

A m e r i c a

M u s e u m

o f t h e

M o v i n g

I m a g e

34-12 36th Street
Astoria, New York 11106
718 784-4520

February 19, 1987

Woody and Steina Vasulka
Rte. 6 Box 100
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

Dear Woody and Steina:

Here are the latest developments concerning the retrospective. As I told you over the phone, Marita Sturken will be the curator - she's very excited about doing this and I think she will do an excellent job. Cindy Furlong will be working with us as much as her time permits and will write something for the catalogue. It looks pretty certain that we will be able to have the large space on the third floor for the exhibit which means we'll probably have more space than we need. We're still talking about having everything in place for October of 1988.

The next thing, I think, is for Marita and me to make a trip to Santa Fe to see what you have and to begin to talk about exactly what will be included. Marita would like to get as much work done as possible before you go off to Japan. By this fall we should also have decided who will be writing for the catalogue and what will be in it and all of that can be worked on while you are away. Then when you come back we can get together to see where we are, what changes need to be made and if there's any new work you want to add.

So I guess what I need to know from you fairly soon is when we can come to see you. Everyone says to make the trip when the desert is in bloom - is that soon? Either Marita or I will be in touch with you in the next couple of weeks to make plans.

Best regards,



JoAnn Hanley
Director of Programs

July 15, 1988

Dear Woody and Steina:

The enclosed letter went out today along with descriptions of the exhibition including equipment requirements on an installation by installation basis and also our "red" press packet.

If you can do some follow-up calls in a week or so it will probably help alot. We'll reimburse for the calls. If you can think of anyone else we can contact, let me know. If you have a name at JVC we'll send to them too - if you don't, I'll probably send to their corporate funding division.

Hope all is well.

Best,



July 15, 1988

Mr. Allen Neil
 President
 MPCS
 514 West 57th Street
 New York, NY 10019

Same letter to
 Hitachi: Kenji Nakamura
 Hirofumi Mori
 Technisphere: Jack Goldman
 Devlin Prod: Sandra Devlin



Dear Mr. Neil:

In January, 1989, the American Museum of the Moving Image will present a four-month exhibition devoted to the work of video artists Woody and Steina Vasulka. The retrospective will consist of five installations, a photographic display of Woody Vasulka's electronically generated images and a single channel tape retrospective. A more detailed description of the exhibition is attached.

In the event you are unfamiliar with the American Museum of the Moving Image, it is the first museum in the United States devoted to the art, history and technology of motion pictures and television. The Museum will open to the public in its newly renovated permanent facility on September 10. I have enclosed some materials about the Museum with this letter.

The Vasulka retrospective will inaugurate the Museum's third floor gallery. As you can imagine, an exhibition of this nature requires a great deal of equipment and is extremely expensive to mount. It is, therefore, critical that we secure foundation and corporate underwriting through either the loan of equipment or a contribution. Such support would be prominently acknowledged within the exhibition itself and in all publicity and public relations materials.

I believe you are familiar with the Vasulkas and their enormous contributions to the field and to the video community. This will be their first major exhibition in New York City and I sincerely hope that you will join us to make it the finest ever, exactly the kind of event which the Vasulkas so clearly deserve.

Should you require any further information please don't hesitate to contact me. I look forward to hearing from you at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

JoAnn Hanley

JoAnn Hanley
 Curator, Video and Performance Art

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ROCHELLE SLOVIN
DIRECTOR

AMERICAN MUSEUM
OF THE
MOVING IMAGE
35 AVENUE AT 36 STREET
ASTORIA, NY 11106
(718) 784-4520

March 15, 1989

Steina and Woody Vasulka
Route 6, Box 100
Santa Fe, NM 87501

Dear Steina and Woody,

This is to acknowledge your decision to cancel Technology, A Poetic Source at the American Museum of the Moving Image.

As you know, severe budget constraints made it impossible to mount the exhibition we all wished to present.

I had hoped that you would agree that an in-depth retrospective of your tapes, a critical monograph, an extensive display of photographs, and two historically important installation works constituted a significant, although modest, exhibition.

I especially regret that thousands of museum visitors, unfamiliar with video art, will not have the opportunity to become acquainted with your work.

Sincerely,



Rochelle Slovin

RS/lb