

"Video/TV:Humor/Comedy," and "The Telephone Stories" are presented at the Mandeville Art Gallery

December 21, 1982

"Video/TV:Humor/Comedy," an overview of humor in contemporary video art, and "The Telephone Stories," Mitchell Kriegman's humorous audiotaped narratives, will be presented by Mandeville Art Gallery on the campus of the University of California, San Diego beginning noon Friday, January 7.

The first major exhibition of its type, "Video/TV:Humor/Comedy" includes continuous screenings of over 50 video works by Laurie Anderson, Tony Oursler, The Kipper Kids, Nam June Paik, William Wegman, Ant Farm/T.R. Uthco, John Baldessari, Howard Fried, Ilene Seaglove, Mitchell Kriegman, Bob & Bob, and other well-known and emerging artists. The installation in Mandeville Art Gallery also includes drawings and cartoons by Ilene Seaglove, prints by Jules Backus, props, photos, and documentation related to the videotapes.

"The Telephone Stories" by Mitchell Kriegman (a.k.a, Marshall Klugman) will be presented with "Video/TV:Humor/Comedy." Gallery attendees may use a special telephone installed in the exhibition to hear these five humorous narratives based on the experience of calling a friend and hearing, simultaneously with the conversation, background noises which create a mental image of the place on the other end of the line. The public may also phone (619) 452-2218 at any time of day to experience "The Telephone Stories."

Mandeville Art Gallery is open noon to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Sunday (closed Monday). "Video/TV:Humor/Comedy" and "The Telephone Stories" will continue through January 30.

"Video/TV:Humor/Comedy" explores the various forms and styles of performance in art comedy. It deals with the relationship of humorous video and performance art to their "parent" forms of television and stage entertainment, and how the art works comment upon these popular forms. This installation also focuses on the breakdown of the traditional barriers between "fine art" and "entertainment."

Works in the exhibition will be organized into nine thematic programs, screened continuously during gallery hours, including "Musical/Comedy," "Classics of Video Comedy," "Parody: Cultural TV Station," "Short Takes/One Lines/Talking Heads," and "Cultural Docucomedies." A special showing of "The Kipper Kids in Performance" will be offered as an "Epilog/Bonus."

"Video/TV:Humor/Comedy" was organized by John Minkowski for Media Study/Buffalo, with support from the National Endowment for the Arts Film/Video Touring Program.

"The Telephone Stories" by Mitchell Kriegman provides a humorous look at how we use and are used by the telephone. Each of the five stories (3-4 minutes long) is based on a domestic mystery and deals in comic soap opera style with the misadventures of Marshall, his girl friend Janet, her son Ferguson, and their dog Banjo. Each story places the listener in the center of events as a character and participant.

"The Telephone Stories" has been successfully exhibited at the Whitney Museum of American Art in New York, the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts in Richmond, the And/Or Gallery in Seattle, and at Media/Study Buffalo in New York.

Kriegman is a writer/performer/video artist working in television, performance and radio. He has produced videotapes for NBC's "Saturday Night Live," "Mr. Mike's Mondo Video," CBS's "No Holds Barred" series and ABC's late night special "The Fourth Network." As Marshall Klugman, his performance persona, he has appeared at Franklin Furnace, The Kitchen Center, and Artists Space in New York.

"Video:Humor/TV:Comedy" and "The Telephone Stories" are sponsored by Mandeville Art Gallery, the University Events Office, and the Department of Visual Arts of the University of California, San Diego.

Mandeville Art Gallery is located at the west end of the Mandeville Center for the Arts on the campus of the University of California, San Diego. There is no admission charge and free parking is available on Saturday and Sunday. For more information phone, 452-2864.

For more information contact: Jan Seagrave, 452-3120

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