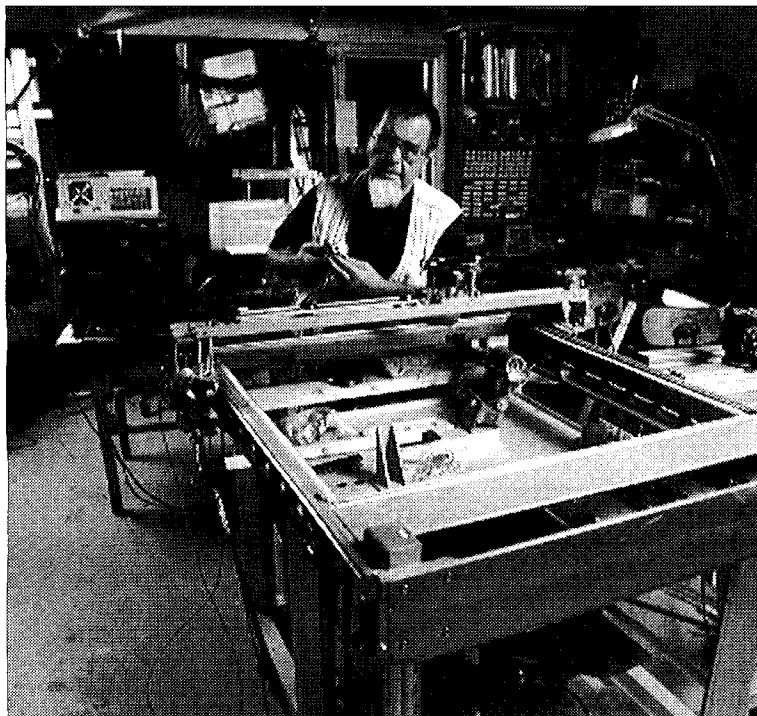




Steina Vasulka, above, & Woody Vasulka, right Images from 'Machine Media,' electronic media and art themes exhibition at the Museum of Fine Arts



And to broach the existence of non-human forms of intelligence.

"What is intelligence?," he said. "Is it outside our concern. And does it exist outside our concern, like the intelligence in nature?"

He has no preconceived notions of what conclusions his investigations will reach. Much like in his current examinations of virtual space as "an unwritten page," exemplified in this show in *The Brotherhood*, *Table One* and *Table Three*.

"I have no evidence of this new language (of virtual space)" he said. "But I dream about it; I can only be semi-conceptual about it."

Woody spoke quickly, his strong Czechoslovakian accent crisply taking humorous pokes at the earnestness of the scientific world.

"You hear the term 'emergent properties' of a system. Scientists are very sober," he said. How technology has invaded the world, on the other hand, with a new, undefined "demonology" is, according to

Woody, what interests his cynical view of the world.

"Military machines contain sinister intelligence," he said. "What is the point of impact? Should I explode now? There is a point to this question-and-answer mechanism that is almost intelligence."

While Woody explores the materiality of technology, Steina comes to her work from the musician's vantage point, pushing boundaries between the interactions of visual and audio imagery.

Yet, for both, the aesthetics of their investigations are as much about unveiling new possibilities of technology as they are creating independent works.

"All the pieces are abstract," Woody said. "But one hopes the viewer can relate to them and absorb them in a traditional aesthetic. The work should suspend the didactic. If it doesn't speak to the viewer, he or she should condemn it."

"It has to have its own quality, its own expression without any explanation." Much like the intelligence of a machine.

DETAILS

WHAT:
Woody & Steina Vasulka/
'Machine Media'

WHEN:
Opening reception
5:30-7:30 p.m. today, Oct. 18

WHERE:
The Museum of Fine Arts

INFO:
Through Feb. 3

