History of Computer Art

URL: http://iasl.uni-muenchen.de/links/GCA_Indexe.html

Part IV: Video Tools

Seminar, 28nd April 2014/4th September 2015

Danube University Krems

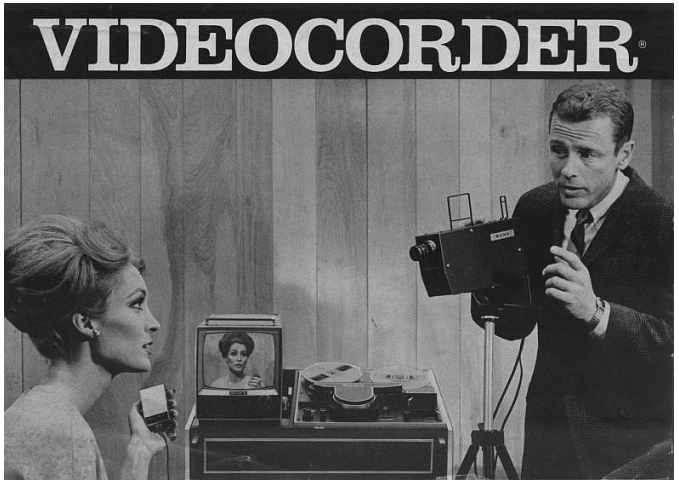
Department for Arts and Image Science

MediaArtHistories: Masters of Art

Thomas Dreher

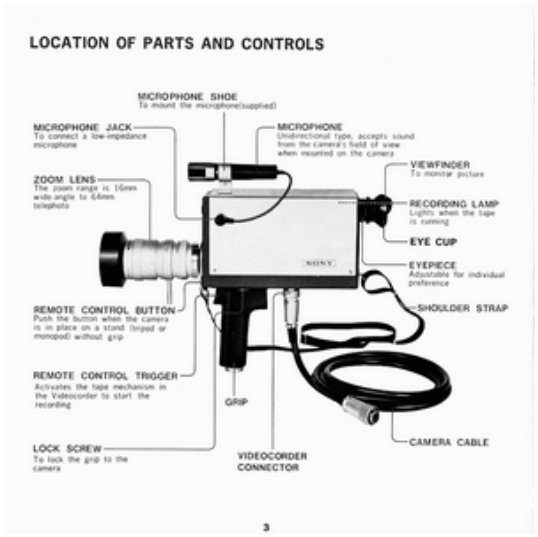
URL: http://dreher.netzliteratur.net

Early Video Systems



Left: Sony VCK 2000, since 1965. A woman with microphone and a man with the video camera mounted on a tripod. Behind it: Recorder with magnetic tape and monitor. Photo: Sony.

Image Source: http://www.smecc.org/sony_cv_series_video.htm



Middle: Sony Porta Pak CV 2400, since 1968. Left: Woman with video camera and portable video recorder. Right: Video camera. Photos: Sony.

Middle: Image source: URL: http://iasl.uni-muenchen.de/links/GCA-IV.1e.html
Image source: URL: http://www.smecc.org/video/wpe3C.gif

Video and TV

VanDerBeek, Stan:
Violence Sonata, 1970,
TV-transmission, WGBH,
Boston, channel 2 (above)
and channel 44. URL: http://
main.wgbh.org/wgbh/NTW/ES/
Video/violence201.html

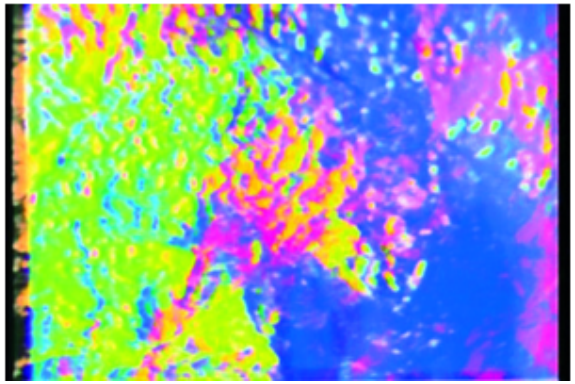
First Transmission of ACTV, Video, 1972. First transmission of the cable station Austin Community Television (ACTV), 1972. George Stoney tells about his experiences with cable access in Mexico. He was filmed on the hilltop with the cable company´s antenna which was the head-end for the distribution of broadcast signals through the cable network.
URL: http://www.vdb.org/smackn.acgi$tapedetail?FIRSTTRANS

right: Radical Software. Vol.1/Nr.4, Summer 1971, p.23: Call for the use of cable accesses for the broadcast of videos produced with "half-inch portable equipment".

WGBH TV, Boston

Kaprow, Allan: Hello, TV broadcast "The Medium is the Medium", WGBH, Boston, video, 1969.

Image source: URL: http://www.eai.org/title.htm?id=14357



Paik, Nam June.

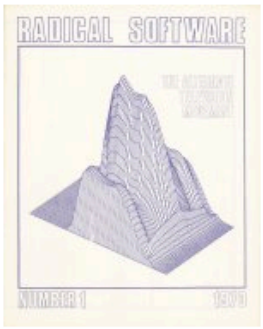
Left: Electronic Opera #1, WGBH-TV, Boston, video, 1969.

Screenshot from URL: http://openvault.wgbh.org/catalog/ntw-mla000209-nam-june-paik-s-electronic-opera-1

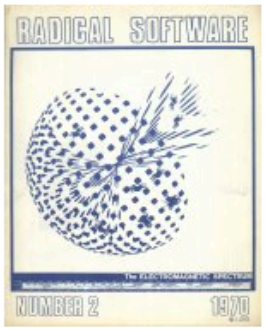
Right: Video Commune – The Beatles from Beginning to End, WGBH-TV, Boston, video, 1970.

