

The Media Center

at

Visual Studies Workshop

November/December 1990



information withheld

Juan Downey 1983

Events / Screenings / Exhibitions
Workshops & Classes
Media Access
Calls for Work / Grants

Time Based Review

PROGRAM #1 November 16-23 &
December 10-15

SAVE THE 60's 1976 4:30min.
DIANE SPODAREK

I interviewed myself in my laundry room about my fears of society forgetting the important contributions made by the 60's decade and its' impact on the American culture as it moves into the 70's.

WALK/RUN 1981 6:00min.
RALPH HOCKING

David Jones edited an interface to accept a voltage control input. Sherry and I recorded a tape of her exercising. A copy of the original was made and insert edits were performed using rhythmic time offsets via voltage controls. The quick juxtaposition of the edits create a molding of imagery that is always discreet frames.

SUMMER SALT 1982 18:00min.
STEINA VASULKA

Summer Salt is a physical exploration into the phenomenology of the electronic image. Here, Steina uses Machine Vision to view the landscape from angles unavailable to the human eye: in *SKY HIGH*, she holds the camera with a mirrored lens attachment on the roof of her car; in *LOW RIDE*, she straps it to the front bumper to give a tactile, low angle view in which the desert floor invades the television screen; in *SOMERSAULT*, she performs gymnastics with the camera (with a mirrored lens attachment that gives it a fish-eye lens effect) in a humorous, almost slapstick exercise on the mobility of the video camera.--Marita Sturken

MY FATHER SOLD STUDEBAKERS
1983 27:40min.
SKIP SWEENEY

My Father Sold Studebakers is an

experimental docu-narrative which follows the video makers attempt to change his feelings for his dead father. Interviews with family and friends are woven into classic home movies and photos to create a humorous yet poignant portrait of a parent-child relationship.

INFORMATION WITHHELD 1983
28:00min.
JUAN DOWNEY

This videotape deals with signs in the Fine Arts and in everyday life. While paintings convey information ambiguously and slowly, signs in the real world display information clearly and quickly. Therefore Art withholds information, in a multilayered fashion.

PROGRAM #2 November 26-December 1
& December 17-22

FINE MECHANICS 1983 4:00min.
IRIT BATSRY

A short reflection on time.

STATE OF BEING 1982 10:00min.
ALEXANDER HAHN

Man's existence is equally threatened in *State of Being*, through the effects of psychic drugs on the human mind. The tape deals with the spread of "Sanidin", a drug which promises to give those who take it "measurable peace of mind". But its long-term side-effects are uncontrollable aggression, outbreaks of violent behavior and finally a deathwish akin to that which supposedly drives lemmings over a cliff.

