

# The Museum of Modern Art Department of Film

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## RECENT VIDEO ARCHIVE ACQUISITIONS ON EXHIBIT IN MoMA'S NEW WEST WING

Six videotapes acquired during the past year by MoMA's Video Archive are on exhibit from April 13th through May 11th on the second floor of MoMA's new West Wing, at 18 West 54th Street. The tapes illustrate the Archive's concern with acquiring and preserving a collection of the finest examples of artists' videotapes, carefully chosen to be representative of the diverse approaches to the medium.

During the 70s, the Museum began to collect the most important examples of work in video. The video collection contains examples of drama and documentary made for commercial television, TV commercials noteworthy for their graphic design, and independently-produced artists' tapes. In all, some 400 video/television materials comprise the collection, which itself constitutes 5% of the Film Department's Archive. Over 50 of these tapes are independent artists' works, acquired through funds from individual donors. The six tapes in the current acquisitions show are:

PICK UP YOUR FEET: THE DOUBLE DUTCH SHOW by Skip Blumberg, a 30-minute color documentary on the exuberant schoolyard art of double-dutch jumping-rope and the chant-songs which accompany it. WNET-TV Lab Production.

SAVAGE/LOVE by Shirley Clarke, a staging of the Sam Shepard monologue for the video frame, performed by Joseph Chaiken and produced with the Women's Interart Center. Color, 20 minutes.

AFTER MONTGOLFIER by Davidson Gigliotti. The title's 'after' is used in the classical sense of 'd'apres' Montgolfier, the late French balloonist; Gigliotti, floating over the Minnesota landscape in a balloon, with microphones above and below the basket recording the whoosh of gas and wind, captures the lyricism of countryside as if seen by the balloon itself. KTCA-TV2 Production, St. Paul. Color, 12 minutes.

MAN ON THE EMPIRE STATE by Teodoro Maus, is a 60-minute drama in color, a blackly comic metaphor in which a Latin American revolutionary finds refuge in a garret at the top of the Empire State Building "in the center of the Empire country, overlooking the Empired world." Produced by Vini Video Vinci.

SMOTHERING DREAMS by Dan Reeves dramatizes the tapemaker's experiences more...

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on the Vietnam battlefields. With the assistance of the drama students of Ithaca College, a strong antiwar statement of vivid emotional power is produced. The tape, produced for WNET/TV Lab, is in color and runs 20 minutes.

HATSUE YUME (FIRST DREAM) by Bill Viola explores Japanese culture and the Japanese aesthetic in a lyrical, non-narrative meditation on form, color and mood. The tape, produced by WNET/TV Lab, with funds from the Japan-U.S. Friendship Commission and The Sony Corporation, runs 56 minutes.

MoMA's Video program is directed by Barbara London, Assistant Curator in The Department of Film. Acquisitions to the video collection are carried out through the Video Advisory Committee, a board of professionals involved in the medium.

The Museum of Modern Art's Video Program is made possible by funding from the National Endowment for the Arts, the New York State Council on the Arts, and the Rockefeller Foundation.

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For further information, please contact Alicia Springer, Film Press Representative, 956-7289.  
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VIDEO ARCHIVE

RECENT ACQUISITIONS

Schedule:

Sundays in April  
Thursdays in May

Skip Blumberg: Pick Up Your Feet: The Double Dutch Show. 1981. Color. 30 mins. (Purchase)

Fridays in April  
Mondays in May

Shirley Clarke: Savage/Love. 1981. Color. 20 mins. From the play by Sam Shepard. With Joseph Chaiken. A Women's Interart Center Production, NY. (Purchase)

Thursdays in April  
Sundays in May

Davidson Gigliotti: After Montgolfier. 1979. Color. 12 minutes. KTCA-TV2 Production, St. Paul. Acquired through Barbara Pine Fund.

Saturdays in April  
Fridays in May

Teodoro Maus: Man on the Empire State. 1981. Color. 60 mins. Produced by Vini Video Vinci Productions. (Purchase)

Mondays in April  
Tuesdays in May

Dan Reeves: Smothering Dreams. 1981. Color. 20 mins. WNET/TV Lab Production, NY. Acquired through Barbara Pine Fund.

Tuesdays in April  
Saturdays in May

Bill Viola: Hatsue Yume (First Dream). 1981. Color. 56 mins. WNET/TV Lab Production, NY, with funds from the Japan-U.S. Friendship Commission, and The Sony Corporation. Gift of Catherine V. Meacham.