

The Museum of Modern Art

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Contact: Graham Leggat
212/708-9752

THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART PRESENTS WORKS FROM ITS VIDEO ART COLLECTION ON THE DIGITAL VIDEO WALL AT 1251 AVENUE OF THE AMERICAS

**Video Art To Be Screened Through 1997
on State-of-the-Art Monitors in Pedestrian Concourse**

Programming Begins Friday, February 21, 1997

The Department of Film and Video, The Museum of Modern Art, is presenting a program of video art from its collection on the Digital Video Wall in the underground atrium and walkway at 1251 Avenue of the Americas. Sponsored by Mitsui Fudosan (New York), Inc. and 1251 Americas Associates, L.P., exhibition of this work will begin February 21, 1997.

From February 21 through April the program will feature works by leading video artists, including Nam June Paik, Bill Viola, Laurie Anderson, Tony Oursler, Chris Marker, Gary Hill, William Wegman, Cecelia Condit, The Residents, and Victor Masayesva, Jr. Iconoclastic and imaginative, these works represent some of the most interesting and accessible video art produced since the medium's inception, which is usually dated from Nam June Paik's groundbreaking performances of 1967-68. After this first series, works from the Museum's collection will be augmented by videos solicited from individual artists.

"This new program allows the Museum to depart from traditional gallery installation and introduce an exciting contemporary art form to a broad audience in a highly visible space," says Barbara London, Associate Curator, Department of Film and Video, who organized the project.

"Through these Museum-programmed video art exhibitions, we hope to contribute something special to the quality of life in New York and provide a new type of public amenity in the heart of the city," says Masatoshi Kakiage, President, Mitsui Fudosan (New York), Inc.

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Each set of videos is designed to run from thirty to forty-five minutes per hour and will be followed by a short interstitial segment of news, financial reports, and weather forecasts taken from cable television and the Internet. Thousands of pedestrians who pass the two six-by-four-foot viewing screens will see a lively mix of video art and current affairs, as well as information on The Museum of Modern Art's ongoing exhibitions.

The Museum has been presenting video exhibitions and collecting video art for almost thirty years, beginning with a presentation by Nam June Paik in 1968. Since then it has mounted numerous exhibitions of video art, the most recent being the 1995 group show *Video Spaces: Eight Installations*. The Department of Film and Video also presents a wide variety of video programs in the Museum's theaters, notably the ongoing annual *Video Viewpoints*, *Video Premieres*, and *New Documentaries* series.

Mitsui Fudosan, an international real estate company headquartered in Japan, has a long tradition of sponsoring community and cultural events in Japan and New York City.

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For more information on the exhibition and The Museum of Modern Art's video programs, please contact Graham Leggat at 212/708-9752.

For more information on Mitsui Fudosan (New York), Inc., please contact Louise Feinsot at 212/477-4904.