



signal & noise

festival of contemporary media
april 25-29 2001 Video In Studios

This is signal & noise. I wanted the festival to present the reward of communication as well as the necessary and fabulous chaos of experimentation and critique. As such, the festival includes a broad spectrum of styles and directions ranging from the stridently political to the poetically subversive. There is no particular theme, the strength is in the mix. The programs address issues of history, performance, experimentation, location, and dislocation. We revisit local and national media work, **Remaking the Revolution** presents active discussion and response to historical work while **Vancouver Lateral** examines a trajectory of a particular type of practice. **Here/ There** capitalizes on the otherwise dubious development of TV screens in vehicles to address aspects of Vancouver's political and psychic past and present. The impulse to turn the video camera upon oneself is addressed in **Portrait/Self-Portrait**. **The Seeming and the Meaning i & ii** are this year's incarnation of **Video Rampage**. They include recent local and national work. The centre will be brimming with installations, both audio and video and the festival closes with an audio presentation which includes a piece with a unique approach to the contemporary fascination with live audio and moving images.

Many thanks to those who contributed as programmers and curators, volunteers, sponsors, and to the Video In collective but above all to the artists whose interests and engagement made this possible.

Jen Weih

exhibitions and programming coordinator

special thanks

Randy Lee Cutler, Kirsten Forkert, J'Anna Aitchison at Pacific Coach Lines, Joel Taylor, Michelle Irving, Wade Thomas, Shawn Chapelle, Julianna Barabas Surinder Kahlon at Clove, Raphael Tsuchida, Amy Kazymierchuk, Marriane Lavernege, Bett Taylor, Kathy Ann March, Andrew Power

program

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audiotopic

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Julie Andreyev, Jean Routhier

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wednesday april 25 9-11pm

audiotopic signal & noise/soundscape

special program on CFRO 102.7 fm Vancouver Co-op Radio
programmed by Wade Thomas

Featuring:

**Judy Bowyer Dan Denker Alberto Guedea Michelle Irving Eileen Kage Jung-Eun Kwon
Zoe McDougal Jean Routhier Lawrence Sim Battery Operated**

11-6 thursday - saturday 12-5 sunday

audiotopic/media installations

Please/Sorry Judy Bowyer

Hope and despair. Signal and noise. Hearing without listening. Forgive and forget. Worry and reassurance.

Fuku Alberto Guedea

Since 1994 he has been working on Installations and Exhibitions of sound & visuals.

Feedback: an inquiry into acoustic space Zoe McDougal

Feedback-an inquiry into acoustic space is a multi-track sound sculpture that was scored using the phenomenology of the pragmatist Charles S. Peirce and is mapped onto a mobius strip. The score has no beginning, middle, or end - it plays continuously.

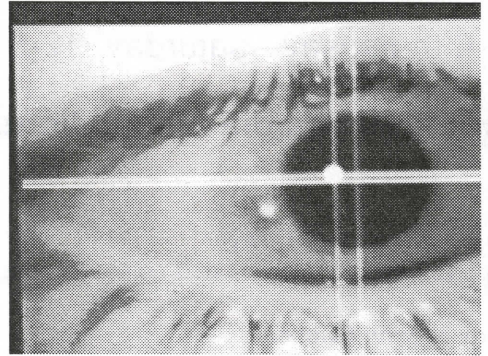
Im.pulse Lawrence Sim

Im.pulse is a collection of excerpts from my feedback experiments. These excerpts are played repeatedly in shuffle mode; creating a new composition after each loop. The random juxtapositions of sounds mimics my process of creating feedback; discovering the element of surprise that lies within the system.

TV Disasters Julie Andreyev

video installation 3:00 loop 2000 Vancouver courtesy of the artist

Television news broadcasts of disasters can be seen to resemble, in some ways, scenes from popular entertainment media such as movies; both are constructed with a regard for aesthetic form and entertainment value. The video loop "TV Disasters" consists of selected footage of historical and contemporary disasters such as early nuclear tests, the Gulf War, and avalanches, forest fires and traffic accidents originally from television news and documentary. The audio component is a digitally manipulated undercurrent of sound with voice-over taken from the collected footage. The voice-over is not intended to operate as a literal description of the event, but instead draws attention to the experience of television viewing.