Screenshot from URL: http://www.medienkunstnetz.de/works/video-commune/

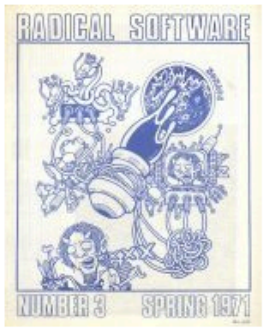
Radical Software, 1970-1974



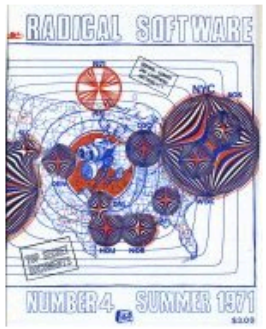
Vol. I, no. 1



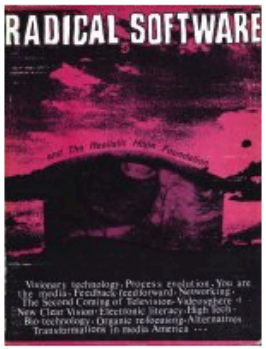
Vol. I, no. 2



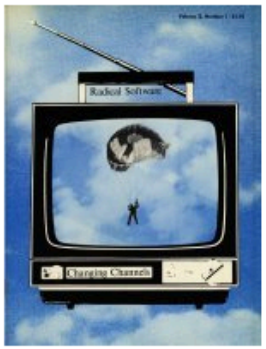
Vol. I, no. 3



Vol. I, no. 4

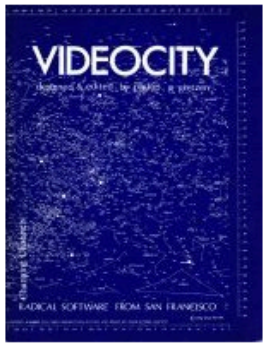


Vol. I, no. 5

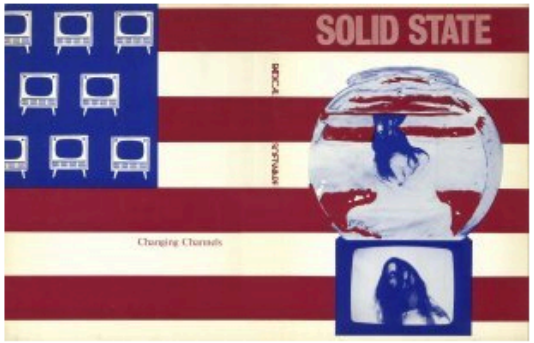


Vol. II, no. 1

Vol. II, no. 2

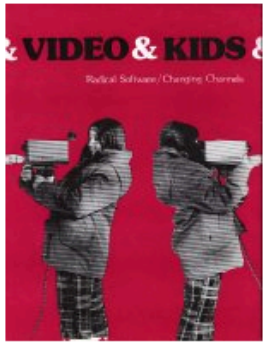


Vol. II, no. 3



Vol. II, no. 4

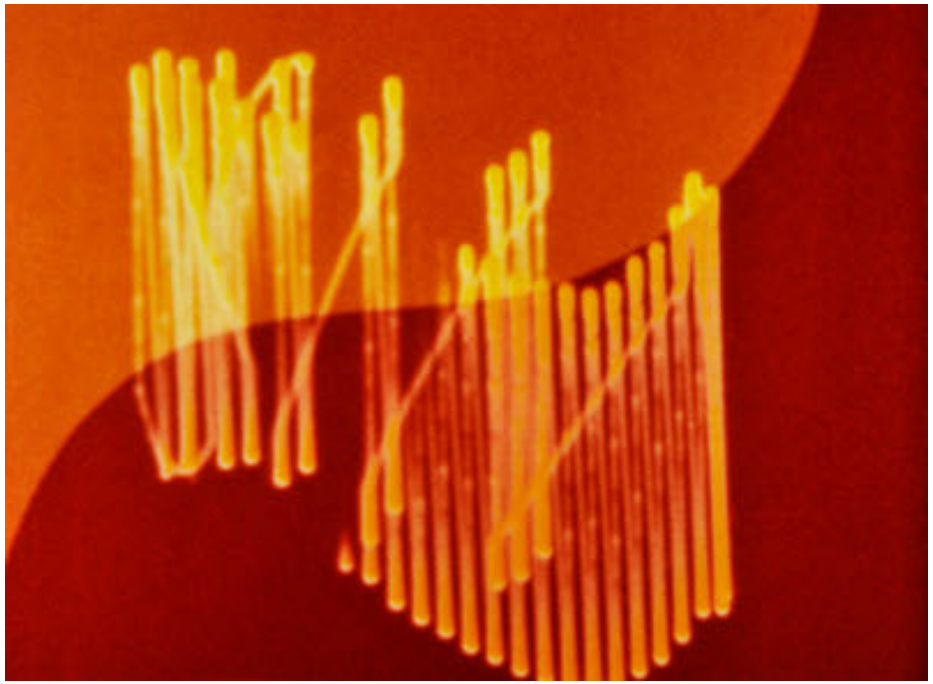
Vol. II, no. 5



Vol. II, no. 6

Covers of the Journal Radical Software, 1970-74. Image Source: URL: http://www.radicalsoftware.org/e/browse.html

Oscillographs I

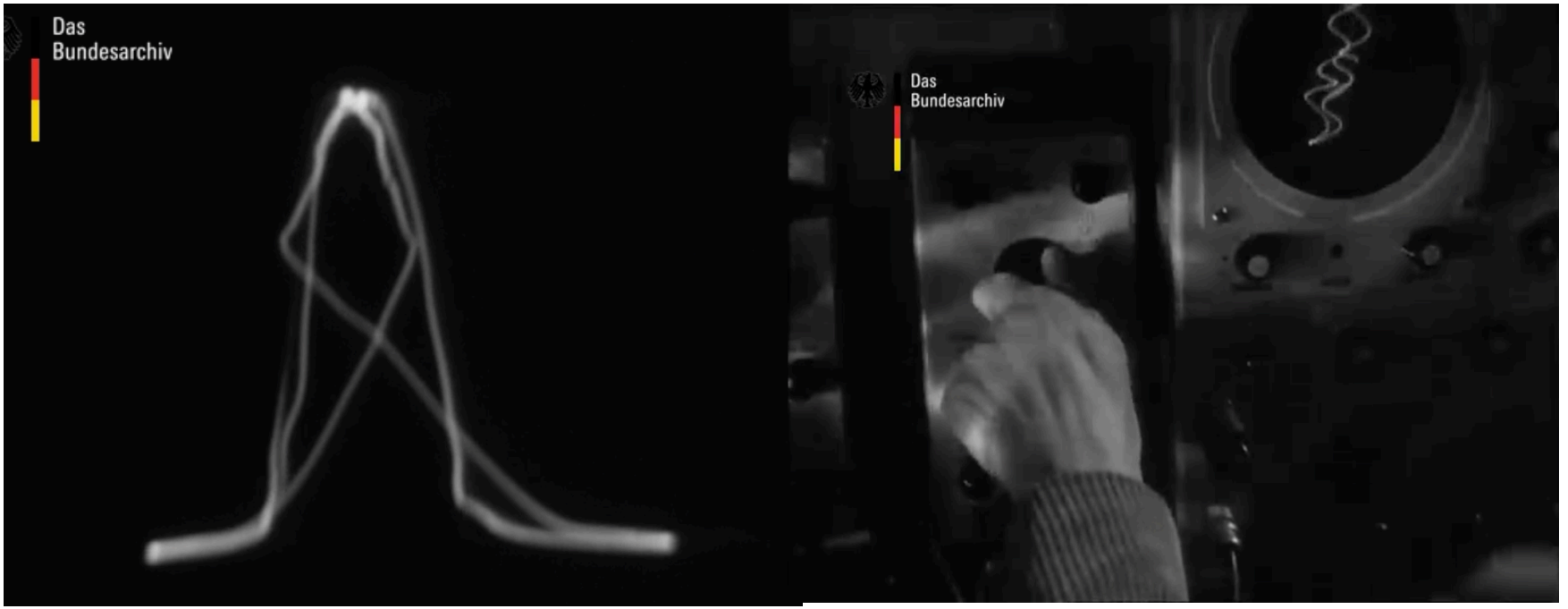


Bute, Mary Ellen:

Left: Bute at the fine-tuning of her oscillograph. Photo: Ted Nemeth, c. 1954. Courtesy Center for Visual Music (Zinman: Circuit 2012, p.140).

Right: Abstronic, film, 1952. Image Source: http://www.centerforvisualmusic.org/abstronic2%20em%20arts.jpg

Oscillographs II



Franke, Herbert W.: UFA-Wochenschau 170/1959, film, 10/27/1959 (weekly show for cinemas). Cameraman: Vlasdeck.
Left: screen of the oscillograph.
Right: The units on the left of the oscillograph were used by Franke to readjust in real time the output, as it was produced by Franz Raimann´s analog calculation system .

