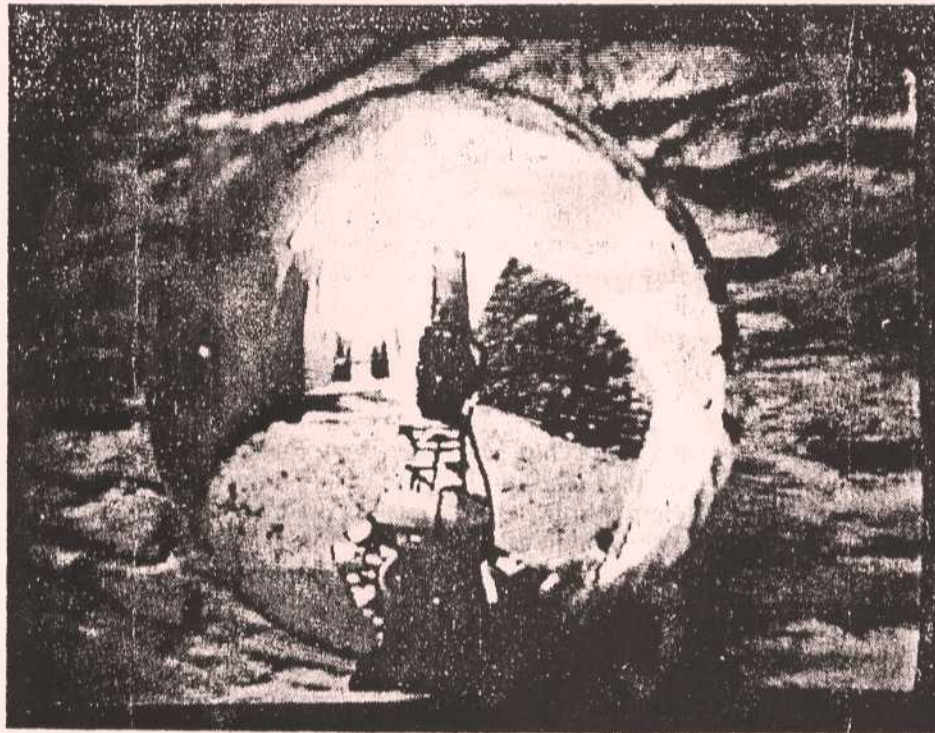


Rockefeller to feature a six-screen video art exhibit

"The West," a six-screen video installation by Steina and Woody Vasulka, will be the next art exhibit at the Michael C. Rockefeller Arts Center Gallery at the State University of New York College at Fredonia. Even though the video is a 30-minute piece which runs continuously and employs state-of-the-art video technology, it maintains its lyrical imagery. The piece was shown at a number of video festivals in Europe last summer and was commissioned by SUNY in 1984.

The show opens to the public on Feb. 2 from 3 to 8 p.m. This will be preceded by a preview reception for the Friends of the Michael C. Rockefeller Arts Center on Jan. 31 from 7 to 9 p.m. The exhibition is made possible by the Friends Annual Fund.

In "The West," video artists Steina and Woody Vasulka explore the ancient and contemporary records of mankind's actions on the desert landscape. Mrs. Vasulka's camera has recorded the ceremonial sites of Chaco Canyon, home of the ancient Anasazi people, ancestors of today's Pueblo Indians; the ruins of a Spanish church at Quarai; and New Mexico's Very Large Array, VLA, radio-telescope system. With Mrs. Vasulka's



"The West" as created by Steina and Woody Vasulka

mechanized camera and spinning mirrors, and with highly saturated golds and blues, the imagery is in constant, stately motion.

In describing the inspiration of her work, Mrs. Vasulka said, "In no other

region of the country does the presence of the sun play such a significant role in the ecology of the land — arid and eroded, with an exceptional clarity of the bright skies — forming notions of extra-terrestrial

importance in the minds of its inhabitants. The landscape, by its dimension and by its geometric and textural variety inspires man to create harmonious structures, dwellings, and other earth works."

Steina and Woody Vasulka came to the United States from Czechoslovakia in 1965 and have been seminal forces in the development of the electronic arts since then. The Vasulkas are co-founders of "The Kitchen," and experimental video center in New York City. Both have been Guggenheim Fellows and have received grants from The National Endowment for the Arts and the Corporation for Public Broadcasting.

Since its premiere in Albuquerque in May 1984, "The West" has been seen in New York City, Minneapolis, and Los Angeles as well as at video centers and festivals in Spain, Switzerland, Iceland. The video has been shown at a number of locations in France, including the Centre Pompidou in Paris. "The West" was originally produced for SUNY/The Arts on Television.

"The West" will be on display through Feb. 20. Gallery hours are Wednesday and Thursday 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Friday and Sunday 3 p.m. to 8 p.m.