

**ARTISTS SPACE**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**CONTAINED ATTITUDES: VIDEO PROGRAM**

Organized by Chris Dercon  
December 11, 1986 - January 24, 1987

Opening reception: Thursday, December 11, 1986 6-8pm  
Gallery Hours: Tuesday - Saturday, 11am -6pm

Nil by Mouth, by Graham Young, color, 17 minutes, 1983, England.

Accidents in the Home, by Graham Young:

Number 4, Epilogue, color, 2 minutes, 1983, England.

Number 17, Gasfires, color, 2-1/2 minutes, 1984, England.

Number 8, Holiday Insurance, color, 4-1/2 minutes, 1985, England.

Number 9, Indoor Games, color, 8 minutes, 1986, England.

Absolute Art, by Studio's Independent Theatre: Gerrit Timmers and Marc Waring (after an idea by Mirjam Koen), 2 channel, color/black and white, 27 minutes, 1985, Holland.

Souvenirs of the Heart, by Studio's Independent Theatre: Gerrit Timmers and Noud Heerdekens, 2 channel, color, 25 minutes, 1986, Holland.

Song of My Country (Part I, Rhinegold), by Koen and Frank Theys, color, 90 minutes, 1986, Belgium.

Lumière et Circonstances (8 episodes), by Alain Bourges, color, 72 minutes, 1986, France.

Artists Space is pleased to present an exhibition of the video work of four European artists organized by Chris Dercon. The tapes will be on view in the Lower Gallery and will complement the sculpture exhibition, curated by Saskia Bos, in the main gallery.

The videotapes selected for the exhibition turn around the issue of the place of the author in the text. In each case, the author is either questioned, deferred, or absent. In the case of Koen Theys, the original text is Wagner's Ring, whereas Alain Bourges cites repeatedly the texts of James Joyce and Arnold Döblin, as well as the film text of Jean Luc Godard and Raoul Ruiz.

The works of Graham Young and the Studio's Independent Theatre put 'anonymity' in the foreground -- in the place where one might look for an author today. This anonymity also casts its shadow over the slow, mundane, even trivial activities preferred by Graham Young and Gerrit Timmers. Absolute Art, a tape about the life of an unknown Dutch abstract painter in the early 1900's, makes the point clearly.



The work of Alain Bourges, Studio's Independent Theatre, Koen Theys and Graham Young is barely known in the world of 'high art' video, yet they represent a rare intelligence and coherence. This video program, then, should not be seen as a survey of young European video artists, but rather as a selection of work by artists who happen to be working in video and who Dercon views as related stylistically to the artists in the accompanying sculpture exhibition.

Chris Dercon is a free lance curator and critic, from Brussels, Belgium, who recently co-curated In de Maalstroom a group exhibition at Le Palais des Beaux Arts, Belgium. He has written for Cahiers du Cinéma, Parkett and Impulse.

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