

UAM CSULB NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

art/tapes/22

September 4 – October 19, 2008

VENICE BIENNALE COMES TO SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
PIONEERING VIDEO ARTISTS FROM AROUND THE WORLD
VIDEO EXHIBITION SHOWCASING GROUND-BREAKING WORK
RARELY SEEN IN LAST 30 YEARS

LONG BEACH—The University Art Museum (UAM) presents *art/tapes/22* from September 4th to October 19th, 2008, curated by Alice Hutchison in collaboration with Maria Gloria Biccocchi and the Venice Biennale Foundation (ASAC), Italy.

Produced in Italy by major international artists such as Vito Acconci, Eleanor Antin, John Baldessari, Joseph Beuys, Christian Boltanski, Chris Burden, Daniel Buren, Gino De Dominicis, Allan Kaprow, Jannis Kounellis, Urs Lüthi, Giulio Paolini, and Bill Viola, this early work laid the foundation for video art. These videos have recently been restored by the Venice Biennale Foundation's Historic Archives of Contemporary Arts.

art/tapes/22 was a pioneering video studio in Florence, Italy operated by Maria Gloria Biccocchi from 1973 to 1976. Over 150 seminal artists videotapes were produced and distributed by *art/tapes/22*. It was Europe's first production and distribution studio for artist's videos, engaging artists the world over including LONG BEACH based BILL VIOLA, who was the technical director from 1974-76.

"The video that we worked with at *art/tapes/22* was not the video we know today. Looking at the videotapes made at that time, it is hard to believe that this grainy, low resolution, black and white image was then the advanced technology of the time." — Bill Viola¹

Artist Daniel Buren has agreed to the FIRST reconstruction of his 1974 video-installation, *From one squared section to another, 5 images, fragments of a pattern of simultaneous re-transmission, scale 1/1* originally conceived for Gerry Schum, specifically for the UAM exhibition.

"Due to the link with Long Beach via Bill Viola, and David Ross, *art/tapes/22* is important to bring to Los Angeles. The last exhibition of these tapes, *Americans in Florence/Europeans in Florence*, was in 1975; curated by DAVID ROSS while he was at the Long Beach Museum of Art. This exhibition is timed to follow the Getty's *California Video*, providing an international context for pioneering art in video." —UAM Curator of Exhibitions Alice Hutchison

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The exhibition publication for *art/tapes/22* will include Maria Gloria Biccocchi's 2003 *Tra Firenze e Santa Teresa dentro le quinte dell'arte ('73/'87) art/tapes/22*, (Cavallino publishers), translated in English for the FIRST time; with introductions by Achille Bonito Oliva, David A. Ross, and Bill Viola, and a preface by Hutchison.

art/tapes/22 exhibition artists include: Vito Acconci, Eleanor Antin, John Baldessari, Joseph Beuys, Christian Boltanski, Corinne Bronfman, Chris Burden, Daniel Buren, Giuseppe Chiari, Douglas Davis, Gino De Dominicis, Simone Forti, Terry Fox, Frank Gillette, Dan Graham, Allan Kaprow, Jannis Kounellis, Les Levine, Alvin Lucier, Urs Lüthi, Maurizio Nannucci, Jean Otth, Charlemagne Palestine, Giulio Paolini, Arnulf Rainer, Nina Sobel, and Bill Viola.

art/tapes/22 is made possible in part by the Venice Biennale Foundation, Historical Archives of Contemporary Arts; Cosetta Saba, University of Udine; CSULB Alumni Association; J. Paul Getty Museum; Gillespie Foundation; The George L. Graziadio Center for Italian Studies at California State University, Long Beach; Italian Cultural Institute of Los Angeles; Peter Norton Family Foundation; and the Pasadena Art Alliance. UAM exhibitions are made possible by the Arts Council for Long Beach, Bess Hodges Foundation, Constance W. Glenn Fund for Exhibition and Education Programs, Instructionally Related Activities Fund, and WIDE ANGLE Fund for Art + Technology.



Images l. to r.: **Vito Acconci**, *Theme Song*, 1973, 33'19", b/w single-channel video, *art/tapes/22* production. **Urs Lüthi**, *Morire d'Amore*, 1974, 8' 49", b/w single-channel video, *art/tapes/22* production, in collaboration with Galleria Diagramma, Milan. **Bill Viola**, *In Version*, 1973, 3' 43", color single-channel video, *art/tapes/22* distribution, produced by Synapse Studios, Syracuse, NY. All images: Collection of Fondazione La Biennale di Venezia Archivio Storico delle Arti Contemporanee, Venice, Italy. © Courtesy of the artists. Text credit: 'Bill Viola, *Tra Firenze e Santa Teresa dentro le quinte dell'arte ('73/'87), art/tapes/22*, Maria Gloria Biccocchi, 2003, (Cavallino publishers).

Events: Press Preview, September 4th, 11 AM
 Members Preview, September 13th, 5-6 PM
 Gallery talk with curator Alice Hutchison
 Public Reception, September 13th, 6-8 PM
 UAM@noon, September 16th, 12:15-1 PM
 Gallery talk with curator Alice Hutchison

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