

Arts of Asia Lecture Series Fall 2016  
From Monet to Ai Weiwei: How We Got Here  
*Sponsored by The Society for Asian Art*

December 2, 2016

**“Globalism and New Media -- The Long History of World’s Fairs & Biennials”**  
(with an emphasis on the role of Asian artists in now-global ‘biennial culture’)

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**KEY WORKS**

Historical comparisons

Courbet, Gustave. Sketches and documentation for “Pavillion du Realisme,” 1855.  
Manet, Edouard. *Vue de l’exposition universelle de 1867*. Nasjonalgalleriet, Oslo  
Picasso, Pablo. *Guernica*, 1937. Museo Reina Sofia, Madrid  
Mondrian, Piet. *Broadway Boogie Woogie*, 1943. Museum of Modern Art, New York

Contemporary New Media Art (with an emphasis on projects installed at biennials)

Bing Xu, *Tian Shu/ Book from Heaven*, as installed at the Elvehjem Museum of Art, University of Wisconsin, in 1991; now collection China Art Gallery, Beijing  
Cai Guo-Qiang, *Cultural Melting Bath: Projects for the 20th Century*, installed at the Lyon Biennale d’Art Contemporain, 2000  
Chalayan, Hussein. *Absent Presence*, installed at the off-site Turkish Pavilion, Venice Biennale, 2005  
Mori, Mariko. *Wave UFO*, installed in the main exhibition at the Venice Biennale in 2005  
Rist, Pipilotti. *Homo Sapiens Sapiens*, installed in the baroque church, San Stae, as off-site Swiss Pavilion, Venice Biennale, 2005  
Viola, Bill. *Buried Secrets*, narrative installation using high-definition video projection, US Pavilion, 1995

**GLOSSARY OF “NEW MEDIA”**

*Digital convergence* – the convergence of sound, video, text, and other formerly separate media into a digitally processed platform or interface, that allows for flow, potentially over computers/ world wide web. Platforms such as mp3, mp4, and others use compression algorithms to convey images, texts, sounds, and moving images on portable, internet enabled devices – often with substantial loss of resolution or “fidelity” to historic media forms such as film, vinyl, or paint.

*Installation* – a process of architectural “framing,” usually in an enclosed gallery space, that shifts from a curatorial term (e.g., curators “install artworks”) to an artistic practice, around 1980 (e.g., “Cildo Mereiles produced an installation”). Often multi-media and multi-sensorial, sometimes ephemeral and/or site-specific.

*New media* – an ill-defined term that begins to circulate following digital convergence in the 1990s, encompassing digital video, computer interfaces, and durational practices with a technological component

*Performance art* – emerging as a term, distinguishing itself from Happenings or other durational, theatrical, or dance-based practices in the 1990s

*Projection* – tends to be used for video (see video projection) but in fact can still encompass celluloid film projection, slide projections, or other light-based media cast from one source (a projector) to an available surface or atmospheres (e.g. “expanded cinema” projections of pure light into smoke-filled rooms, for which see Anthony McCall)

*Time-based media* – an umbrella term for video and performance in gallery settings, begins to circulate in the 2000’s

*Video technology* – originally an analogue tape medium first accessible to artists in the 1960’s (with Nam June Paik’s purchase of a Sony Portapak in 1965 given as a foundational instance), “video” as a term has now migrated to any recording or playback of moving imagery that does not involve celluloid

*Video projection* – shifts from a film technology available in theaters to a new capacity with video (in the 1970s and ‘80s it was via VHS and split-color “beamers”), retooled for digital computer assisted projection around 1995 (signature moment: Bill Viola’s 1995 installation at the Venice Biennale.)

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Rhizome.org (ongoing). <http://rhizome.org/art>. Website and online community by and for “new media artists” working with digital video and other new formats. Includes exhibits, news, and more.

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JKS 2/6/2016 1:51 PM

**Comment [1]:** Add “et al., eds.” to cites where missing?

JKS 2/6/2016 8:04 PM

**Comment [2]:** Change cites in notes to Meyer et al. (2003) where different.

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**Comment [3]:** Abbreviate cite in notes.

Caroline Jones 3/10/2016 8:22 PM

**Comment [4]:** space needed?