MOTHER CONDOMINIUM 1975
14:00min.
STEVEN KOPLAN

A small document; ostensibly a tour of mother's condominium in Florida, which

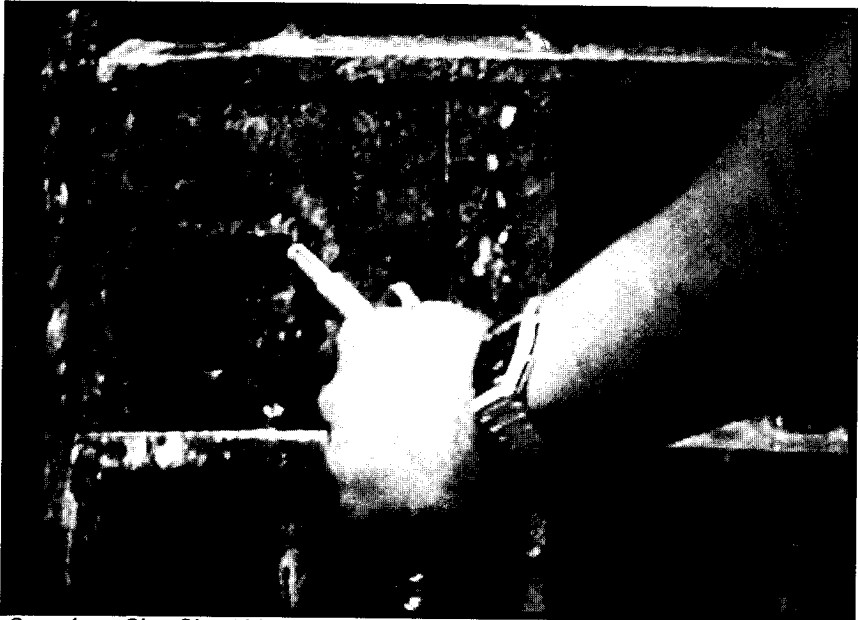
THE MEDIA CENTER

at

VISUAL STUDIES WORKSHOP

NEWSLETTER

PG 10/11



Song from Sing Sing 1990

Angelo Jannuzzi

- NEW WEEKEND WORKSHOPS IN ANIMATION•
- SCREENINGS BY JULIE ZANDO•
- NEW WORKS ON CABLE & RADIO•

MARCH / APRIL 1991



In The Land Of The Elevator Girls 1989 Steina & Woody Vasulka

PROGRAM NOTES

This is the tenth of *NO-TV & Movies* to air on Greater Rochester Cablevision. The series can be seen on Channel 12 of GRC, on Fridays at 7:30 p.m. and Sundays at 9:00 p.m. The series runs from January 6th - March 30th, 1991.

NO-TV & Movies, a project of the Media Center at Visual Studies Workshop, is a series of videotapes and films by artists and independent producers from around the country. The work is gathered once a year and is reviewed and selected for the series by staff. The artists and producers are paid fees with funds provided by the New York State Council on the Arts and the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation. The individual works are available from the artists/producers listed in these programs notes. The series is available from Visual Studies Workshop, 31 Prince Street, Rochester, New York 14607 (716) 442-8676.

Week #9: March 3 at 9:00 p.m. & March 8 at 7:00 p.m

A LETTER TO MY BROTHER IN THE PROMISED LAND 1990 7:00 min.
SHALOM GOREWITZ 310 W. 85th Street, New York, NY 10024

This video is a fictional narrative in the form of a letter from someone with a Caribbean accent who lives in a large city to his brother who appears to have remained at his birthplace, which could be an island in the West Indies or somewhere in Africa. The man expresses longing for return while observing inner city environments. His religious nature is revealed through the reading of Psalm 55. Living in the midst of illness and environmental deterioration, he remembers growing up, of an innocence which cries through him until he is renewed.

IN THE LAND OF THE ELEVATOR GIRLS 1989 4:30 min.
WOODY & STEINA VASULKA Rt. 6 Box 100, Santa Fe, NM 87501

In *Elevator Girl* the Vasulkas impute wild possibilities to a mechanical job. As elevator doors open and close, open and close, open and close, elevator girls gesture in a dance of empty formal display. But suddenly, the elevator doors open onto landscapes; space leaps back into infinite depths. The elevator girls become priestesses, the doors themselves computer-generated graphics, opening onto a vast emptiness.

UR PLACE 1982 12:31 min.
JUD YALKUT Midcity Box 651, Dayton, OH 45402

UR PLACE is an audio-interactive computer digitized video postcard of a sort. Shot with a stationary camera on the main street of Owego, Front Street, it includes a momentary self-portrait of the artist and the visual interest of gratuitous events during the course of a section of a Saturday afternoon in the town of Owego. The live videotape was transferred to the video synthesis and computer studios of the Experimental Television Center where a patch, as per an electronic musical synthesizer, permitted the audio control of variations in the imagery's colorization and digital sequencing to the sound track of the Dada sound-poem, *UR SONATA* by Kurt Schwitters. The title *UR PLACE* derives from an amalgam of the sound-poem title and a local Owego bar-restaurant, now no longer extant, called *UR PLACE* which was located directly across the street from the site of the original videotaping.