

# The Museum of Modern Art

For Immediate Release  
February 1993

## **VIDEO ART, 1976 - 1990: THE GERMAN CONTRIBUTION**

February 18 - March 15, 1993

An exhibition surveying the development of German experimental video art over the past fourteen years is on view at The Museum of Modern Art from February 18 to March 15, 1993. **VIDEO ART, 1976 - 1990: THE GERMAN CONTRIBUTION** comprises thirty-seven videotapes by twenty-five artists tracing broad thematic and technical concerns. The exhibition focuses mainly on work from the 1980s, when video fully emerged from the early formative years of the 1960s.

In German video art, the 1970s represents the first generation of video artists directly influenced by television; this group, in turn, informed the generation that began making videotapes in the 1980s. The first generation used the television set as a sculptural device in installations and performance pieces. These artists also appropriated existing images from video recordings or broadcast television to create new images through montage. As the medium became more sophisticated, both groups expanded the possibilities of collage and created associative ideas by juxtaposing multi-layered images, quicker cuts, sound, and experimentation with developing technologies.

Highlights of the exhibition include Klaus vom Bruch's *The Duracell Tape* (1980), which comments on military technology through rapid repetition of a battery ad making it seem like an atomic bomb; Ulay and Marina Abramović's

AAA...AAA (1978), which features the videomakers/performance artists testing their physical and mental endurance by screaming at each other; and Marcel Odenbach's *The Distance Between Me and My Losses* (1983), which takes the 1815 Schubert and Goethe song *Erkönig* to contemplate the process of grieving.

Nam June Paik, one of the most innovative video artists, is represented in the series with *My Cologne Cathedral* (1980), which is a tribute to the city in which he lived for several years. This videotape was originally shown as part of an installation consisting of three monitors placed behind three aquariums in an exhibition in Cologne.

**VIDEO ART, 1976 - 1990: THE GERMAN CONTRIBUTION** was organized by the Goethe Institute, Munich, and coordinated for the Museum by Barbara London, assistant curator, Video, Department of Film.

\* \* \*

No. 12

For further information or film stills, contact Barbara Marshall, film press representative, Department of Public Information, 212/708-9752.

A0

**VIDEO ART, 1976 - 1990: THE GERMAN CONTRIBUTION**  
February 18 - March 15, 1993

Exhibition Schedule

**PROGRAM 1**

Sundays, 12:00 p.m.; Tuesdays, 2:00 p.m.

*TV-Trilogy*. 1987. Volker Anding. 13 min.  
*Longing for Sodom*. 1987. Hanno Baethe. 47 min.

**PROGRAM 2**

Sundays, 2:00 p.m.; Tuesdays, 4:00 p.m.

*Knee Game I,II,III*. 1988. Claus Blume. 9 min.  
*Either/Or in Chinatown*. 1984-85. Gabór Bódy. 37 min.  
*Video Fascist*. 1979. Va Wölfl. 11 min.

**PROGRAM 3**

Sundays, 4:00 p.m.; Thursdays, 12:00 p.m.

*The Duracell Tape*. 1980. Klaus vom Bruch. 10 min.  
*Azimut*. 1985. Klaus vom Bruch. 7 min.  
*Goblin's Songs*. 1986. Klaus vom Bruch. 5 min.  
*The 7th Generation*. 1990. Brigitte Bühler and Dieter Hormel. 4 min.  
*Passe Pas Seule*. 1989. Bettina Gruber. 4 min.  
*The Heartbeat of Anubis*. 1988. Bettina Gruber and Maria Vedder. 5 min.  
*Hi Tao*. 1980. Ingo Günther. 8 min.  
*Five-Fifty in the Dark*. 1985. Ingo Günther. 5 min.  
*National Hymn for German Television*. 1988. Ingo Günther. 6 min.

**PROGRAM 4**

Thursdays, 2:00 p.m.; Saturdays, 12:00 p.m.

*Coup de Vent*. 1990. Jean-François Guiton. 9 min.  
*Field*. 1981. Barbara Hammann. 8 min.  
*Skin Music*. 1981. Barbara Hammann. 3 min.  
*Body Horizons*. 1980. Wolf Kahlen. 25 min.

**PROGRAM 5**

Mondays, 12:00 p.m.; Thursdays, 4:00 p.m.; Saturdays, 2:00 p.m.

*T Round*. 1987. Annebarbe Kau. 6 min.  
*Caina*. 1988. Annebarbe Kau. 7 min.

*Duo*. 1989. Annebarbe Kau. 6 min.  
*Video Nude*. 1978. Mike Krebs. 10 min.  
*News*. 1980. Mike Krebs. 7 min.  
*LaIac*. 1981. Mike Krebs. 13 min.  
*AI.C.* 1984. Norbert Meissner. 5 min.

**PROGRAM 6**

Mondays, 2:00 p.m.; Fridays, 12:00 p.m., Saturdays, 4:00 p.m.

*Bodily Functions*. 1980. Chris Newman. 12 min.  
*Fragment Video*. 1982-83. Notorsche Reflexe. 22 min.  
*The Contradiction of Memories*. 1982. Marcel Odenbach. 13 min.  
*The Distance Between Me and My Losses*. 1983. Marcel Odenbach. 10 min.

**PROGRAM 7**

Mondays, 4:00 p.m.; Fridays, 2:00 p.m.

*Reflections on the Birth of Venus*. 1976-78. Ulrike Rosenbach. 15 min.  
*AAA...AAA*. 1978. Ulay and Marina Abramović. 15 min.  
*City of Angels*. 1983. Ulay and Marina Abramović. 21 min.

**PROGRAM 8**

Tuesdays, 12:00 p.m.; Thursdays, 6:00 p.m.; Fridays, 4:00 p.m.

*My Cologne Cathedral*. 1980. Nam June Paik. 4 min.  
*Johann Van Heemskerck*. 1978. Herbert Wentscher. 5 min.  
*Books*. 1981. Herbert Wentscher. 4 min.  
*The Faustic Dream*. 1985-89. Herbert Wentscher. 39 min.  
*Pal or Never the Same Color*. 1988. Maria Vedder. 5 min.

\* \* \*