

Request for Assistance
Experimental Television Center Ltd.
Program: Electronic Imagery Workshop
Contact: Jean-Pierre Boyer, Ralph Hocking

The series "Electronic Imagery Workshop" represents a progressive approach to the use of television as an experimental tool in the making of art. The possibilities of image and sound production inherent in the television set can be capitalized upon for the manipulation of these art elements. The series involves a conceptual understanding of the manner of image and sound formation by the conventional television receiver to permit the alteration of image and sound responses by the set through simple means. The series will also satisfy demands for image processing equipment which is readily available and relatively simple to construct. The series is not intended for technicians but for individuals who are engaged in image making and desire some control over electronic images but who are without immediate access to complex sophisticated systems such as synthesizers and colorizers. The knowledge gained by participants in this series can be put to use immediately in an expansion of the potentials of existing video equipment and systems already available through their own organizations.

Video is a medium particularly appropriate to analysis of the synthesis of sound and image, time and space. The initial content of each workshop will speak to the fundamental concepts of television and include discussions of the elements which compose an image, ways in which different images deal with the problems of time and space and the perception of visual information. Within the conceptual section of the workshop the image will be understood within a comparative framework of photography, film and video.

The second section of the workshop will establish a theoretical understanding of the physical and electronic production of the image. The function and manner of operation of the electron beam and cathode ray tube and descriptions of circuits and general electronics will be included.

The third section of the workshop will consist of an introduction to experimental television techniques and will begin with a discussion of standard and non-standard television and the kinds of image manipulation available to non-technicians. Optical manipulation of image includes a detailed explanation of feedback and feedback systems and the manner in which each type can be controlled. Techniques which introduce simple objects such as mirrors within the camera and receiver loop will also be illustrated. Electronic manipulation is dependent on theoretical understanding of the production of images by the receiver and emphasizes techniques of raster control. These raster control techniques include electronic manipulation of the functions of the receiver and also physical manipulations of electron beam motion through magnetic fields. External control over the raster will also incorporate the use of oscillators and waveform generators to construct imagery.

The last section of the workshop will consist of the actual construction of modified television receivers to enable interested individuals to continue the experimentation process.

The Center has had numerous requests from educational and cultural groups with television equipment at their disposal for workshops. They express interest in specific ways in which existing systems can be used creatively and modified simply and at low cost. Frequently these organizations seek an introduction to video as an art and to the alteration of systems to make them more responsive to the needs of individuals interested in the electronic arts. This series will respond to these needs.

See attachment #1 for list of equipment
Series cost: \$7,100.00
see itemized budget

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Attachment #1

Equipment to be used in this series:

* monitors	2
* television sets and schematics	5
* cameras	
vidicon equipped	2
tivicon equipped	1
* 1/2" VTR	2
* oscillators	6
* Synthi sound synthe- sizer	1
* oscilloscope	1
* test pattern generator	1
b&w RF units	4
* stereo amplifiers	2
* audio tape recorder	1
slide projector	1
* film projector	1
seg and keyer	1
* b&w sync generator	1
* misc. supplies: tools, parts, film, magnets, mirrors, mylar sheets	

Above equipment which is not starred is included in itemized budget under "Equipment". All other equipment and supplies will be provided by the Experimental Television Center.

JEAN-PIERRE BOYER

Born : March 13, 1950 Beauharnois, Québec, Canada

Education : Bacc. in Communication & Information Theory
University of Québec in Montréal 1969-70

Work : Photographer and film-maker for C.I.H.B.
Ministry of Northern & Indian Affairs, Ottawa 1970-71

Director of Educational & Audio-visual Department
Musée d'art contemporain, Montréal 1972-73

Grants : Canada Council for the Arts, Ottawa 1974
Video Production

Ministry of Cultural Affairs, Québec 1974
Video Research

Videograms : L'amertube Le chant magnétique
 L'eau d'oubli Phonoptic
 Flux Analog I & II

Working sessions : Experimental Television Center, Binghamton 1974-75
National Center for Experiments in Television 1975
Berkeley, CA.

Video: Shows, Workshops, etc.

1973- Avant-Garde Festival, N.Y.C
- "Le chant magnétique"
Electronic Music Studio, Laval University, Québec
1974-Media Forecast
Loyola College, Montréal
-Video Cortex - T.V. Bio-feedback
Vidéographe, Montréal
-2nd Computer Art Festival
Kitchen, N.Y.C
-Art Vidéo Confrontation
Musée d'art moderne de la Ville de Paris
-Videoscape
Art Gallery of Ontario, Toronto
-L'image électronique - Conférence/Atelier
Musée d'art contemporain, Montréal
-11th Avant-Garde Festival, N.Y.C
-EXPRMTL 5 - Video section
Knokke Heist, Belgium

Other : Adviser & Program comitty member for Videographe Inc. 1973-74

Member of CAPS video pannel, Syracuse 1974

Jean-Pierre Boyer is an influence highly regarded in the field of video art. His individual productions indicate a highly developed sensitivity to visual imagery, a delicacy and pristine quality not often seen. It is important to note that many of his videotapes were produced with very simple video equipment which he modified himself, learning the necessary electronics as it was required. His interest in simple systems and devices for manipulating television images is exciting and refreshing. The Center believes that his work of the past several years would enable him to provide a unique perspective to the concepts of image transformation and manipulation and would give to others the necessary information to help them to construct equipment which would enormously increase the capabilities of their own systems.

His ability to teach has been well demonstrated by his organization of and participation in L'Image Electronique at the musee d'art contemporain in Montreal in November 1974, his attendance of Expmntl 5 at Knokke, Belgium, as well as his lecture to students of Basic Video Making at the Experimental Television Center in March 1975. Mr. Boyer has also worked at the Center with the Paik/Abe Synthesizer on the production of his own compositions for two extended periods. We feel that M. Boyer would be an important contributor to the development of video art in New York State and to public comprehension of and involvement in this art form.