

Constance DeJong & Tony Oursler

es, study for video. Photo: Museum of Fine Arts, Bosto

RELATIVES by Constance DeJong and Tony Oursler

RELATIVES, a collaboration between writer Constance DeJong and artist Tony Oursler, presents a modern icon: Person and Screen. It combines Oursler's video and DeJong's spoken text to create a fictitious family. As the performer and video interact, a tale of shifting identity emerges, shaped through the lineage of the media. The interrelations between technological evolution and biological generations form a hybrid family tree.

Original Music: Neil Leonard Video Players: Mark Annulli, Robert Gibson, Stephanie Goode, Kate Reiche and Kim Salt Vocals: Dominique Eade

Guitar/Music Consultant: Brian Carey Production Assistant: Stephanie Goode

Video Assistance: Joe Briganti Camera (Beanie scene): Blyth Hazin

Topas Computer Renderings: Brian Williams

Computer Consultants: Diane Roman and Ron Wallace

Painting: Constance, Albert Pinkham Ryder, (1986), collection of the Museum of Fine Art, Boston.

Weather Maps: WBZ TV, Boston (October 27, 1988), and Kavouras,

Inc. Minneapolis.

Film Montage: Blood and Sand (1922) with Rudolph Valentino, (silent); Cleopatra (1963) with Elizabeth Taylor and Richard Burton; The Final Extra (1927) with Marguerite DeLaMotte; The Road to Yesterday (1925) by Cecil B. DeMille.

TV Montage: Voyage to the Bottom of the Sea, Lost in Space, Hazel, The Trouble with Father and The Beula Show.

Kung Fu Sequence: Shaolin Challenges Ninja (1987) with Liu Chio Hui.

Video Game Montage: Super Contra, SDI, Galaxy's End, Interceptor, and Terror Pods. Fractal Images: Collapse of a Siegel Disk by Robert Duvaney, Boston University, Mathematics Department.

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Constance DeJong was born in Canton, Ohio in 1947. She received a BA from Ohio State University and an MA from Hunter College. She is one of the young post-modern writers who has made performance a natural extension of her work as a writer. She has performed adaptations from Modern Love (1977), and The Lucy Amarillo Stories (1978), internationally. She wrote the libretto and book for Satyagraha (1981), an opera for Phillip Glass. DeJong has contributed to Drama Review, Arts, Art Press International, Impulse and Artforum as well as others. DeJong recently completed an audio/text work for Seattle's Woodland Park Zoo and collaborated on a videotape, In Shadow City, with Ken Feingold.

Tony Oursler was born in New York City in 1957. He received a BFA from California Institute for the Arts and has exhibited his video work internationally in both solo and group shows at spaces including The Kitchen, the Centre Pompidou, the Stedelijk Museum, Lincoln Center, PS1, LACE, Los Angeles Center of Photographic Studies, Diane Brown Gallery and the Walker Arts Center. He collaborated in 1988 on Joy Ride TM with Constance DeJong. Oursler currently teaches video at the Massachusetts College of Art, Boston.

Neil Leonard was born in Boston in 1959. He is a graduate of the New England Conservatory of Music and is active as a composer, instrumentalist and interdisciplinary artist. He has appeared with East Coast and Caribbean groups, including "Henry Jimeniz y la Nueva Organization," "Lunk" and "The Bob Jones Experience."

The Contemporary Art Television Fund (Producer) began in 1983 with a Massachusetts Council on the Arts and Humanities New Works Development Award. Set up as a collaboration between the ICA and the WGBH New Television Workshop, it was designed to foster the highest level of excellence in the exploration of television as a creative medium. The CAT Fund has commissioned seventeen new video works, including works for television, performance, installation and interactive videodisc The CAT Fund receives support from the Massachusetts Council on the Arts and Humanities, the National Endowment for the Arts, the WGBH Educational Foundation and the Charles Engelhard Foundation.

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