

# Artists Space

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **JAPAN: OUTSIDE / INSIDE / INBETWEEN**

a three part video program on the representation of Japan  
Organized by Micki McGee

**Part 1: Outside Looking In** considers the representation of Japan  
by Western video makers

**February 13 - March 21, 1992**

**Opening Reception: February 13, 6-8pm**

The video program screens continuously during gallery hours and  
is free to the public.

**Part 1: Outside Looking In** includes:

The Japanese Version by Louis Alvarez and Andrew Kolker (56:00,  
1990)

Kinema No Yoru by Peter Callas (2:15, 1986)

OUT Takes by John Goss (13:00, 1989)

Ura Aru (The Backside Exists) by Gary Hill (28:30, 1988)

In the Land of the Elevator Girls by Steina and Woody Vasulka  
(4:12, 1990)

The Meaning of the Interval by Edin Velez (18:40, 1987)

Hatsu Yume (First Dream) by Bill Viola (56:00, 1981)

Artists Space is pleased to present a three-part program that  
considers the representation of Japanese culture. **Japan:  
Outside/Inside/Inbetween**, a program of independent media work by  
Japanese, Westerners, and Japanese-Americans, will interrogate  
the myriad misrepresentations of this Asian nation. **Part 1:  
Outside Looking In** features videotapes by Western artists who  
consider Japanese culture.

During the post-war period Japan and the United States  
participated in a global partnership based on mutual needs and  
resources. This partnership has yielded considerable cultural  
exchange, of which the videotapes in **Part 1: Outside Looking In**  
are an entertaining and informative part. Most of the artists  
represented have spent considerable time in Japan producing their  
video representations of Japanese life and culture.

Now, at a critical juncture in global politics, the reciprocal  
relationship between Japan and the U.S. has begun to shift. As  
the U.S. economy becomes increasingly retrenched, Japan and the  
Japanese are becoming acceptable targets for America's economic

anxieties. Our mass media images -- from Oldsmobile commercials alluding to the diminutive "size" of Japanese men to the recent image of President Bush prostrate at the Imperial dining table -- express cultural concerns about political and economic potency. **Japan: Outside/Inside/Inbetween** will propose an array of possible antidotes to these cultural misunderstandings.

**Part 2: An Inside View**, co-organized by McGee and Yumi Saijo, will feature tapes by Japanese video artists working and will screen April 9 - 25. **Part 3: Individuals Inbetween** will consider tapes by individuals who find themselves between Japanese and American cultural heritages and will screen May 7 - 23.

**Japan: Outside/Inside/Inbetween** will be accompanied by a publication with an essay by guest curator, Micki McGee. Until recently, McGee served as Media Arts Curator at Artists Space. Prior to that McGee worked with Telecom Japan, Inc. to set up their New York office and lived in Tokyo from 1983-85.

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