Image Source: https://www.filmothek.bundesarchiv.de/video/584360

Luminoscope

Schoeffer, Nicolas:

Left: Luminoscope I, 1959. Image Source: https://s-media-cache-ak0.pinimg.com/originals/cd/ff/dd/cdffddc08e492b15d474a1d1fdbe8083.jpg

Rigth: Variations luminodynamiques, film, 1961. Documentation of the programme sent by the television channel ORTF, 25th October 1961. Still with the gospel singer Gordon Heath. Image Source: http://www.olats.org/schoffer/archives/Variations%20Luminodynamiques.html

ANIMATE

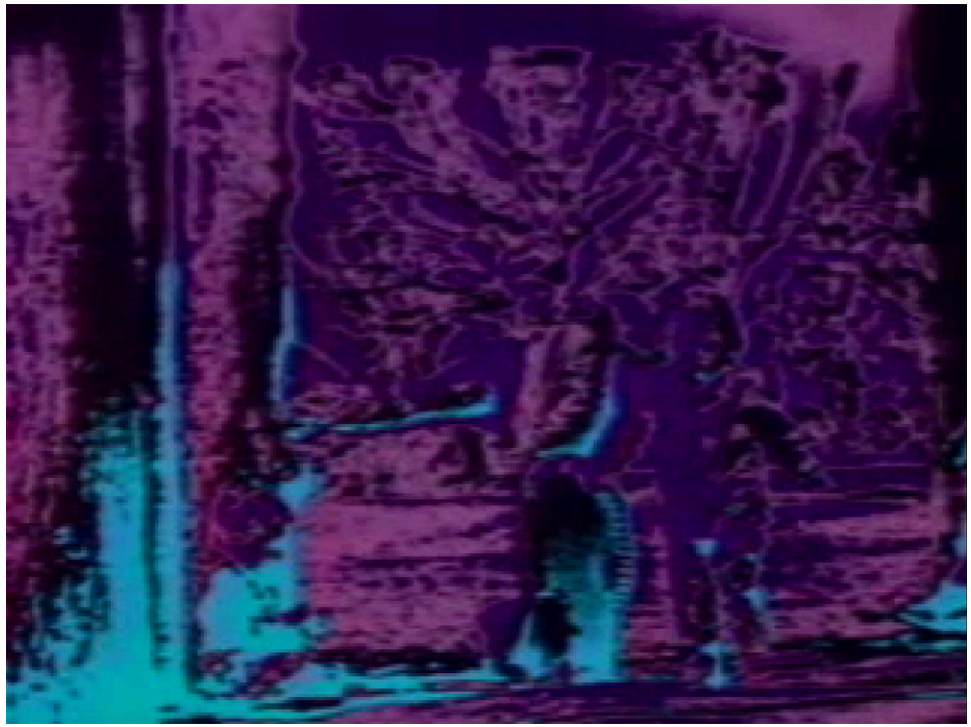
Harrison III, Lee: ANIMAC, 1962. A dancer controls the line patterns of a figure by activating sensors mounted on her body. Denver 1962 (photomontage). Image Source: URL: http://www.vasulka.org/Kitchen/PDF_Eigenwelt/pdf/092-095.pdf

Ture Sjölander

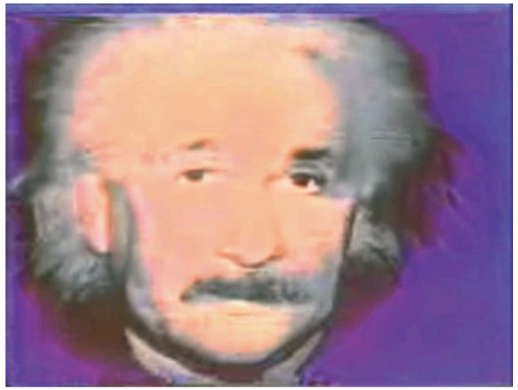
Sjölander, Ture/Wikström, Bror/Modin, Bengt: Time, 1966. Film for Sveriges Radio (Stockholm). Image Source: http://www.centerforvisualmusic.org/abstronic2%20em%20arts.jpg

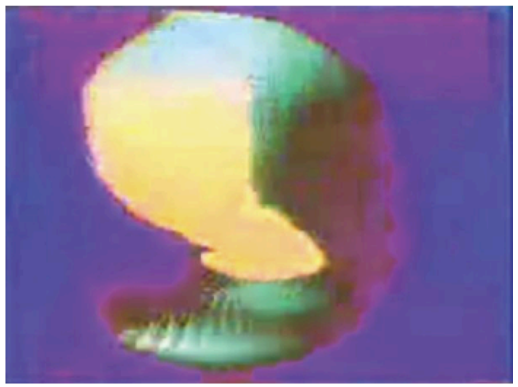
Sjölander, Ture/Weck, Lars: Monument, 1967. Film for Sveriges Radio, Stockholm, January 1968. Image Source: http://www.centerforvisualmusic.org/abstronic2%20em%20arts.jpg

Truqueur Universel/Video Colour Synthesizer



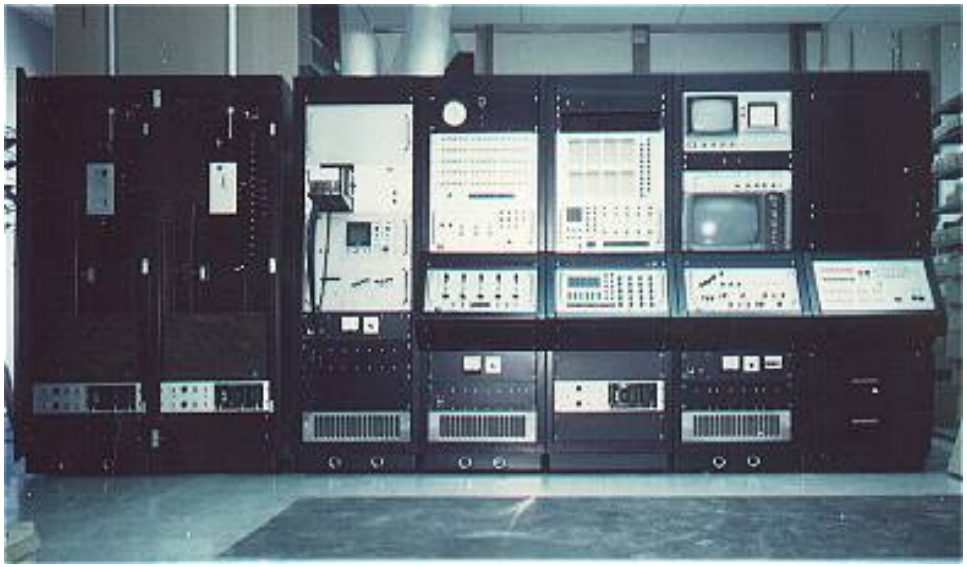
Cahen, Robert: L´invitation au voyage, video, 1973. Image Source: http://24-25.fr/work.php?work-id=gama:heure-exquise:main:Work:2169



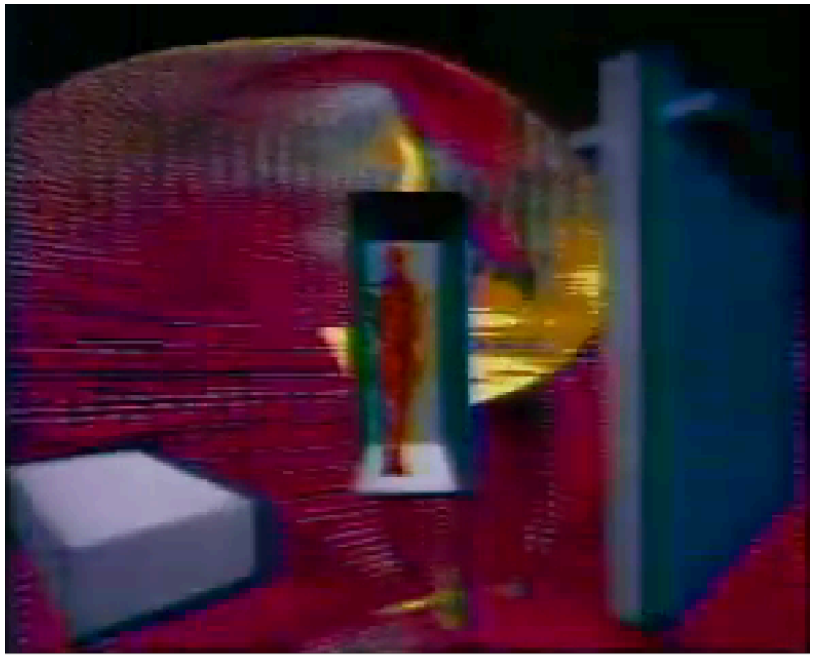


Siegel. Eric: Einstine, video, 1969. (Kane: Algorithms 2014, p.73).

SCANIMATE

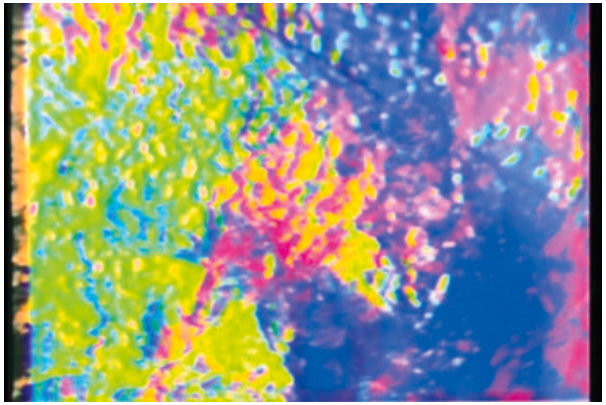


Harrison III, Lee: SCANIMATE, 1969. Brand new SCANIMATE at Dolphin Productions, New York City 1973. Image Source: URL: http://scanimate.zfx.com/photo1.html

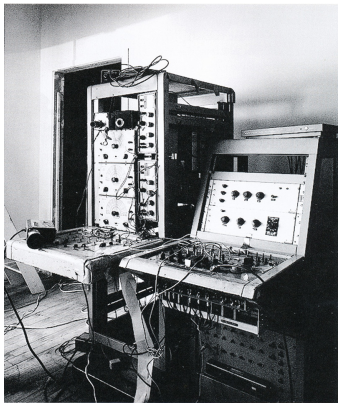


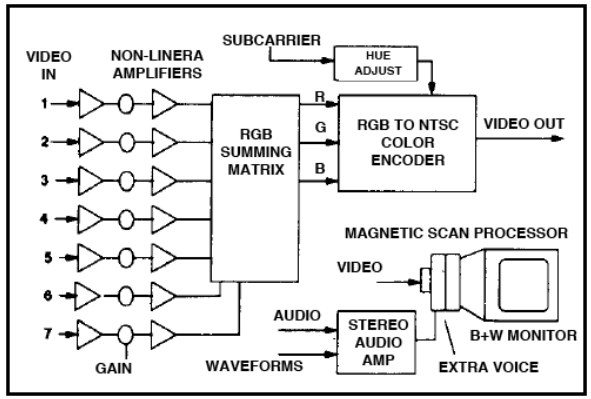
Emshwiller, Ed: Scape-mates, video built with Scanimate in the TV Lab of the New York Station WNET/Thirteen, 1972.
Screenshot from: URL: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4PXs5szhnOw

Video-Processors and Synthesizers, since 1970

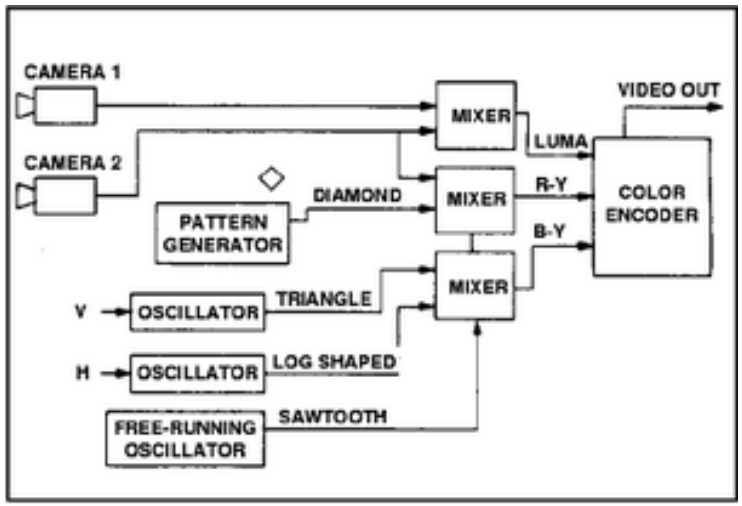


Paik, Nam June: Video Commune – The Beatles from Beginning to End, WGBH-TV, Boston, Video, 1970. Screenshot from URL: http://www.medienkunstnetz.de/works/video-commune/



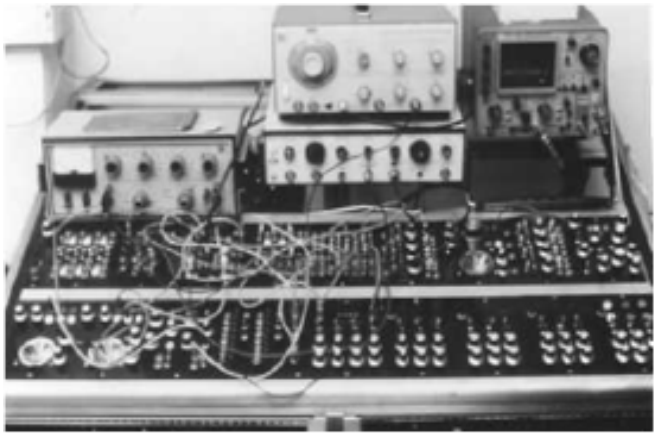


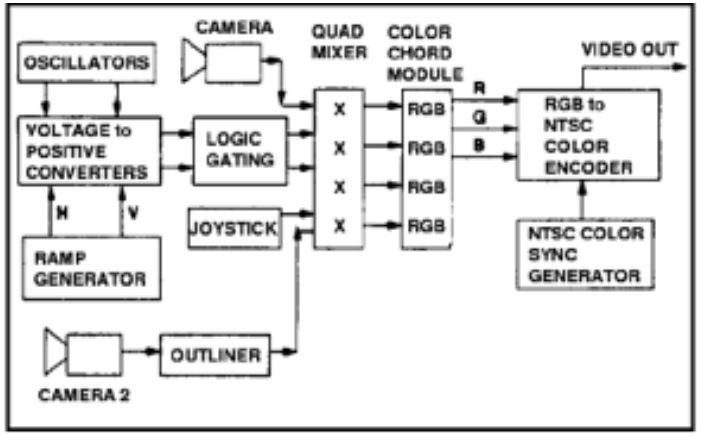
Abe, Shuya/Paik, Nam June: Paik/Abe Video Synthesizer. Left: model of 1972, WNET/Thirteen, New York (Courtesy Nam June Paik Studios, Inc. In: Joselit: Feedback 2007, p.47). Right: diagram of functions by Jeffrey Schier (Dunn/Vasulka/Weibel: Eigenwelt 1992, p.129).



