Estonia

A Selected Chronology

by Andres Härm

Works **Events** 1970-76 - Jüri Okas makes nine 16mm and 8mm films, including Waterdigger (1971), Plastic (1972), Textile Wiener (1972) and Weekend (1972), which can be considered "video-without-video" works 1980 - Kaarel Kurismaa, TV-set Avant-garde No. 855, TV-sculpture - Leonhard Lapin, The Multiplied Man, "augmented spectacle" with lasers and TV-sets using live transmission is produced at the Youth Theatre in Tallinn as part of the cultural programme of the Moscow Olympics 1981 - Estonian Television (ETV) acquires its first portable and mobile video cameras 1986 - art students from Tartu University record a video performance called Aida with a Soviet video camera and recorder 1987-88 1987 - performance artists Siim-Tanel Annus, Jaan Toomik and members of an artist group Rühm T: - the majority of works shown at the Festival of Raoul Kurvitz, Urmas Muru, and Peeter Pere Film Amateurs are in a video format start to use video to document their actions 1989 - Videokunst, the first comprehensive Estonianlanguage article on video art, is written and published by Raivo Kelomees 1990 - Tiia Johannson, Black Sun (1990/1993), and Raivo Kelomees Paper Etude (1990/1993); while studying media art at the Kuvataideakademia in Helsinki, Finland, Johannson gets access to video equipment and, together with Kelomees, makes video footage, which they are able to edit only in 1993 in Tallinn

1992

- Raivo Kelomees, *Dry Video Art*, a piece consisting of photo shots and paper copies of TV-sets and screens exhibited at the group show *Artmix*
- Ando Keskkülas, *Opus Petra*, video installation produced for the EXPO in Sevilla in 1992 to represent Estonia in the Baltic Pavilion
- Estonian Television records Jaan Toomiks' performance *Tatoo*

1993

- Estonian Television records Jaan Toomiks' performance **AAAAA** at the Türisalu bank
- Raivo Kelomees, **Grasps**, **To Hug To Scud**, **Road**, **Paper Etude**; Rainer Kurm, Jaak Saks, and Martin Vällik, **Early Spring**, video installation, works produced for the 1st annual exhibition of Soros Centre of Contemporary Art Substance-Unsubstance
- Raoul Kurvitz, *Dediee A, Untitled, Gallery, Coda, In Between*, and Ene-Liis Semper, *Ultra, Femina, Fashion, Home* (1993–1994), video works produced for the Estonian Television documentary series *Life Styles* hosted by Kurvitz; the show was aired in the years 1993–1996

1994

- Raoul Kurvitz, *PCS 07-11 (Pentatonic Colour System)*, computer installation produced in collaboration with composer Ariel Lagle for the 2nd Annual Soros Exhibition *Unexistent Art*
- Jaan Toomik creates his first video installation *Untitled* (Prague–Tallinn–São Paolo) for the São Paolo Biennial

1995

- Ando Keskküla, *Always*, the first interactive video installation in Estonia
- Jaan Toomiks' **Dancing Home** exhibited at the ARS 01 in Helsinki becomes the first international hit piece by an Estonian video artist

1992

- an hi-8 camera at the Soros Centre of Contemporary Arts in Tallin is used by emerging Estonian video artists to produce their first works

1993

- E-Meedia Centre, an electronic media and art centre is founded at the Estonian Academy of Arts by Ando Keskküla.
- the 1st edition of French-Baltic Videoart Festival takes place in Tallinn

1995

- the Interstanding Conference, international event dedicated to new media and and new media art is founded

1997

- the Interstanding transforms into a biannual international new media exhibition accompanied by a conference