TV Disasters Julie Andreyev

les temps morts: iona Jean Routhier

audiovisual sculpture 2000 Vancouver courtesy of the artist

Routhier combines pinhole photography techniques and digital recording equipment to capture the acoustic and luminous events during the lengthy exposure time required by the pinhole. The audio is then developed into an abstract sonic narrative correlated to the minimal visual component of the installation.

thursday april 26 8 pm

Vancouver Lateral

curated by Tricia Middleton

Containing work that spans over two decades, this program explores different nuances within work in which the artist's role as performer is key. The individual works have little in common formally or thematically, however what does bind them together is their ability to reflect the concerns of the cultural milieu in which they were created. There is a certain lateral tension created throughout each artist's use of experimental techniques, as none of these works strive to adhere to a rigid schema of arcs and trajectories. Stridently individual and blatantly unconcerned with standardised modes and structures, each work reflects their creator's deep commitment to experimental art practices, expanding well beyond "film and video."

Raised on Junk Linda Andrews / Judy Radul

19:00 16 mm 1985 Moving Images Distribution

In this experimental narrative, a young woman is provoked into questioning her daily consumerism by a character at the periphery of the waking world who says to her amid the din of a heroin den, "I have never been a heroin addict, but I was raised on junk..." This piece reflects the high art aesthetics of it's time, with the sets looking more like paintings and installations than something you'd expect to see in a "regular" film.

Kiss My Swollen Theory Geoffrey Farmer & Jonathan Wells

12:00 video 1995 Video Out Distribution

This performance based video features Wells in a series of hilarious and witty incarnations, asking questions about art, the body, looking, and most aptly, the possibility for sharing attention in the competitive racket of the Art Institution. Made while Wells was still in art school, the piece functions as the perfect foil to that institution; touching upon all it's ridiculous cliches, ironically mocking them, until their weight and power are forever in question.

and finally the street becomes the main character... Geoffrey Farmer

tba video 2001 Courtesy of the Artist

Video work from a project titled: Hunchback Kit (2000). Hunchback Kit is a sprawling work that contains more than one hundred objects that relate either directly or through allusion to Victor Hugo's novel *Notre Dame de Paris*. These objects link variously to the text itself or to presentations of the story in numerous media.

thursday april 26 9:30pm

Remaking the Revolution

presented by Maija Martin

The concept for this program grew out of concerns around the development of a Canadian media art canon: works that were considered irreverent, unprecedented and revolutionary have now become required viewing for students of media art history. Similar to the argument used to defend artists' use of appropriated imagery from the mass media, it can be argued that younger media artists have been inundated by works from the canon, and there can claim some kind of ownership over these images.

Birthday Suit Management Maureen Bradley

10:00 video 2001 Vancouver courtesy the artist

Birthday Suit Management is a re-telling of Lisa Steele's Birthdaysuit: Scars and Defects, made 25 years previous. While in Steele's video there is an emphasis on the body, and surface evidence of the body's past, Bradley focuses on her internal bodily damage, and uses this as a metaphor for our culture's anxiety surrounding health and illness.

60 Unit Bruise Maija Martin and Bernadette House

5:00 video 2000 Vancouver courtesy the artist

In the wake of a thirty year history of body art video, the two performers are faced with the dilemma of how to shock or at least engage the unshockable audience.

Vexation Island Kiley Fithen

10:00 video 2001 Vancouver courtesy the artist

A remake of the classic Rodney Graham installation piece, set in downtown Vancouver. Fithen questions the feature-film model of video installation production by creating a low-budget reproduction of a rarified work of video art.

Colourbar Research Art McP

2:00 video 1990 Vancouver Western Front Video

The colourbar era revisited.