Siegel, Eric: EVS Video Synthesizer, 1970. Left: Eric Siegel in the office of Electronic Arts Intermix, New York, ca. 1971. Screenshot from URL: http://www.eai.org/kinetic/ch2/siegel/filmvideo.html. Right: Function diagram by Jeffrey Schier (Dunn/Vasulka/Weibel: Eigenwelt 1992, p.121).

Stephen Beck: Direct Video Synthesizer, 1970

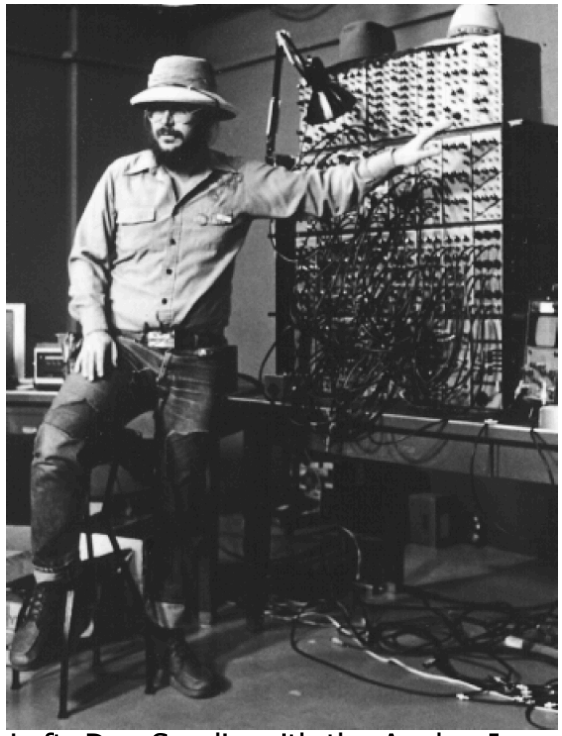




Beck, Stephen: Direct Video Synthesizer, 1970. Left: supervision.
Right: diagram of functions by Jeffrey Schier. (Dunn/Vasulka/Weibel: Eigenwelt 1992, S.123s.)

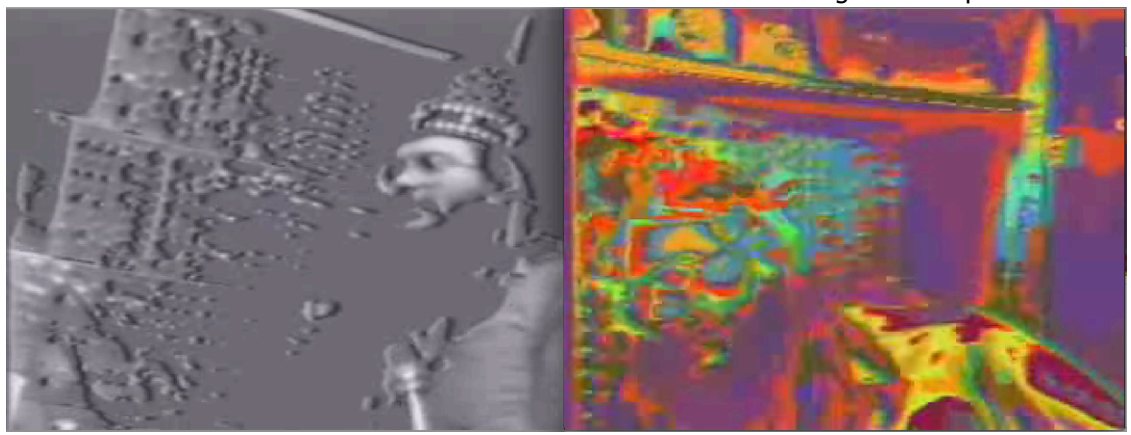
Beck, Stephen/Jepson, Warner: Illuminated Music 2 & 3, video documentation by a programme of the PBS (Public Broadcasting Service), 1973. Left: Beck at his Direct Video Synthesizer. Right: Beck´s visualization of Jepson´s music. Screenshots from URL: http://www.ubu.com/film/beck_illuminated.html

Dan Sandin: Analog Image Processor, 1971-73



Left: Dan Sandin with the Analog Image Processor, Chicago 1972 (Dunn/Vasulka/ Weibel: Eigenwelt 1992, p.133).

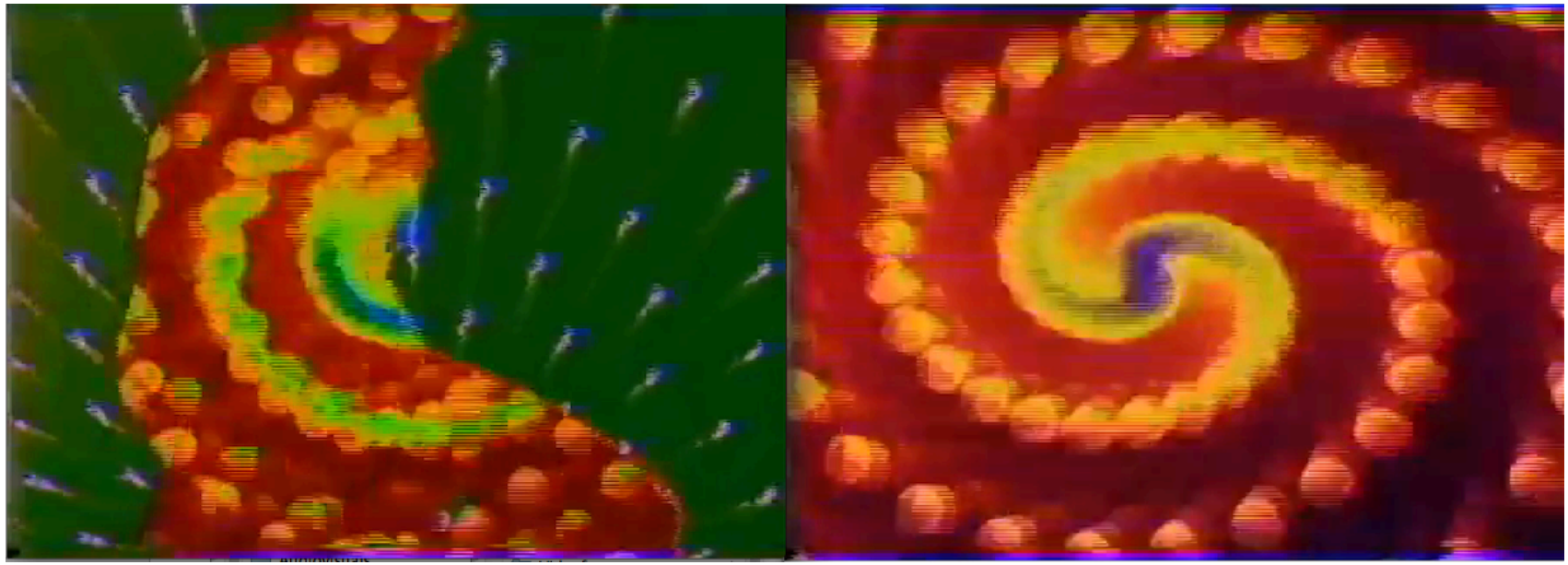
Right: Triangle in Front of Square in Front of Circle in Front of Triangle, video, 1973. Screenshot from URL: http://www.vdb.org/titles/triangle-front-square-front-circle-front-triangle



Left, bottom: 5 Minute Romp Through the IP [Analog Image Processor], video, 1973.

