

Stony Brook

Office of the Director

March 22, 1976

Ms. Steina Vasulka
257 Franklin Street
Buffalo, New York 14202

Dear Steina:

It was good to get your nice note. Since I spend many long hours at the keyer I fully understand how difficult it is to be a good correspondent. The tape "Solipsisms" is still a kind of trade mark for me. It has not turned stale for anyone, I judge. "Meditations" is a lot more formal, rigid, and it is hard to look at it more than once. I realize now that our scientists at Stony Brook almost forced me into making it on a kind of "subliminal level." Perhaps its great advantage is that no one, to my knowledge, has tackled oscilloscope art so thoroughly. Strangely, it seems to challenge students to imitate it much more than any other kind of video work.

I would love to receive a tape from you. Naturally, I am immensely curious about your work with students, but it would please me very much if the tape could be your own work. Kuro Maku and Tonawanda come to mind.

Being a member of the University establishment has some advantages. I am toying with the idea of having a conference here at Stony Brook in late 76 or early 77. The participants would be all of the "Electronic Art Centers" and "Video workshops" in New York State. I'm thinking of the Buffalo group, Binghamton, Woodstock, Electronic Arts Intermix, Ithaca, The Kitchen, IMA here on Long Island and so on. We could spend a profitable period of time together forming an association, working out cooperative ventures and exchanges, and determining what our roles should be vis-a-vis the colleges and universities; high schools in the State; common approaches to community arts programs, etc. We would need a person at the helm of the conference who is both authoritative and well known. Howard Wise might be a good choice. Steina Vasulka is an equally good suggestion. I believe that I have some money in my budget next year (i.e. from April 1st, 1976) to pay honoraria for people attending. If we generate discussions and decisions

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that should be promulgated, I can even arrange for funding the costs of publication.

Naturally, the event would be strengthened by some video exhibits.

Have we all reached a stage in video work where such a conference and discussion is both possible and desirable? I will appreciate your thoughts about this.

With all best regards,

Sincerely,



Lewis Lusardi

LL:lao