

EAI Presents at Monkeytown SEPTEMBER 2005: FORCEFIELD

EAI is pleased to present the first in an ongoing series of monthly screening programs at Monkeytown in Williamsburg. The programs feature works selected from EAI's extensive video collection and profile the artists whose works make up this extraordinary archive.

Thursday, September 8, 15, 22, & 29, 2005 First Seating: 7:30 pm Second Seating: 10:00 pm Program length: 75 minutes

Admission: \$10

Monkeytown: 58 North 3rd Street, Williamsburg, Brooklyn

Reservations are recommended: www.monkeytownhq.com







Forcefield, an artist collective that began in 1996 in Providence, Rhode Island, forged an aesthetic program that encompassed music, performance, installation, textiles, printmaking, and video. All activities were anonymous and group-oriented, and the collective's members operated under aliases. Members P Lobe and Meerk Puffy founded Forcefield as a two-man band, and were later joined by Gorgon Radeo and Le Geef, at which point the four broadened their scope and range of media.

Three of the four Forcefield members were also residents of Fort Thunder, a 9,000 square-foot living space in Providence, which was furnished with layer upon layer of found detritus. Live events hosted at the space included music shows, craft fairs, indoor fireworks displays, cookie bake-offs, radio plays, costumed wrestling matches, garden competitions, bicycle repair, and Halloween mazes. Forcefield's work is situated within this disparate and self-contained cycle of creation and exhibition, and employed a healthy disregard for disciplinary boundaries.

This program presents a selection of Forcefield's video works, produced between 1996 and 2003. The videos operate on several levels simultaneously, with a sensibility that oscillates between utter mysteriousness and goofball humor. The collective's output ranged from pulsing geometric experiments with shape and color to animated organic abstractions to strange narrative pieces featuring sad robots and people in full-body knitted costumes. Using obsolete equipment and defunct electronics, Forcefield constructed a conflicted, decaying symbology that is both strangely anachronistic and completely contemporary at the same time.

Forcefield's art work has been exhibited at the Institute for Contemporary Art, London; the Daniel Reich Gallery, New York; Space 1026, Philadelphia; Art Basel Miami; Museo de Arte Reina Sofia, Madrid; Tate Britain, London; and the 2002 Biennial Exhibition at the Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, among other venues. Forcefield is currently vacationing in the Bermuda Triangle.

Programmed by Josh Kline.

About EAI: Founded in 1971, Electronic Arts Intermix (EAI) is one of the world's leading nonprofit resources for video art and interactive media. As a pioneer and advocate of the media arts and artists, EAI's core program is the international distribution of a major collection of new and historical media works by artists. EAI's leadership position in the media arts extends to our preservation program, viewing access, educational services, online resources, exhibitions and events. The Online Catalogue provides a comprehensive resource on the 175 artists and 3,000 works in the EAI collection, including artists' biographies, descriptions of works, QuickTime excerpts, research materials, Web projects, and online ordering.

For more information about this program contact: Josh Kline (josh@eai.org) T: (212)-337-0680 www.eai.org

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