

Vasulka Chamber

Department of Video and Media Art in Iceland

The National Gallery of Iceland



Opening of Vasulka Chamber 16th of October 2014

Symposium 14th & 15th of October 2014

The National Gallery of Iceland

Fríkirkjuvegur 7

101 Reykjavík

Iceland

Hours: Tuesday – Sunday 10am – 17pm

Tel: + 354 5159600

vasulka-chamber@listasafn.is

www.listasafn.is

VASULKA CHAMBER

On the occasion of the 130th anniversary of The National Gallery of Iceland, and in collaboration with artists Steina and Woody Vasulka, we proudly launch Vasulka Chamber (Vasulka-stofa), department of video and media art in Iceland at the National Gallery of Iceland.

Vasulka Chamber, initiated by The National Gallery of Iceland and VASULKA Inc. includes a part of the archive of the Vasulkas, oversees and facilitates further research on media art with the specific aim to preserve and mediate Icelandic art that relates to video, digital and multimedia art, just as the museum is devoted to the preservation of art of non-electronic mediums. An important part of this preservation process involves rescuing video works from damage, and preserving techniques and tools that have been replaced by different technology and devices. That is why another important task for the Vasulka Chamber is to digitize a great part of analogue multimedia works of Icelandic artists for future mediation. Vasulka Chamber is designed to be a hub for video, digital, audio and multimedia art in Iceland, with a primary focus on the video and media art of the Vasulkas.

Vasulka Chamber is collaborating with Brno University of Technology and FAMU Film and TV School of Academy of Performing Arts in Prague.

Opening of Vasulka Chamber 16th of October 2014

SYMPOSIUM 14th & 15th of October 2014

In conjunction with the opening of Vasulka Chamber, The National Gallery of Iceland will host a two day symposium. The first program is titled '*Nordic Digital Conversation*' and the second is titled '*Steina and Woody Vasulka's Archives*'.

Speakers:

Steina and Woody Vasulka.



Hanna Maria Attila, Director of AV-Arkki, Helsinki.

Don Foresta, research artist and theoretician in art.

Dr. Jean Gagnon, Director of preservation and access to collections at the Cinémathèque Québécoise in Montreal, Québec, former Director of the **Daniel Langlois Foundation**.

Hrafnhildur Gunnarsdóttir, film-maker.

Anna-Karin Larsson, Director of Filmform, Sweden.

Per Platou, Director and Ida Ghosh, Manager of Videokunstarkivet, Oslo.

Dr. Halldór Björn Runólfsson, Director of The National Gallery of Iceland.

Kristín Scheving, Head of Vasulka Chamber.

Gaby Wijers, Director of LIMA, Amsterdam.

Moderator: Kati Kivinen, curator at Kiasma Art Museum, Helsinki.

ABOUT STEINA & WOODY VASULKA

Steina [Steinunn Briem Bjarnadóttir] (1940–) was born and raised in Reykjavik and studied violin in Prague in 1959–1965. There she met her husband to be, filmmaker Woody [Bohuslav Peter] Vasulka (1937–). In 1968 they got married and Woody received citizenship in Iceland. A year later they moved to New York City where they soon became actively involved in the development of the global video revolution that was in the making. In 1971 they founded **The Kitchen** in Manhattan, the most renowned multimedia center in the world. In 1973 Steina and Woody left New York City and settled in Buffalo, where they worked as professors at SUNY University, the world's first university department of practical multimedia studies. In 1981 they moved to Santa Fe, New Mexico, where they have since lived and worked.

Sponsored by:



norden

Nordic Culture Fund



norden

Nordic Culture Point

Press contact:

Kristín Scheving

Head of Vasulka Chamber, National Gallery of Iceland

T: +3545159605 / vasulka-chamber@listasafn.is

Images info:

Woody Vasulka, „Untitled (AG_Steel_Map)“, 2007, digital print, copyright: the Vasulkas

Steina „Lilith“, 1987, video still, copyright: the Vasulkas

Steina & Woody Vasulka „Noisefields“, 1974, video still, copyright: the Vasulkas

Photo of Steina and Woody Vasulka comes from their archive.