Title: Objects with Destinations

Date: 1979

Media: Video (color, silent); 3:40 min.

Video Link: https://vimeo.com/111258461

Description:

Three black-and-white video cameras and Dave Jones prototype modules (analog-to-digital converter, digital-to-analog converter, bit switch, frame buffer, comparators with outline...
Objects from the artist’s studio (hammer, cathode ray tube, circuit board rack, chair, clip light) constitute the subjects for a series of short sequences in which a single object moves through a series of overlapping transformations. These are electronically altered in such a way that their coloration and contours continuously morph. As the transparent images are superimposed one upon the other and faded in and out, they become slightly displaced, giving the impression that the objects are “wandering” across the image plane. In some sequences, the contours and colors of the objects dissociate, or newly arising color fields spread across the pictorial surface. The superimpositions and cross-dissolves result in a minimal amount of action, consistent with the ‘destinations’ implied in the work’s title. As in Mirror Road, Bathing, and Windows, the artist uses images of everyday objects together with image processing devices to explore the malleability of electronic colors and image density.

Gary Hill has said of this work, “Following Windows, I was still looking for a vehicle to make sense out of a substantial number of circuits I’d spent way too many hours building with Dave Jones’ oversight. ‘Real time’ seemed so integral to the process that the actual image/object was almost a by-product—very much secondary to the ‘verb’ of transformation taking place ‘between.’ The focus was on what was happening; what kind of manipulation/processing took the pixels from one representation to another. As in so many cases, using what was at hand—what was around me—was the only way to keep it ‘live.’”


Spoken Text:

Bibliography:


"Beau Fleuve: Five Programs of Work by 27 Film and Video Makers from Buffalo.” Media Study/Buffalo (January – May 1980), p. 11.


**Exhibition History:**


Solo screening. Pacific Film Archive, University of California, Berkeley, California, December 2, 1979.


"New York Video," Städtische Galerie im Lenbachhaus, Munich, Germany, July 7 – August 2, 1981.


Solo screening. Espace Lyonnais d’art contemporain (ELAC), Lyon, France, July 26 and September 27, 1988.


“Gary Hill: O lugar do outro/where the other takes place,” Centro Cultural Banco do Brasil, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, July 1 – 6, 1997 (not the full run of the exhibition); Museu de Arte Moderna de São Paulo, São Paulo, Brazil, October 3 – November 2, 1997.


"Hill(scape)," Extra Microwave Media Art Festival (organized by Videotage), Hong Kong Space Museum Lecture Hall, Hong Kong, January 14 – 31, 2001 (January 21 screening).

"l’écriture vidéophage – les bandes vidéo de Gary Hill." La Compagnie, Marseille, France, May 1 – 31, 2001 (May 1 and 3 screenings).


Notes: