

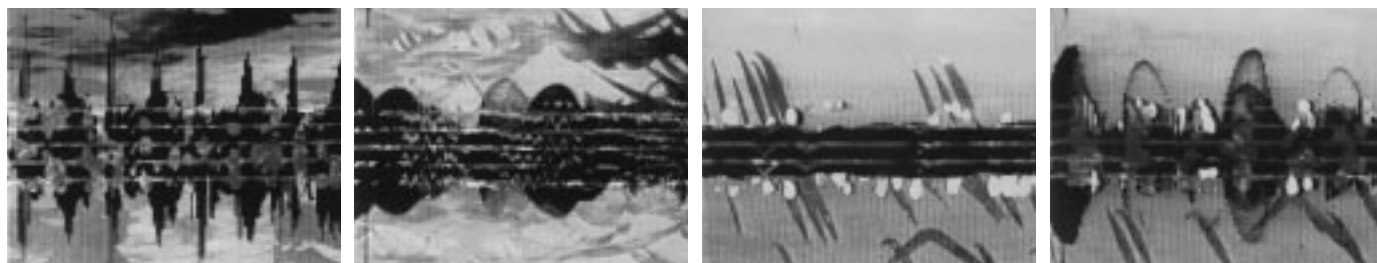
# VOCALIZATIONS 1990

## A PROJECTED VIDEO ENVIRONMENT BY STEINA

WITH JOAN LA BARBARA

*There is an integration of sound and image in which the singing voice of Joan La Barbara produces energetic permutations in a grid of lines reminiscent of the musical staff of traditional music notation, forming a window onto images of a moving landscape. The rifts, chants, and scat singing of La Barbara's voice become a visual dance in this electronic scape.*

— MARITA STURKEN, WRITER AND CURATOR



### DESCRIPTION

VOCALIZATIONS is a projected video environment for four video and eight audio channel presentation in a fifteen minute repeating program. Each of the four video disk players provides one video and two audio sources to four screens and eight speakers. A synchronizer aligns the four channels of video for synchronous playback. At the end of each cycle the program automatically returns and re-synchronizes for a repeat performance.

In creating VOCALIZATIONS, the singer Joan La Barbara not only made sounds but virtually composed the work in the style of real-time performance: images of the Southwest desert landscapes were intercut and combined by her voice pattern while she observed incoming visuals. Later, Steina added speed changes, directional variations, and additional electronic voice processing to the final collage.

### THE SPACE

The minimum active space required is 7.5 meters by 7.5 meters by 3.5 meters high, or 25 feet by 25 feet by 12 feet high. The major consideration in terms of space is the total avoidance of ambient light. The space should be painted white but no light source should exist, other than the one that emanates from the projectors themselves. The entrance must be well insulated from light and sound. Most ideal is a double trap door with sound insulating material. (See floor plan and entrance diagrams.)

### EQUIPMENT

The Vasulkas can provide all the equipment listed below, or share resources with the exhibitor. This will be reflected in both shipping and equipment budgets.

4 matching projectors	4 speakers
4 projector stands	4 speaker stands or wall mounts
4 Pioneer Video Laser Disk Players, LD-V series	10 video cables approx. 3 feet (1 meter) long each
4 program video laser disks, NTSC, color	2 pairs of stereo cables
1 four channel synchronizer	4 speaker cables
2 stereo audio amplifiers (4 audio channels)	21 power outlets

NOTE: The laser disk synchronizer used by the Vasulkas is custom built and interfaces only with Pioneer Industrial Laser Disk Players (2200 to 8000 Series). It is not interchangeable with laser disk players from other manufacturers, such as Sony and Phillips, which require a commercially available synchronizing device.

## PROJECTORS AND SPEAKERS PLACEMENT

The projectors are placed on the floor in the middle of the exhibition space aiming into the four corners, breaking the video frame on the two walls. The speakers are dispersed at equal distances in the hall.

## SOUND AND IMAGE ADJUSTMENT

Treble should be normal and bass at maximum. Contrast should be high and brightness below middle. The basic rule here is to set up the proper deep color black as a reference to the maximum contrast and brightness. With that, the other components (hue, color saturation) can be assigned. The persons installing the environment must use their esthetic judgment as to the proper monitor settings for maximum visual impact.

## DAILY OPERATIONS

**TO START:** Power up disk players and synchronizer, turn the projectors on (verify pilot light). Wait a short while to verify that the installation is starting synchronously. If not, turn power off and on again for the players and synchronizer, NOT THE PROJECTOR. If problem persists, notify Steina by phone, fax, or e-mail.

**TO SHUT DOWN:** Turn the projector's power off locally (the fan will keep going until the units have sufficiently cooled down). After the fans stop, turn off power distributors for the projectors, disk players, and synchronizer.

**ATTENTION:** the projectors may only be turned off by the power switch on the units and never by pulling the cable out, as the unit needs to be cooled down (about one minute) by the internal fan.

**MAINTENANCE:** The projection lenses and the mirrors need to be cleaned with a soft cloth at least once a week.

## POWER REQUIREMENTS

(depending on equipment used)

Video projectors:	Sharp XG-2000U	230 watts
	Sharp XV- P10U	175 watts
Stereo amplifiers:		150 watts
Video disk players:	Pioneer 2200	70 watts
	Pioneer 8000	100 watts
Synchronizer:	Jericho Data Systems	40 watts

Outside USA, use a Power Transformer 220 to 110, 1000w.

## SHIPPING INFORMATION

Installation is shipped in three crates. Weight and dimensions available upon request.

Shipped to and from:

**Steina and Woody Vasulka**  
Route 6, Box 100  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501  
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