



THE CENTER FOR
CONTEMPORARY ARTS
OF SANTA FE
PO BOX 148
SANTA FE NM 87504
505-982-1338

Friday, Saturday & Sunday
August 28, 29 & 30, 1987 at 8 PM

The Center for Contemporary Arts Presents

VOCAL WINDOWS

Music & Performance: Joan La Barbara
Visual & Environments: Lita Albuquerque
Director: Barbara Karp
Video: Steina

Lighting Designer: Dante Cordone
Sound Engineer: Sydney Davis
Assistant to Lita Albuquerque & Performer: Craig Syverson
Assistant to Steina: Woody Vasulka
Production Assistants & Performers: Diane Armitage, Gregory Waits
Production Manager: Linda Klosky

(Program notes by Joan La Barbara)

Premiere

I *VOICE WINDOWS* and *GAIA*, works for interactive voice & video (1986-87)
(CCA Theater)

The collaborative work between video artist Steina and I began early last year when Steina and her husband and partner, Woody Vasulka, developed an interactive system that allowed my voice to intercut and pass secondary video images into a primary one. The specific sounds made by my voice affect the shapes and patterns of the bleed-through, thus allowing us to "see" the voice. The works have been extended and these performances at CCA are the first to be done live in real time. The video images are collaged from the interactive works, *Voice Windows* and *Gaia*.

II *PERFORMANCE PIECE* (1974, revised 1979)
(CCA theater to sound stage)

A study of the left brain/right brain theory as it explores the artistic process in action.

About the Artists:

JOAN LA BARBARA dubbed "the reigning vocal wizard of the avant-garde," is a composer, performer, media artist, writer and pioneer in experimental and extended vocal techniques. She has won numerous awards and honors for her work including four National Endowment for the Arts Fellowships (in Visual Arts, Music Composition, Solo Recitalist, and Inter-Arts programs), radio commissions in Europe and America, and a composers-in-residency from DAAD Berliner Künstler program. Her career began in the early 70s as the vocalist of choice for major contemporary composers, including John Cage, Philip Glass and Steve Reich. She premiered numerous works especially composed for her unique vocal qualities. La Barbara has produced five albums with her own compositions: *Voice is the Original Instrument*, *Tapesongs*, *Reluctant Gypsy, as lightning comes in flashes* and *The Art of Joan La Barbara*. (Nonesuch). In recent years, she has appeared with the Houston Symphony, the Los Angeles Philharmonic's New Music Group, on the San Francisco Symphony's New and Unusual Music series and the New York Philharmonic's Horizons Festival.

LITA ALBUQUERQUE was born in Santa Monica. Her early years were spent in Carthage and Paris. She later returned to Southern California, where she graduated with honors from UCLA in 1968. Albuquerque is the recipient of a National Endowment for the Arts grant and is included in *Who's Who in America* for her contribution in the arts. Originally a painter, she is primarily known for her large outdoor installations, including the *Washington Monument Project*, completed for the International Sculpture Conference held in Washington D. C. in 1980. Her work has been shown extensively in museums and galleries across the country. Her sculpture, *Axis Mundi II*, was installed in the central rotunda of the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art's major exhibition, *Twenty Americans*. Currently Albuquerque is a Professor of Art at Otis/Parsons School of Design and is working on major sculptural commissions.

BARBARA KARP has directed productions in leading opera houses throughout the world, including Covent Garden, Vienna Volksoper, New York City, Seattle and San Francisco Operas. She directed *The Rise and Fall of the City of Mahagonny* for Deutsche Oper Berlin this past season. While Artistic Director of the Pittsburgh Opera (1975-80), she produced and directed her first film in 1979, the Cocteau-Poulenc *La Voix Humaine* (funded by the American Film Institute and the National Endowment for the Arts), which was telecast on PBS' Great Performances series, and for which she received a CINE Golden Eagle in international competition, and a Special Merit Award at the Edinburgh Festival. Karp subsequently directed a dramatic film for London weekend television, *Lulu*, based on the Wedekind plays. She has directed many off-Broadway and regional theater productions throughout the U.S. and has performed as an actress, dancer and concert pianist.

STEINA was born in Iceland, attended the Music Conservatory in Prague from 1959 to 1963, and joined the Icelandic Symphony Orchestra in 1964. The following year she moved to the U.S. and has since 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 videos have been exhibited and broadcast extensively in the U.S. and Europe. In 1978, her installation piece *Machine Vision* was exhibited at the Albright-Knox Art Gallery in Buffalo, N.Y. Since moving to Santa Fe in 1980 she has produced a series of video tapes relating to the land, and an installation entitled *The West*. Named a Guggenheim Fellow in 1976, Steina is the recipient of numerous grants, including and NEA International Fellowship as guest artist in Japan for a year.