Variations on a Polypropylene Wrapper Tricia Middleton and Joel Taylor

10:00 video 2001 Vancouver courtesy of the artists

A remake of David Rimmer's Variations on a Cellophane Wrapper, Middleton and Taylor take into consideration issues surrounding the use of found footage, and the 70's filmic obsession with optical printing.

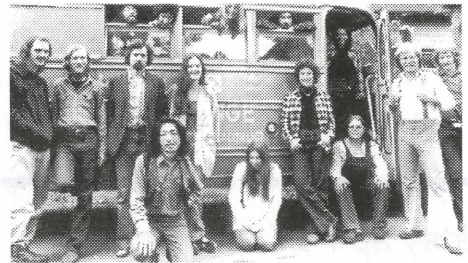
friday april 27 7:30 pm

Here/There

curated by Maureen Bradley
this screening takes place on a bus cruising through East Vancouver
Bus will start and finish at Video In.
courtesy Pacific Coach Lines

In 1975, a bus load of Video In members drove across Canada bringing video art to the people. The bus contained video equipment and tapes from the SVES collection that were presented to small audiences across rural and urban Canada. Here/There pays tribute to this early Video In initiative and inverts it from a 21st C perspective. Today, media saturation is paramount. One cannot escape the endless flow of images, even in rural Canada. As such, we retreat to and subvert the exhibition space of the bus.

Here/There explores various states of irreconcilability. What better place to view these tapes than a social space of in-betweenness, in transit, in flux, in the middle, between arrival and departure. The artists explore a variety of issues from a perspective of unresolvedness whether physical, emotional, cultural or geographical.



the original bus

Ciao/ciao Michelle Irving

6:30 2001 Vancouver Video Out Distribution

A meditation on the irreconcilable positions one finds oneself in while experiencing states of "leaving" or "staying".

Up and Down She Goes Elizabeth MacKenzie

2:40 video 1998 Vancouver Video Out Distribution

A mother's meditation on child-rearing and her feelings of anxiety, loss and joy.

Between Arrival and Departure Jin-me Yoon

10:00 video 1997 Vancouver Courtesy of the artist

Moving images of Chinese migrant workers on the Canadian railway, Japanese internment at the PNE, contemporary Korea and Vancouver are juxtaposed in this meditation on cultural dislocation.

Straavig Errance Nikki Forrest

9:00 video 1999 Quebec Groupe Intervention Video

You go on a journey. You are looking for something. What you find is something else. Between geography and imagination, the place enters through your senses.

Untitled Dana Claxton

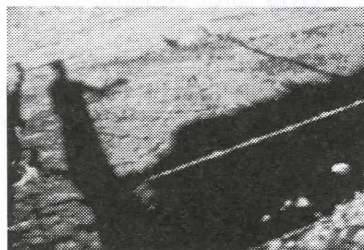
7:00 video 2001 Vancouver Video Out Distribution

An examination of colonialism and the relationship it has with aboriginal cultures in Canada and the United States seen in the specific sites of urban architecture.

Objects are Larger Than They Appear Heather Frise and Shawn Chappelle

7:00 video 2000 Vancouver Video Out Distribution

Why do we leave home in order to find it?



Objects are Larger Than They Appear Frise/Chappelle

friday april 27 9:00 pm

The Seeming and the Meaning i

programmed by Randy Lee Cutler, Kirsten Forkert, Jen Weih

This is the first of two programs that reflect the strongest of the entries from Vancouver and beyond. Also included are some outstanding works from Video In, Vancouver and beyond.



Sleeping Car Moumblow

Sleeping Car Monique Moumblow

5:30 video 2000 Quebec Video Out Distribution

A narrative constructed on a train, resembling an old "foreign film": subtitles, black and white images, a woman speaking Swedish... The story repeats three times. The images are hypnotic. Eventually the voice and the subtitles begin to drift apart from one another.

The Man From Venus James Diamond

3:40 video 1999 Vancouver Video Out Distribution

Smart, funny and generous, this experimental work tells it like it is for at least one man.

