

## Jan van Eyck Weekend on video art (Maastricht 26–28 May 07)

Kim Thehu

Saturday 26 – Monday 28 May

Jan van Eyck Video Weekend

– screenings, presentations, discussions with among others Chantal Akerman, Cel Crabeels, Robrecht Vanderbeeken, Johan Grimonprez, Mark Nash, Pedro Costa, Catherine David, Chris Dercon, Corinne Castel, Dirk de Wit, Pavel Braila, Knut Asdam, Rein Wolfs, Jennifer Steetskamp, Isa Rosenberger

The Jan van Eyck Academie presents a three-day programme on video art. International renowned artists, curators and academics scrutinise topics regarding video art – of the past as well as its current state of affairs. In addition, for the first time ever an elaborate programme is set up with videos from the Jan van Eyck archive – the videos cover a time span from the seventies to now. The programme offers experts and the public at large a unique chance to get acquainted with the rich tradition of Jan van Eyck video production.

More info:

[http://janvaneyck.nl/0\\_2\\_3\\_events\\_info/arc\\_07\\_video\\_weekend.html](http://janvaneyck.nl/0_2_3_events_info/arc_07_video_weekend.html)

Saturday 26 – Monday 28 May

11:00 – 18:00

92 films equals 30h32m52s equals 35 years of video production

– screenings

The Jan van Eyck video collection, comprising more than 300 films, inspired several current and former (advising) researchers and guests to curate a programme of screenings. Based on memories, personal preferences or specific themes they compiled an extensive programme with films from the Jan van Eyck archive and external productions. The aim is not to give a historical overview, yet the programme shows videos from as early as 1972, when the medium was still in an exploratory phase, to the latest release of 2007. Descriptions of the videos and the motivation of the curators can be accessed at [http://janvaneyck.nl/0\\_2\\_3\\_events\\_info/arc\\_07\\_video\\_weekend\\_descriptions.html](http://janvaneyck.nl/0_2_3_events_info/arc_07_video_weekend_descriptions.html) and in a printed programme brochure.

Saturday 26 May

20:00 hrs

From black box to white cube

– round-table

Increasingly, filmmakers are invited to take part in art events such as biennales and exhibitions; it would be interesting to ascertain why that is. Is video art not sufficient in its own right? Is it too abstract, too esoteric, too unprofessional, too much turned in on itself? Or is it that filmmakers experience a kind of freedom when they operate in an art context – the freedom to think beyond the structures, methods and forms we ascribe to ‘cinema’? Perhaps the cutting edge of art is more seductive and rewarding than the fringe area of cinema? Why do filmmakers who enter the white cube often make their work into installations? How do they deal with this spatial dimension? Why is the shift from white cube to black box much more uncommon and hardly ever successful? Filmmakers Chantal Akerman and Pedro Costa, and curator Catherine David will tackle these issues from their own experiences in a round-table discussion chaired by curator Chris Dercon.

Sunday 27 May

11:00

The hidden story of video production

– round table

Video is an increasingly accessible, high-quality and affordable medium. Yet, for the artist, attaining professional levels of production and distribution involves complex and often problematic negotiation. In this round-table discussion we will look at how aspects of commissioning, financing structures, production, distribution and archiving have developed over the past decades, how they work now, where they might be heading and how they affect current artistic production. We will also discuss the effect of the Internet and web streaming on artistic methods, and on the curating and reception of video art. The panel members of this round-table are freelance producer Corinne Castel, artist Johan Grimonprez and theoretician Mark Nash. The discussion is chaired by curator Dirk de Wit.

Monday 28 May

11:00

Looking back: The roots of video production at the Jan van Eyck Academie

– lecture

From the 1970s onwards, the Jan van Eyck Academie has played a central role in applying new technologies to the context of fine art. It was one of the first institutes in the Netherlands where artists began to experiment with video. From the 1980s onwards, these activities were structurally organised via what was then called the ‘video workplace’. In an attempt to run through the history of video of the seventies and

eighties, Jennifer Steetskamp (Netherlands Media Art Institute, Montevideo/TBA) will give a short introduction on the history of video activities at the Jan van Eyck.

Monday 27 May

13:30

From white cube to black box?

– lecture by Mark Nash

Mark Nash will consider the role of moving image art works in the museum and gallery today, as well as the longer-term significance of movement in contemporary art. He will show excerpts from a range of contemporary works as well as installation shots of a number of recent exhibitions, including his own Experiments with truth.

Head of Department of the Curating Contemporary Art department, Mark Nash is a well-known specialist in contemporary fine art moving image practices, avant-garde and world cinema. He was co-curator of Documenta 11 (2002) and film curator of the Berlin Biennial (2004).

at different times

Case histories: former researchers, artists stored in the Jan van Eyck archive

– presentations

In the mid-80s the Jan van Eyck Academie established itself as the leading centre for experimentation and production of video art in the Netherlands. Over the years, many participants/researchers have realised and developed video work at the academy. They are now invited to talk about their work in relation to their career. For Case histories, former participants/researchers Cel Crabeels (interviewed by Robrecht Vanderbeeken), Knut Asdam (interviewed by Rein Wolfs), Pavel Braila (with a comment by John Murphy), Johan Grimmonprez and Isa Rosenberger will trace their routes from then to now.

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Practical information

Language: English

Admission is free.

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