Screenshots from URL: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8qh6jRzjmcY

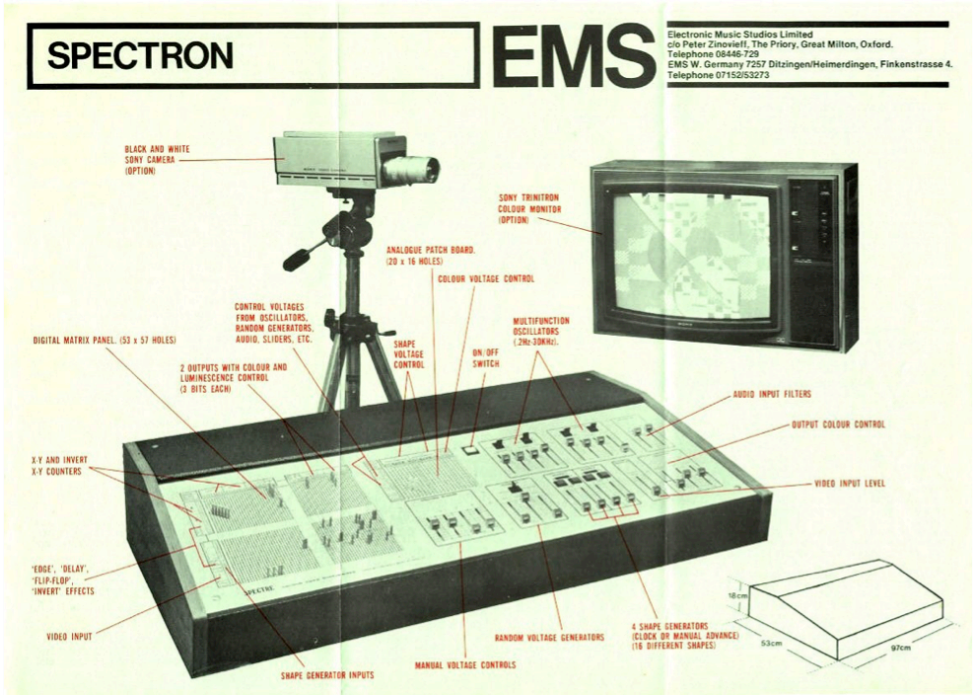
Ryral, 1976

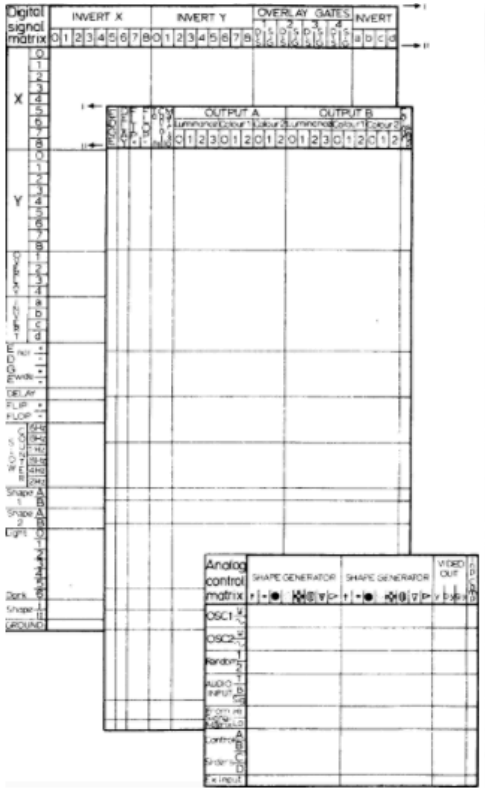


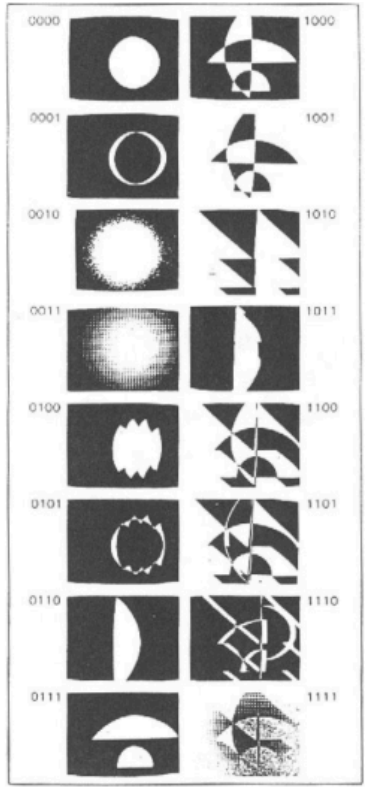
DeFanti, Tom/Morton, Phil/Sandin, Dan/Snyders, Bob: Ryral, video of a live performance at the University of Illinois, Chicago 1976.

Screenshots from URL: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fnYwFstm4bk

EMC Spectron I







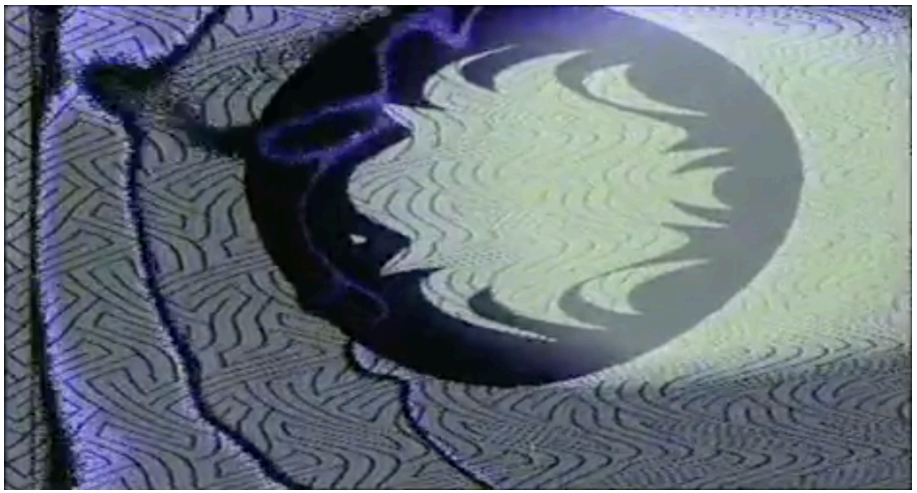
Electronic Music Studios, Ltd (EMS): Spectron, 1974. Video synthesizer (Siedler: EMS undated, p.7).

Left: All parts.

Middle: Digital Signal Matrix and Analog Control Matrix (Monkhouse: Art 1974, p.26).
Right: 16 basic forms (Siedler: Spectre undated). Image Source: http://www.centerforvisualmusic.org/abstronic2%20em%20arts.jpg

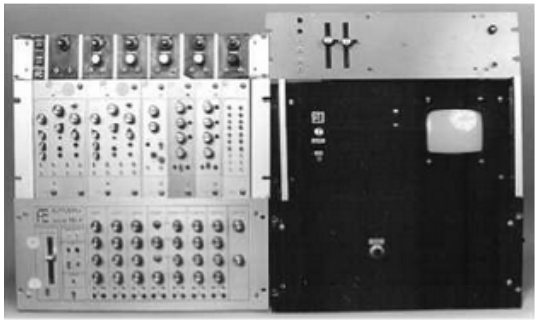
EMC Spectron II

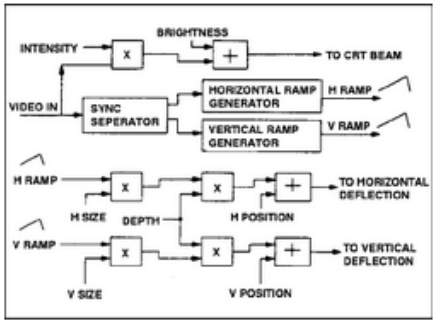
Guyonnet, Jacques: Lucifer Photophore, video, 1975.
Image Source: https://www.youtube.com/embed/T1cTqFGUf10