Being Fucked Up Emily Vey Duke & Cooper Battersby

11:30 video 2001 Vancouver Video Out Distribution

A ten minute collection of shorts about ego, happiness and holding on. It combines low-tech animation, performance, and poetic monologues to create a piece that is funny, intelligent, and above all incredibly human.

attachments: Everything Hurts Now Tricia Middleton & Joel Taylor

1:40 video Vancouver 2001 Video Out Distribution

attachments is a series of seven short, seemingly unrelated videos. Four parts are dispersed within the screening. Attachments is a moody work that often represents moments of isolation and decay in a manner that is beautiful and poetic, reflecting the complicated predicaments we all find ourselves in from time to time.

Everything Hurts Now presents a achingly anti-sentimentalist perspective on childhood and memory.

Homeless in Two Parts Anthea Whittaker

4:00 video 2000 Vancouver Video Out Distribution

A meditation on wedding dresses, fabulousness, absurdity and loss.

attachments: Being Middleton/Taylor

:55 video continued

The despondency of another trip on public transit.

attachments: You're the One for Me Asshole Middleton/Taylor

2:20 video continued

This piece explores the complex web of femininity, seduction, exploitation and repulsion.

My Heart Series Nelson Henricks, Nikki Forrest, Annie Martin

11:00 video 2001 Quebec Videographe Distribution

This piece is part of an evolving work in progress focussing on love. Each participant produces short pieces addressing different aspects: desire, gratification, sexuality, dependence etc. My Heart the Gambler: Martin, My Heart the Electrician: Forrest, My Heart the Optometrist: Henricks, My Heart the Rock Star: Forrest, My Heart the Philosopher: Henricks, My Heart the Artist: Martin, My Heart the Bureaucrat: Henricks.

Snowfarm Sheridan Shindruk

4:00 video 2000 Manitoba Video Pool Distribution

Snowfarm looks at spatial-perceptual frameworks in relation to desire. As a place of desire, accumulation, and harvest, the viewer/spectator is the producer of images, the farmer of snow. Snowfarm is a place of intangible harvest.

attachments :Painting Middleton/Taylor

2:30 video continued

This brings new meaning to action painting.

Queer Things I Hate about You

Nickolaos Stagias & Byron Fast

5:00 video 2000 Vancouver Video Out Distribution

Hatred - Queer Style. Dykes and fags are learning to get along. But sometimes you just need to get a few things off your chest.



Queer Things Nickolaos Stagias & Byron Fast

Upgrade Version 1.1 Paul Manly

3:50 video 2000 Vancouver courtesy of the artist

A work that addresses the relationship between our ever increasingly technologized culture and the environment that we treat with dubious care.

Winners and Losers Meesoo Lee

2:00 video 2001 Vancouver Video Out Distribution

In classic deadpan Meesoo style this piece extrapolates from a moment of mid-way recreation.

A Dream Jinhan Ko

2:00 video 1999 Ontario Courtesy of the Artist

"I've never seen pictures of Che Guevera, how will I know if he appeared in my dream as my landlord? I did a lot of looking out the window last time I was in New York City, while thinking a lot about certain 70's structuralist films."

saturday april 28 3:00 pm

Panel Discussion

What are you staring At?

FREE

Mina Shum, Ken Anderlini, Cease Wyss, Maureen Bradley
facilitated by Krista Tupper

What are you staring at will attempt to find ways to connect political activism, experimental video making and issues surrounding social justice. High art and community activism have become cliches that assume a mutual exclusiveness. It has often been said that Community activist work has a lack of aesthetic, and that high art separates itself from community activism by engaging in a experiment only around language and therefore the production of meaning. As artists, and producers, it is vital that these assumptions are challenged, mulled over, yakked about and situated in a post-identity politic climate. Come on out and tell us what you think.

saturday april 28 7:30pm

Portrait/Self Portrait: George Kuchar and Anne McGuire on Anne McGuire
curated by Emily Vey Duke and Cooper Battersby

When I was a Monster Anne McGuire

6:00 video 1996 USA Video Data Bank

Domain of the Pixel Pixies George Kuchar

34:00 video 1998 USA Video Data Bank

This program of works from the US juxtaposes Domain of the Pixel Pixies, Kuchar's portrait of the video-maker Anne McGuire, with McGuire's work When I was a Monster. When I was a Monster is a short video document of a performance about the artist's experience in the aftermath of an accident. Shot in black and white, this piece is moody, evocative and a little bit creepy.

