

Montréal 26 septembre 1974

Dear Steina and Woodie

Here are more details on the conference that will hopefully take place at the Musée d'art contemporain in Montréal. You must understand that it is not definitive and that I am actually planning the whole thing. As I told you on the phone, there will be few other participants: Walter Wright, Gilles Gherbrant, Gilles Chartier and myself; each of the participants will present a different aspect of an experimental research on the electronic image.

My first idea had been one of a didactic presentation, based on a progressive exploration of the possibilities of television as a creative tool. To achieve this purpose, I would suggest a flexible approach, utilizing different formats: conference, lecture with visual examples, work shop, tapes, photographs and writings.

Now, before let you know your specific participation in the show, I will draw a schematic framework of it:

- Introduction of video technology
- Hardware/Software
- What is television? How does it work?
- Introduction to a recycled medium
- Experimental video and visual didactics
- Introduction to the experimental techniques
- Feedback and other optical manipulations
- Standard versus non-standard
- Signal input - introduction to electronic manipulations
- Electro-magnetic distortions
- Processing and video grammar

(next page)

Synthesis

- Paik-Abe synthesizer - Walter Wrigt
- Rutt-Etra synthesizer - Steina and Woodie Vasulka
- Computer image corporation - Scanimate - Walter Wright

- From Raster manipulation to spaces - Steina and Woodie Vasulka
- Sound and image : synthesis
- Analog and digital Control
- Computer Graphic - Gilles Guerbrant and Walter Wright
- The future
- Tapes, Tapes, Tapes...

As a suggestion, I hope this framework could make it a little clearer for people, but also for those who are already experimentors. At this point, we're up to a coherent intermix of hardware and software in order to relate the tools to the visuals. So, you would have to participate, at different levels and in different times in the whole thing:

- generally - Comments on the tapes that you have already made.
Description of your techniques, related to the visuals.
Considerations on the cathodic visual spaces.
- specificly- The state of your present researches.
Rutt Etra Synthesizer
Video grammar and digital control.
The future.

Hopefully you will both come in Montréal, bringing a lot of your tapes (color and BW) and also a lot of things to tell people.

Ideally you will take with you the Rutt Etra synthesizer for a live demonstration. I hope you can make it.

Actually, the museum director seemed very interrested in this didactic concept, but there is still some technical aspects to set up. Anyway, if it does not work with the museum on monetary

arrangement and other facilities, there is still a possibility at the Vidéographe, but later.

Meanwhile I recieve a definitive answer from the museum, I would like you to send me:

- 1- A one hour tape of excerpts from your different tapes; I intend to build a documentary tape that will be cable-cast as a pre-presentation.
- 2- Writings on the different themes that I attribute to you in the conference (see page 2-)
- 3- Didactic photographs and block diagram of the Rutt Etra and other equipment.

These two last items will be utilized in a written information format that I have to prepare for the show.

Technical Notes

Title of the conference : L'image électronique
(The electronic image)

Date: 15-16-17 of November (not definitive)

- Friday 15 : mostly students - conference
- Saturday 16 : general public - conference
- Sunday 17 : general public - showing of documentary tape
showing of experimental tapes:
Walter Wright
The Vasulkas
Jean-Pierre Boyer
Gilles Chartier
Gilles Guerbrant
others

Equipment : The museum only has color casette , so...
I am trying to get a Sony 8650 for half inch color tapes.

Money (\$) : I am fighting for you to get paid...
\$400. ? \$300. ? \$200. ? \$100. ? (I will do my best)

Finally, I hope everything will work fine and I do suppose the idea is interesting to you. However, I would appreciate any suggestions or comments from you.

I will contact you as soon as I have further development.

See you soon,

I hope we can make it, because there is a need for this to be done.

Bye, Bye

Jean-Pierre Boyer
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P.S. : Please send the materials (videotape, writings, photographs and block diagrams) as soon as possible, because of printing time.

P.S. : PLEASE SEND IMMEDIATELY A PHOTOGRAPH FOR THE POSTER.