

The Museum of Modern Art

West 53rd Street, New York, N.Y. 10019 Tel. 956-6100 Cable: Modernart

NO. 20

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MUSEUM EXHIBITION SURVEYS VIDEO ART FROM JAPAN

VIDEO FROM TOKYO TO FUKUI AND KYOTO, on view at The Museum of Modern Art April 19 through June 19, consists of sixteen videotapes by artists living in Japan whose work has rarely been exhibited in the United States. Organized as part of Japan Today, a series of cultural programs to be presented in five American cities this spring, VIDEO FROM TOKYO TO FUKUI AND KYOTO explores the Japanese approach to this international medium.

"The sixteen videotapes presented here are clearly by Japanese artists, whose approach to the medium and subject matter come indirectly from Shintoism, the Japanese religion that ascribes numinous qualities to both natural and made-made materials. The videotapes are also Eastern in sensibility: they have a particular kind of concentration, a flowing sense of time, and lyrical use of color," notes Barbara London, director of the exhibition.

Japanese video activity began in the late 1960s, during a time of active experimentation in all of the arts and several years after the first portable camera was put on the market. Since that time in Japan there have been numerous video exhibitions in museums and galleries, and video courses have become part of university curriculum.

The video artists represented by works in this exhibition utilize the medium for its portability, immediacy of image, and plasticity. Most of them work with the small-format (one-half or three-quarter-inch) portable video camera and recording deck, which are easily transported from location to location and are ideal for spontaneous documentation. Fujiko Nakaya

SCHEDULE

Works are shown weekdays 11:00 to 5:45; Thursdays until 8:15; weekends until 4:45.

PROGRAM 1 April 23, 30; May 5, 12, 19, 26; June 1.

Mako Idemitsu, Another Day of a Housewife (1977-78, 18 minutes, color)

Nobuhiro Kawanaka, Kick the World (1976, 20 minutes, black-and-white)

PROGRAM 2 April 24; May 6, 13, 20, 27; June 2.

Hakudo Kobayashi, Part 4 (1978, 17 minutes, color)

Toshio Matsumoto, Mona Lisa (1973, 3 minutes, color)

Akira Kurosaki, Summer Dream (1978, 7 minutes, color)
and Syncoption (1979, 9 minutes, color)

Katsuhiko Yamaguchi, Ooi and Environs (1977, 10 minutes, color)

PROGRAM 3 April 19, 26; May 7, 14, 21, 28; June 3.

Fujiko Nakaya, Friends of Minamata Victims (1972, 20 minutes, black-and-white)

Kyoko Michishita, Being Women in Japan: Liberation within My Family (1973-74,
30 minutes, black-and-white)

PROGRAM 4 April 20, 27; May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29; June 4.

Hitoshi Nomura, age: M→F (1978, 31 minutes, color)

Keigo Yamamoto, Foot No. 3 (1977, 10 minutes, black-and-white) and
Foot No. 4 (1978, 10 minutes, color)

PROGRAM 5 April 21, 28; May 3, 10, 17, 24, 31; June 5.

Tsuneo Nakai, Tune (1978, 30 minutes, color) with music by Hideki Yoshida

PROGRAM 6 April 22, 29; May 4, 11, 18, 25.

Video Information Center, Hitogata (1976, 60 minutes, color) with choreography
by Tatsumi Hijikata, performance by Yoko Ashikawa; and Dance
No. 7 (1976, 40 minutes, color) with performance by Min Tanaka

PROGRAM 7 June 7 - 13.

Kou Nakajima, My Life (1974-78, 30 minutes, black-and-white, 2 channels)