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GRANT NO. 87-135

UNITED STATES/JAPAN FELLOWSHIP AGREEMENT

The Japan-United States Friendship Commission, an independent agency of the Government of the United States of America, with offices located at 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N. W., Suite 3416, Washington, D. C. 20004, hereby grants to Steina Vasulka, Route #6, Box 100, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501, a fellowship holder of the United States/Japan Exchange Fellowship Program for Creative Artists, the amount of U.S. \$4,456, toward the expense of preparation in the United States and travel to and from Japan to take up this fellowship award.

This payment is calculated as follows:

1. Round trip air fare, regular economy class, by an American flag carrier, from Santa Fe, New Mexico to Tokyo, Japan and return for fellowship holder and spouse. \$3,456

2. Shipment of baggage by air and/or sea to and from Japan, and/or storage of effects in the United States. \$1,000

The full terms of this grant are stated in the award letter which has been signed by the Commission and accepted by the Grantee.

FOR THE JAPAN-UNITED STATES FRIENDSHIP COMMISSION

By  Date August 11, 1987
Name: Lindley S. Sloan
Title: Executive Director

ACCEPTANCE BY THE GRANTEE

I, Steina Vasulka, accept the terms of this grant as stated in the award letter and this document.

I certify that the above sums will be spent for the purposes indicated. In the event that I should later be unable to go to Japan, the full amount will be returned to the Commission with the exception of any sum paid for Japanese language training.

JAPAN-UNITED STATES CREATIVE ARTIST EXCHANGE FELLOWSHIP
CONDITIONS OF OFFER AND GENERAL INFORMATION
FOR STEINA VASULKA

This offer of a Japan-United States Creative Artist Exchange Fellowship is valid provided: you leave for Japan to take up your residency there no later than the end of December 1987; you agree in advance to spend a minimum of six months in Japan without lengthy interruption except for unforeseen emergency; and you notify the Japan-United States Friendship Commission of your intention to accept this offer by October 31, 1986.

The purpose of this Fellowship is to further your development as an artist through the opportunity for residence in Japan for a minimum of six months to observe Japanese artistic developments in the field of your interest. Your official sponsor in Japan, the Agency for Cultural Affairs (the Bunka-cho) of the Japanese Government, will arrange for your affiliation with appropriate Japanese artistic organizations. We have also arranged with the International House of Japan to provide other services you may require in getting settled in Japan, in putting you in contact with persons and organizations of interest to you, and in providing administrative support services, including payment to you of your stipend and allowances.

Before your departure, the Japan-United States Friendship Commission will make a lump sum dollar payment to you that will provide for the cost of round trip air fare for you and your eligible family members (spouse, and children under the age of eighteen) from the address listed in your original application to Tokyo, Japan and return. In addition, the amount of \$1,000 will be provided as assistance toward the cost of shipping your belongings to and from Japan by sea or air as you wish, and/or storage of belongings in the United States. The Commission will also provide reimbursement up to a total of \$1,750 for the cost of tuition in a Japanese language study program in the United States before your departure.

Since your grant comes from United States Government funds, your international travel to and from Japan must be by U.S. flag carrier. You should make your own reservations and travel arrangements.

You will receive the following allowances in yen from the International House during your residence in Japan:

A basic stipend of 400,000 yen per month. The 400,000 yen monthly allowance figure will be maintained unless there should be a very dramatic rise or drop in the cost of living in Japan.

An allowance of 100,000 yen per month to assist in defraying the cost of housing while you are in Japan.

In addition, a monthly allowance for professional expenditures of 100,000 yen will be established with International House for their administration in consultation with you. This is to provide for direct payment by International House or for their reimbursement to you of payments to Japanese interpreters or professional assistants, payments that may be appropriate to Japanese sponsoring organizations in the judgment of International House, and payments for your travel expenses within Japan for purposes related to your professional objectives. Purchase of professional equipment and materials on Japanese arts could also be considered under this allowance.

Additional funds beyond this allowance may be provided for continuation of Japanese language study in Japan.

You must reside continuously in Japan for a minimum of six months. If you are absent from Japan for more than ten days consecutively, your allowances will be suspended until your return to Japan. If you desire, an initial period of up to nine months continuous residence may be approved. If you wish an extension of the agreed initial period of your residence, an extension of up to one month may be arranged in consultation with International House. Further extensions up to a maximum residence period of one year are possible under certain circumstances, but must be applied for to the Commission and will depend on availability of funds.

The basic purpose of this grant is to enable you to study and observe the creative arts of Japan. If you wish to produce work of your own in Japan, we have no objections, so long as it is done in conformance with Japanese regulations and practices. You will be in Japan under a cultural exchange visa of the Japanese Government, which will not permit you to work for pay during the duration of your grant in Japan. If you are involved in any joint production or presentation of your work in Japan, it may be possible for you to accept reimbursement for direct production expenses, subject to the policies of your host or sponsoring Japanese organization.

At the conclusion of this grant, the National Endowment for the Arts and the Japan-United States Friendship Commission will expect a candid written report on your experiences. In addition, while you are in Japan, you may be interested in consulting the staff of the U.S. Information Agency in the American Embassy in Tokyo about their programs in presenting American arts in the USIA American Centers in Tokyo, Nagoya, Kyoto, Osaka, Fukuoka, and Sapporo.

During the period of this Fellowship, you should not be concurrently receiving any other major fellowship award. If you have questions about eligibility for other awards or possible duplication of benefits, please consult the Commission. Standard rules of the National Endowment for the Arts will govern such cases.

Education *SELF EDUCATED*

Name of institution	Major area of study	Inclusive dates	Degree

Fellowships or grants previously awarded

Name of award	Area of study	Inclusive dates	Amount
<i>GUGENHEIM</i>	<i>VIDEO</i>	<i>1976</i>	<i>12,000</i>
<i>NEA/VISUAL ARTS</i>	<i>VIDEO</i>	<i>1981</i>	<i>12,500</i>
	<i>VIDEO</i>	<i>1985</i>	<i>15,000</i>

Present employment *SELF EMPLOYED*

Employer	Position/Occupation	Salary

Prizes/Honors received

VARIOUS VIDEO FESTIVALS & COMPETITIONS

Membership professional societies

Certification: I certify that the foregoing statements are true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

Signature of applicant

Stein Vaenka

Date

4-19-86

Over the years, I have developed a special way of working, in a single screen, in matrixes of monitors, and various installations, using turntables, mechanized optical devices and other concepts of pre-programmed camera movements. My subjects are urban, sea- and land-scapes, observed altered and processed by machines, composed into dynamic structures containing the perceptual, electronic and pictorial paradoxes. This process of working can be defined in four basic steps:

- 1) Image Gathering
- 2) Creating Intermaterials
- 3) Composition of Images and Sounds
- 4) Final configuration of display and its programming

Typically, I collect the image material through a video camera in my studio, or outdoors in the city or in nature, often employing optical or motordriven devices. My new project will inevitably exploit further my way of working, presuming to have access to new and inspiring tools, the tools of robotics, through which I would like to look at the urban landscapes of Japan.

Images of Japan that come to my mind are quite general, filtered through the experiences of other sources, paintings, photos, newsreels ETC, urban, manmade - neon signs, bullet trains, escalators, huge markets, robots or on the other hand minaturization of both ancient and modern devices. I am especially intrigued by robots, both as a subject matter and as platforms to mount cameras on.

In my case, the "intermaterial" phase involves video "tools", i.e. mixers, keyers, colorizers, digital instruments, switchers, ETC. Some of those are designed and built for a special use, others are industrial tools, used in broadcast here and in Japan. If conceptually necessary, I would bring some of my own tools, as I do not know what would be available to me in Japan. I however presume to be able to find most if not all required video devices there.

The final compositional stage depends very much in character and relationship on the images I gather in the process. I am involved in multiscreen works, and this new work will most probably end as an installation, with multiple sound and pictorial tracks and programming device or autonomous structuring of the program.

Santa Fe, 23-March-1985

**Individual Grant Application
National Endowment for the Arts**

Applications must be submitted in triplicate and mailed to the Grants Office (Mail Stop 500) National Endowment for the Arts, Washington, D.C. 20506

**United States/Japan
Exchange Fellowships
Program**

Name (last, first, middle initial) VASULKA STEINA	U.S. Citizenship Yes _____ No X Visa Number A14 866-246
Present mailing address/phone RT. 6, BOX 100 SANTA FE N.M. 87501	Professional field or discipline VIDEO Birth Date 1-30-40 Place of Birth ICELAND Number of Dependents 0
Permanent mailing address/phone	Period of support requested Starting _____ month _____ day _____ year Ending _____ month _____ day _____ year

Description of proposed activity

SEE ATTACHED SHEET OR REVERSE SIDE

Career summary or background

Steina (born in Iceland 1940) attended the Music Conservatory in Prague from 1959 to 1963, and joined the Icelandic Symphony Orchestra in 1964. She came to the United States the following year and has been a seminal force in the development of the electronic arts since 1970, both as co-founder of "The Kitchen", a major exhibition center in New York City, and as a continuing explorer of the possibilities for the generation and manipulation of the electronic image through a broad range of technological tools and aesthetic concerns. Her tapes have been exhibited and broadcast extensively in The States and Europe, and in 1978 she had an exhibit "Machine Vision" at the Albright-Knox Art Gallery in Buffalo, N.Y. She was a Guggenheim Fellow in 1976 and has received various other grants.

Since moving to Santa Fe New Mexico in 1980, she has produced series of Video Tapes relating to the land, and an installation titled "The West."