

ARTISTS SPACE

223 West Broadway

New York, NY 10013

(212) 226-3970

For further information
contact: Dan Walworth
(212)226-3970

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Deconstruction, Quotation and Subversion:
Video from Yugoslavia
organized by Kathy Rae Huffman

May 25 through July 1, 1989
Opening Reception: Thursday, May 25, 6-8pm

An illustrated catalogue with an essay by Biljana Tomich and an introduction by Kathy Rae Huffman will accompany the exhibition.

Artists Space is pleased to present Deconstruction, Quotation and Subversion: Video from Yugoslavia a program of recent videotapes organized by Kathy Rae Huffman. This program is being presented in conjunction with METAPHYSICAL VISIONS/MIDDLE EUROPE, an exhibition of paintings, sculpture and installation works from Yugoslavia, Hungary, Czechoslovakia and Poland, organized by Valerie Smith. The fourteen tapes in this exhibition, all produced in the last five years, present a survey of current Yugoslavian video work from both independent and state sponsored videomakers.

Including tapes from Zagreb, Ljubljana, Sarajevo and Belgrade, this exhibition presents a broad range of recent work divided into three hour long programs: Deconstruction of Symbols and Myth, Quotations and References and Subverting Art and the Media. Some highlights of the exhibition include Dance of the 80's, originally performed in Open Stage Obala. Director Mladen Materic combines partisan and socialist symbolism in a mythical and romantic style. Produced in Zagreb, Merry Television: Mirko and Slavko is based on one of Yugoslavia's first comic strips from the 1950's. Mirko and Slavko are the protagonists in this ironic, anti-facist deconstruction of the struggle between the Partisans and the Nazis. American Dream, from Ljubljana, uses stereotypical images of American myths, playing hide and seek with cultural ideals.

In the documentary, Radio Student: 20 Years of Media Fights, the history of one of Europe's first independent radio stations is narrated by station director, Peter Barbaric. The tape documents recent Slovenian protests in support of "the four" who have been threatened with imprisonment for possessing Yugoslav military secrets. Also borrowing from the documentary tradition, For You in Me and Me in Them to be One was shot on location in the monasteries and convents in Spocana and Djurdjevi Stupovi. The text is taken from a letter from the first Serbian King to his son.



Video Program:

Dance of the 80's (Ples osamdesetih), by Mladen Materić,
9 minutes, color, 1984.

Merry Television: Mirko and Slavko (Vesela Televizija Mirko i Slavko), by Goran Gajić and Zoran Pezo, 10 minutes, 1985.

The American Dream, by Mare Kovačić, 6 minutes, 1986.

Baptized Under Mount Triglav (Krst pod Triglavom), by Miha Vipotnik, 21 minutes, 1987.

Kosovo: 600 Years Later (Kosovo: 600 godina poslije), by Milan Peca Nicolić, 11 minutes, 40 seconds, 1989.

For You in Me and Me in Them to be One (Ja u njima u meni da budu sasvim jedno), by Breda Beban and Hrvoje Horvatić, 29 minutes, 1989.

Closeness, by Aleksandar Stankovski, Hristo Pop Dučev and Zlatko Trajkovski, 6 minutes, 1987.

The Girl with an Orange (Deklica z Oranžo), by Marina Gržinić and Aina Šmid, 9 minutes 35 seconds, 1987.

Liquid Ice (Tekući led), by Dalibor Martinis, 12 minutes, 1988.

TV Test, by Igor Riđanović, 7 minutes, 1988.

Essays of Modern Art (Ogledi iz moderne umetnosti), by TV Gallery: Milan Peca Nicolić and Dragica Vuković, 36 minutes, 1987.

Axis of Life (Os življenja), by Marina Gržinić and Aina Šmid, 6 minutes, 1987.

Radio Student: 20 Years of Media Fights (Radio Student: 20 let medijskih bojev), by Juriј Korenc, 4 minutes, 1989.

Laibach: Sympathy for the Devil, by Retrovizija (Peter Vezjak), 5 minutes, 40 seconds, 1988.

The program will be screened continuously, 11:00am-6:00pm, Tuesday through Saturday. Call for schedule information.

The entire program is available for rental on VHS for home viewing.

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