Domain of the Pixel Pixies has McGuire surfacing in the waterlogged landscape of El Nino disasters to dispense charm and chocolate within the confines of her concrete office. The tape also incorporates a flood of images, flowing in and out of the art museums, viewing facilities and eateries frequented by Kuchar. It engages the spirit of hoboism that feeds on Americana.



Pixel Pixies George Kuchar



When I was a Monster Anne McGuire

saturday april 28 9:00 pm

The Seeming and the Meaning ii

programmed by Randy Lee Cutler, Kirsten Forkert, Jen Weih

This is the second of two programs that reflect the stongest of the entries from Vancouver and beyond. Also included are some outstanding work from Video In, Vancouver and beyond.

Saltsatedradiant Randy Lee Cutler audio Carolyn Stockbridge

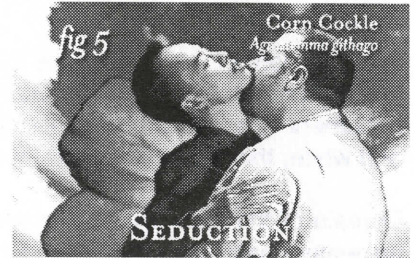
9:00 video 2000 Vancouver courtesy of the artist

A collage of found-footage and home-movies this is a cross-section of the swirl of memory, fantasy, desire facilitated by contemporary media and technology.

Field Guide to Western Wildflowers Wayne Yung

5:30 video 2000 Vancouver Video Out Distribution

The first gay Asian kiss: Fantasizing about it, talking about it, doing it. A lush, romantic and highly promiscuous video, featuring sixty-three men in one long kiss.



Field Guide to Western Wildflowers Wayne Yung

Disaster David Hoffos

3:09 video 2000 Alberta Video Pool Distribution

Disaster was assembled from 16 mm footage for the installation-Catastrophe. This is a boy's own toy destroying "Fisher-Price disaster", poking fun at the excesses of Hollywood's spectaculars. The film crew makes periodic appearances, executing the one-take camera shot.

Helpless Maiden Makes an "I" Statement Thirza Cuthand

6:00 video 1999 Vancouver Video Out Distribution

By using clips of evil queens/witches this video plays off the sadomasochistic lesbo-erotic subtexts commonly found in children's entertainment. This video was inspired by the artist's own childhood "kiddie porn", Disney movies which turned her on to no end and kicked off many a prepubescent masturbation session.

There's A Whole World of Surprises Dumontier/Langlois

12:00 video 2000 Manitoba Video Pool Distribution

"Michael Dumontier and Drue Langlois have assembled a field of video visions using cheap, out-of-camera effects to transform everyday objects into a kind of casual wonder. Through a tunnel-like opening, we see a chocolate bunny melt to reveal a tiny homemade skull. A giant cat's eyes move back and forth before they are revealed as masked actors' heads".-Border Crossings Magazine.

distance... Heather Emery

3:07 video 1999 Vancouver courtesy of the artist

A Visual description of the chasm between reality and existence, between what we think we know that which is undefinable.

True confessions # 1 Jinhan Ko

2:00 video 1999 Ontario courtesy of the artist

"Road movie, narrator confesses to a heinous crime of confusion and bad thinking."

A few UFO's Josette Belanger

18:00 video 1999 Quebec Videographe

Fragmented moods. Splintered thoughts. To have you see. To have you hear. Beauty, perhaps. And certainly, fear.

In Response to the Dumbest Question of the Twentieth Century Marcel Fayant

3:25 video 1999 Manitoba Video Pool Distribution

An answer given to the question is the glass half full or half empty?



In Response Marcel Fayant

sunday april 29 7:30 pm

Reinke & Henricks: new work

Signal and Noise is pleased to present the Vancouver Premieres he most recent works by world-renowned Canadian videomakers Nelson Henricks and Steve Reinke.

Planetarium Nelson Henricks

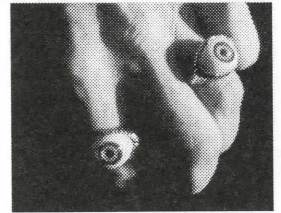
21:00 video 2001 Vtape Distribution

A sci-fi comedy about the cosmos both in outerspace and inside the head. It explores current cultural obsessions with technology, extraterrestrials and ufology. Nelson Henricks is well known for both his video works and his writing and currently teaches at Concordia University in Montreal.

Sad Disco Fantasia Steve Reinke

24:00 video 2001 Vtape Distribution

"Living in Los Angeles is like being on vacation, or in a coma. I don't really like it, but it's so pleasant I don't want to leave. I've only had one idea since I've been here and that was to video a cake in the rain in MacArthur Park. But it's only rained once, briefly in the night, and I was asleep, and dreaming of snow."



Planetarium Nelson Henricks

sunday april 29 9:00 pm

audiotopic:sound event

curated by Wade Thomas

In looking at sound as a 'new media', what becomes apparent is that there is a plethora of new work being created, due in part to the proliferation of digital audio and video technology. Through the instrument of the curated exhibition, 'audiotopic' (or the idea of "soundplace") features artists emerging from this plethora, who are exploring sound from varying points of view: from narratives firmly located in place, to abstractly constructed soundscapes of non-place; from the post-human sounds of virtuality, to elliptical scores for a naturalistic acoustic environment.

Chases Through Non-places Battery Operated

20 min audio/video presentation UK/FR courtesy of the artists

Battery Operated have been developing chase soundtracks for buildings in the urban complex. Their work is informed by the existing architectural soundtracks of amplified muzak and radio stations, the sounds produced by machinery and digital equipment and the sounds produced by those who inhabit the spaces as consumers or in a selling capacity. The notion of using the metaphor of the chase is an attempt to theoretically and sonically/ visually detour the sanctioned codes of behaviour within what have been termed by some as 'new places' within Super-modernist culture.

Inheritance Michelle Irving

20 min audio/video performance Vancouver courtesy of the artist

A live audio video performance which combines the degradation of video duplication (aka generation loss) with the deconstruction of selected audio samples. The breakdown and recombination of imagery reflect the subject's attempt to contextualize her position as a "colonial heir".

drip & pop Eileen Kage

3:30 audio presentation 2001 Vancouver courtesy of the artist

This piece comes from sounds made by water in the bathtub. The natural rhythms and tones of water dripping and splashing is edited into a percussion ensemble piece.

distributors list:

Moving Images	www.movingimages.bc.ca
Video Data Bank	www.vdb.org
Video Out	www.videoinstudios.com
Video Pool	www.videopool.org
Videographe	www.videographe.qc.ca
Vtape	www.vtape.org
Western Front	www.front.bc.ca

upcoming programmes @ Video In

Road to Resistance June 8

Based on the artists participation in demonstrations in Montreal during the Summit of the Americas.

Meditations: Post-Millennial Works by Asian Canadian Videomakers May 19th

These new works by Asian Canadian video artists are visually stunning, layered, lyrical and engaging.

The 2001 DOXA Documentary Film and Video Series August 20th

Compelling and provocative documentaries sponsored by Doxa, The Society for Disability Arts and Culture and Video In. For program details, please visit the Doxa website at www.vcn.bc.ca/doxa/.

Video In Studios is an artist-run access centre operated by and for independant videomakers, experimental video artists, and media/community activists.

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