



EAI VIDEO PROJECT SPACE AT X: OCTOBER

SHIGEKO KUBOTA EARLY VIDEO WORKS

October 7-17, 2009
Wednesday - Sunday, 11 am - 6 pm

EAI Video Project Space
X Initiative
548 West 22nd Street, Ground Floor
New York, NY 10011
www.eai.org

Admission free



EAI is pleased to present a program of early videos by **Shigeko Kubota**. Kubota's body of work, which spans five decades, includes video sculptures, multi-media installations and single-channel videos. A prominent Fluxus artist in the 1960s, Kubota went on to develop an idiosyncratic video style. The rarely-screened titles in this program represent her single-channel videos of the early 1970s. Layering autobiography with vibrant electronic processing, Kubota blurs the boundaries between personal diary, documentary, and art-historical homage.

The following works will be screened:

Marcel Duchamp and John Cage
1972, 28:27 min, b&w and color, sound

Europe on 1/2 Inch a Day
1972, 30:48 min, b&w and color, sound

Video Girls and Video Songs for Navajo Sky
1973, 31:56 min, b&w and color, sound

Marcel Duchamp and John Cage (1972) is part elegy, part documentary, combining Kubota's own photos of the famous 1968 chess match between Duchamp and Cage with her electronic image processing and compositions by Cage. *Europe on 1/2 Inch a Day* (1972) is an informal travelogue inspired by budget guidebooks. Armed with her Portapak (and half-inch videotape), Kubota presents an alternative tour of Amsterdam, Brussels, and Paris: underground performances, topical graffiti and a visit to Marcel Duchamp's grave. *Video Girls and Video Songs for Navajo Sky* (1973) is a surreal and surprisingly funny diary of the artist's month-long sojourn with a Navajo family on a reservation in Chinle, Arizona.

Shigeko Kubota was born in 1937 in Niigata, Japan. She received a B.A. in sculpture from Tokyo University of Education, and studied at New York University and the New School for Social Research. In 1964, after moving to New York, she became the Vice Chairman of the Fluxus Organization. She taught at the School of Visual Arts, and was video artist-in-residence at both Brown University and the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. Her work is in the permanent collections of The Museum of Modern Art, New York, and the Toyama Museum of Art, Japan. Kubota's video sculptures, installations and tapes have been exhibited internationally at institutions including The Museum of Modern Art (Projects), New York; Documentas 6 and 8, Kassel, Germany; Kunsthaus, Zurich; Stedelijk

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Museum, Amsterdam; the Kulturhuset, Stockholm; Japan Society, New York; The Kitchen, New York; Kongress Halle, Berlin; and the Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago. She participated in the 1990 Venice Biennale and the 1990 Sydney Biennale. A retrospective of her work was presented at the American Museum of the Moving Image, New York in 1991. In 1996, she was the subject of a one person show at the Whitney Museum of American Art, New York. Kubota lives in New York.

EAI at X Initiative: EAI presents a series of public programs at X, the not-for-profit, temporary exhibition space located in Manhattan's West Chelsea neighborhood. The EAI Video Project Space, located on the ground floor of X, features a curated exhibition program of artists' video from EAI's major collection of media artworks. Highlighting a multi-generational, multi-disciplinary range of artists and practices, EAI's programs at X bring new works by emerging artists into dialogue with rarely seen historical treasures from the EAI archives.

X is located at 542 West 22nd Street, between 10th and 11th Avenues. <http://x-initiative.org/>

About EAI: Founded in 1971, Electronic Arts Intermix (EAI) is one of the world's leading nonprofit resources for video art. A pioneering advocate for media art and artists, EAI's core program is the distribution and preservation of a major collection of over 3,500 new and historical media works by artists. EAI fosters the creation, exhibition, distribution and preservation of video art and digital art. EAI's activities include a preservation program, viewing access, educational services, extensive online resources, and public programs such as artists' talks, exhibitions and panels. The Online Catalogue is a comprehensive resource on the artists and works in the EAI collection, and also features extensive materials on exhibiting, collecting and preserving media art: www.eai.org

For more information about this event please contact: Josh Kline (josh@eai.org) (212) 337-0680 x17
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