions and has also inspired creations of profoundly meditative pieces of land art based upon geo-observations and other events related to the position of stars.

'THE WEST' is a video environment, involving situations where human expression results in the marking of earth by building dwellings and ceremonial structures, creating works of art and developing scientific instruments of landscape proportions."

The Vasulkas

VIDEO VIEWING ROOM: THE COMMISSION BY WOODY VASULKA

November 1 - 30, 1983
Screenings: 3:00 - 4:00 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday
Camera by Steina Vasulka
Text and character of Paganini by Ernest Gusella
Text and character of Berlioz by Robert Ashley
Video tape editing by Peter Kirby

A video opera in which two nineteenth century composers, Berlioz and Paganini, meet in a video and audio synthesized environment. Completed version.

STEINA and WOODY VASULKA are pioneers in the development of electronic

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arts. Steina was born in Iceland and was a member of the Iceland Symphony Orchestra. Woody was born in Czechoslovakia where he studied at the School of Industrial Engineering. They came to the U.S. in 1964 and founded The Kitchen in 1971. In 1974 Woody joined the faculty of the Center for Media Study at SUNY, Buffalo, and there developed "The Vasulka Imaging System," a personal imaging computer facility. Steina became a Guggenheim Fellow in 1976, and Woody became a Guggenheim Fellow in 1979. In 1980 they moved to Santa Fe, New Mexico where both THE WEST and THE COMMISSION were produced.