Calame, Geneviève/Guyonnet, Jacques: Labyrinthes fluides, video, 1976. Image Source: https://www.youtube.com/embed/TRgXqOhBQEU

Bill Etra & Steve Rutt: The Rutt/Etra Scan Processor, 1973

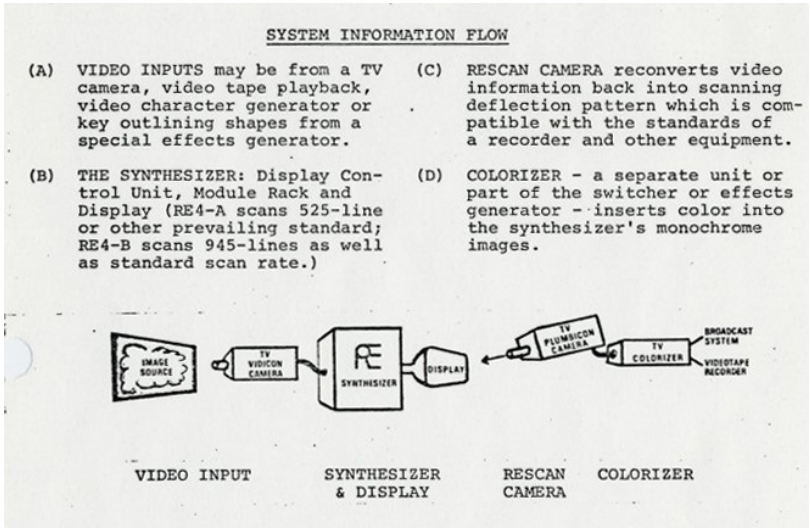




Left, top: Rutt/Etra Model RE-4 Scan Processor.

Middle, top: function diagram by Jeffrey Schier.

(Dunn/Vasulka/Weibel: Eigenwelt 1992, p.137,139)



SYSTEM INFORMATION FLOW

(A) VIDEO INPUTS may be from a TV camera, video tape playback, video character generator or key outlining shapes from a special effects generator.

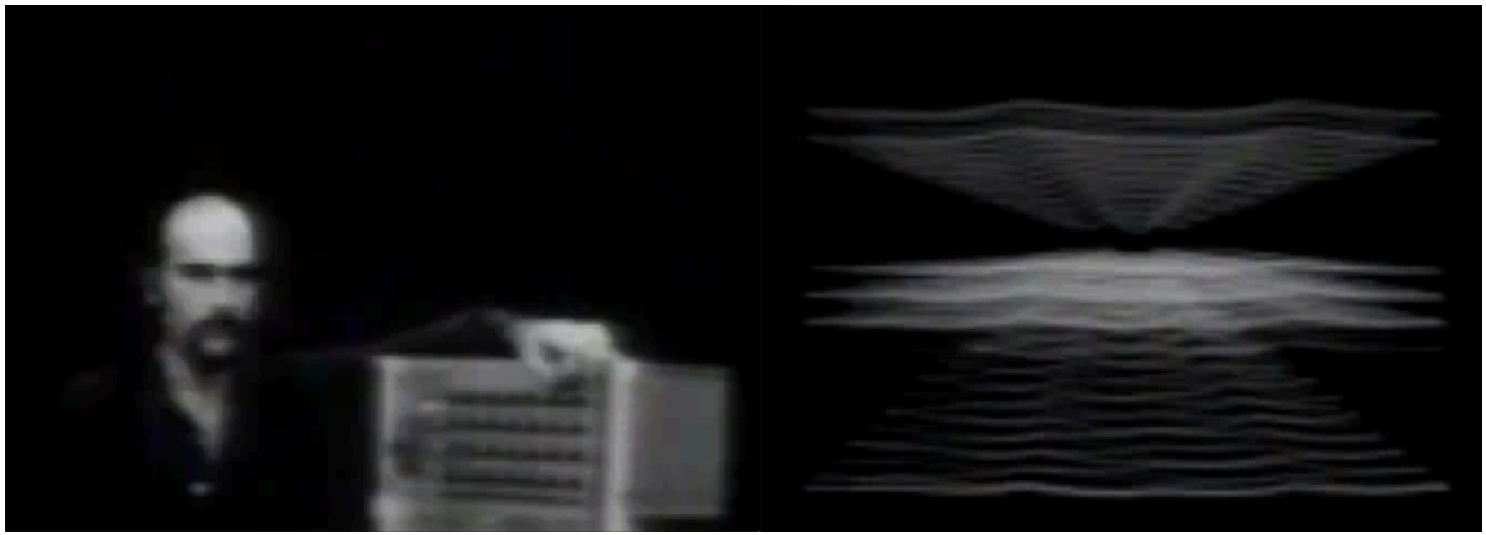
(B) THE SYNTHESIZER: Display Control Unit, Module Rack and Display (RE4-A scans 525-line or other prevailing standard; RE4-B scans 945-lines as well as standard scan rate.)

(C) RESCAN CAMERA reconverts video information back into scanning deflection pattern which is compatible with the standards of a recorder and other equipment.

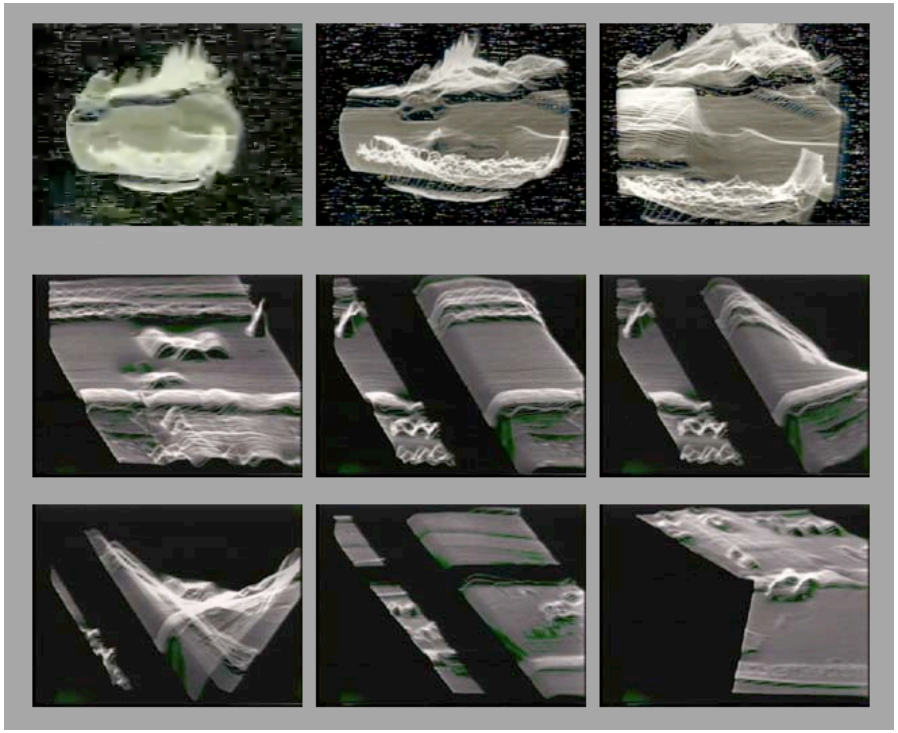
(D) COLORIZER - a separate unit or part of the switcher or effects generator - inserts color into the synthesizer's monochrome images.

Right, top: User manual for the Rutt/Etra Scan Processor with "system information flow".
(Rutt/Etra: RE Video Synthesizer Systems Models RE 4A and RE 4B 1974, p.3).

Right, bottom: Rutt/Etra Scan Processor, 1973. Demo by Bill Etra, video.
Screenshots from URL: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EZQiHuTbnes

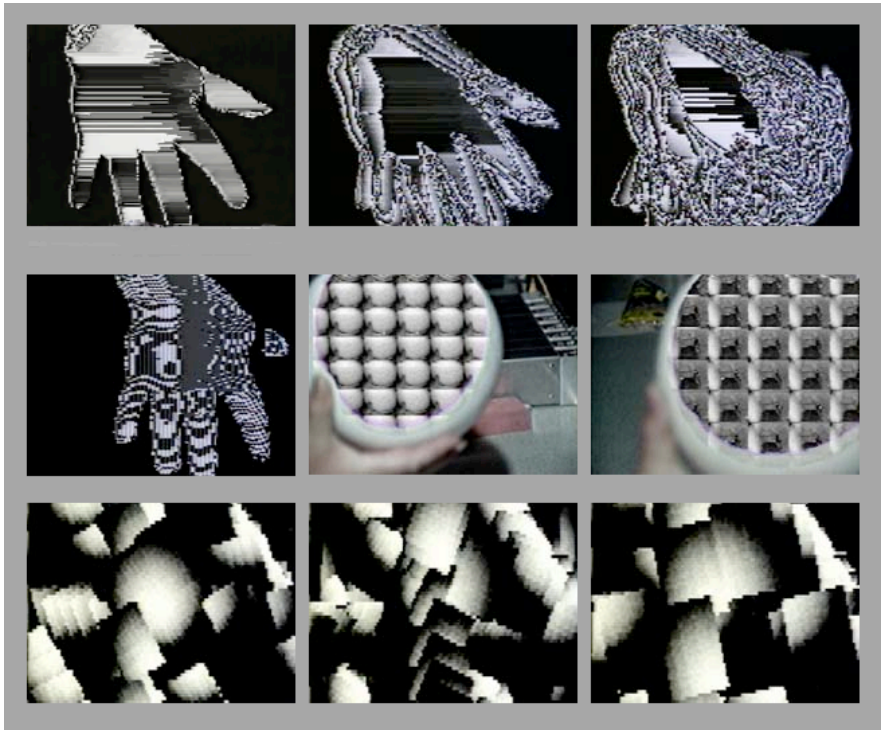


Woody Vasulka (I)



Left: C-Trend, video built with the Rutt/Etra Scan Processor, 1974.

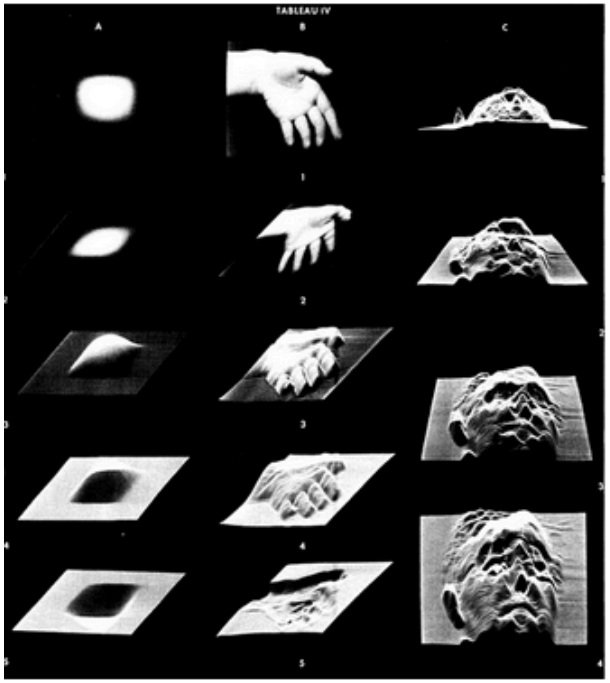
Screenshot from URL: http://vasulka.org/Videomasters/pages_stills/index_19.html

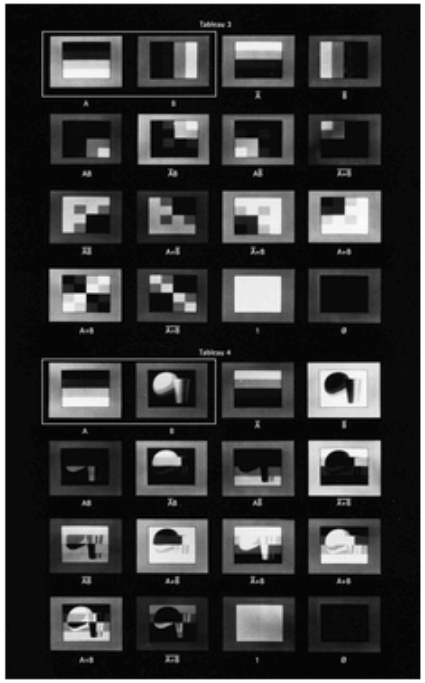


Right: Artifacts, video built with the Digital Image Articulator, 1980.

Screenshot from URL: http://vasulka.org/Videomasters/pages_stills/index_14.html

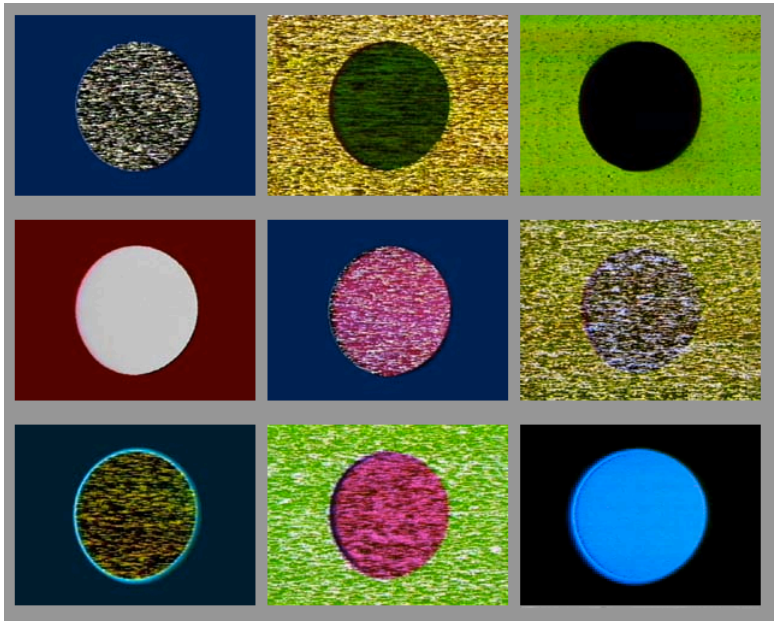
Woody Vasulka (II)





Left: Didactic Video, Tableau IV, 1975 (Vasulka/Nygren: Video 1975, p. 13), demonstration of the Rutt/Etra Scan Processor.

Middle: Syntax of Binary Images, Tableau 3 & 4, 1978 (Vasulka/Weibel: Buffalo 2008, p.423), demonstration of the relations between the discrete elements "A" and "B" in "The Arithmetic Logic Unit (ALU)".



Noisefields, video realised with analog video tools, 1974.
Screenshot from URL: http://vasulka.org/Videomasters/pages_stills/index_42.html

Bibliography with informations about the abbreviations used in the captions:

Dreher, Thomas: History of Computer Art. Chap. Bibliography. In: URL: http://iasl.uni-muenchen.de/links/GCA-IXe.html