Chris Hill, curator
Hallwalls Contemporary Arts Center
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THE MEDICINE SHOW

in Video Viewing Room February 8 - March 26

THE MEDICINE SHOW features work by both media artists adn practitioners of medical and healing arts, while checking up and out the paradoxical metacommunications involved in inducing audience's/patients' ease and disease, and media's and medicine's respective "practices" of picturing and referencing the body.

The program is highlighted by the North American premiere screening of Bright Eyes, an experimental docudrama by **Stuart Marshall**, commissioned for Channel 4 in Great Britain, which examines the social and political implications of the AIDS crisis, and asks questions about the media's relationship to the (re)presentation of disease. **Catherine Elwes'** There is a Myth introduces images of the body-at-work (a lactating breast) that are commonly found bound to theoretical (e.g. psychoanalytic) models; another variation of body "language," a Brazilian adolescent girls' game of embroidering the soles of their feet, is explored in Marca Registrada (Trade Mark) by **Leticia Parente.** The media image itself is further examined for toxicity in Image is Virus by Yugoslavs **Ivekovic/Martinis**, for inducing an epileptic fit in Seizure by **Pat Hearn**, and as a stage for a "live" debate between two "dead" actors (John Wayne and Susan Hayward) about developing cancer from filming next to a nuclear test site in Debate of the Dead by **Ellin Stein** and **Betsey Newman.**

Many of the pragmatic and formal issues raised by the artists' tapes surface as communicational gestures when considered in the professional healers' tapes. Hypnotherapy and mediumship is presented in a program from The Micciah Channel, a cable show (Manhattan, Louisiana, Oregon) featuring healer/therapist **Julie Winter** and produced by **Jon Child**, whose own meditation tape Water Journey has been used with burn patients. Both of these practitioners have been influenced by the work of **Milton Erickson, M.D.**, a hypnotherapist who appears in a training tape also to be screened in this program. Another tape porduced for a medical setting is that of cataract surgery performed by **John Park, M.D.** and documented by **Bill Howard**, normally presented live closed-circuit to the friends or families of surgical patients in Dr. Park's outpatient facility in Amherst, N.Y. **Bill Lent's** iconic computer-generated photographs (co-sponsored by CEPA Gallery) are reminiscent of medical magazine ads.

evening programs: **Tuesday, February 18 at 8:00 P.M. (free)**

Bright Eyes .....Stuart Marshall
There is a Myth.....Catherine Elwes
Marca Registrada.....Leticia Parente
cataract surgery.....John Park, M.D., Bill Howard

Tuesday, February 25 at 8:00 P.M. (free)

Image is Virus.....Ivekovic/Martinis
Seizure.....Pat Hearn
Debate of the Dead.....Ellin Stein & Betsey Newman
The Micciah Channel.....Julie Winter
Water Journey.....Jon Child
documentation of hypnotherapy with Milton Erickson, M.D.