

Salon

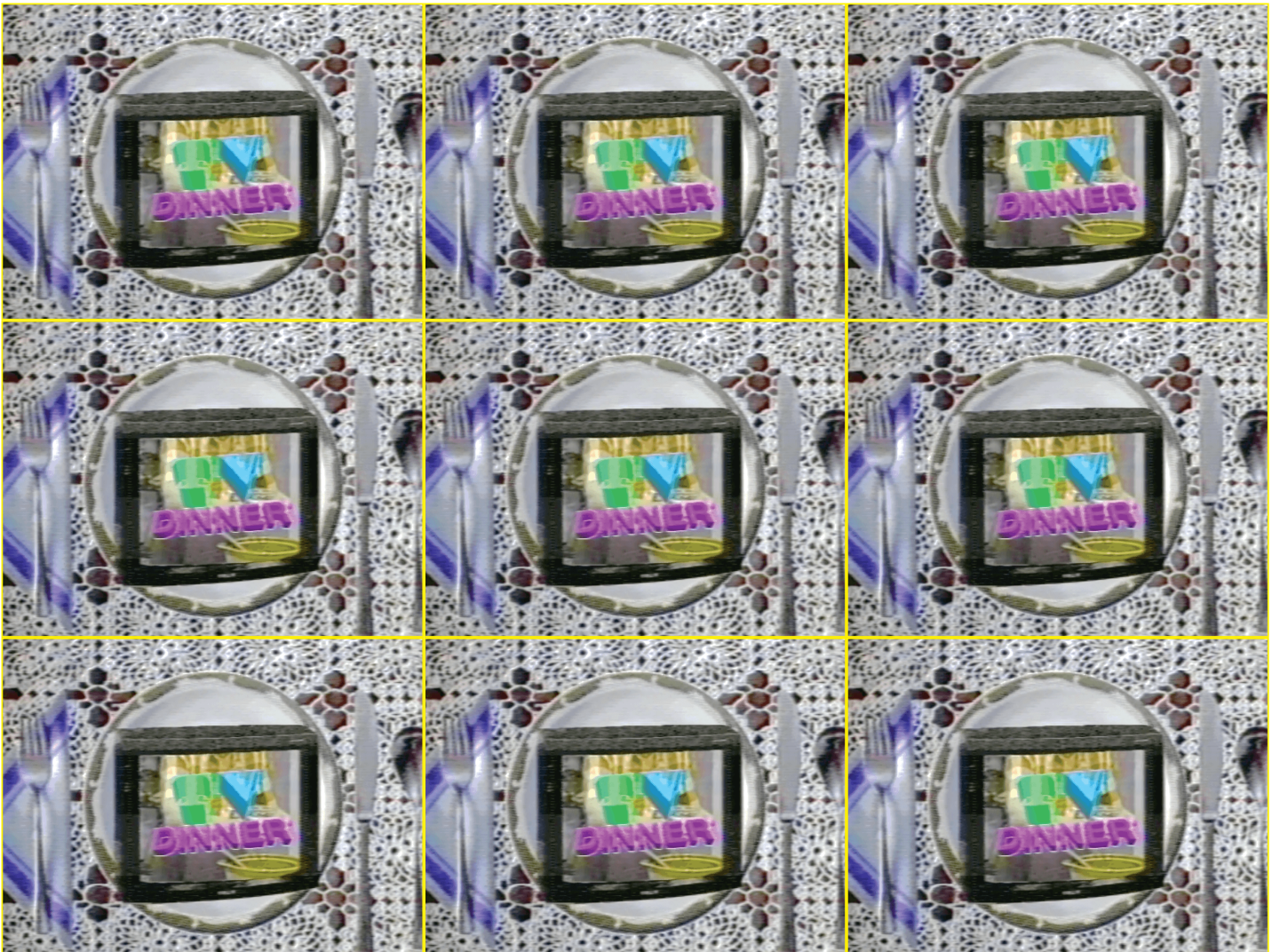
Spring

2023

Community Curator: TV Dinner

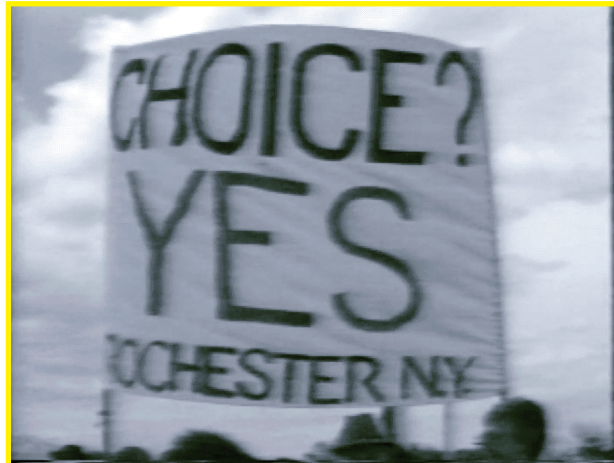
May 11, 7-9pm

Visual Studies Workshop • 31 Prince Street Rochester, NY • Suggested: \$10



TV Dinner was the media task force of Rochester's Metro Justice for more than two decades, and helped chronicle many of Metro Justice's concerns and activities, including racial justice, reproductive choice, utility issues, and the ongoing struggle for universal healthcare. Founded in 1987, TV Dinner ran video training workshops, film screenings, community art events and organized a weekly cable access television program.

In Summer 2022, Metro Justice gifted the TV Dinner archive to VSW. This extensive collection of over 1,200 videotapes include produced programs, community reports, documentation of civic events, speeches, rallies, confrontations and celebrations created and collected by Metro Justice members. This program features selections from the TV Dinner archive selected and presented by original TV Dinner producers Ruth Cowing, Nancy Rosin, and Maria Scipione.



TV Dinner Sample for NYSCA (1990)



Central American Days of Protest (1985)

Ruth Cowing has worked in film/video/ photography/publications for over 40 years. She has worked at Afterimage, TV DINNER, City Newspaper, and as Festival Director/Co-Programmer at the High Falls Film Festival. She co-founded/co-directed the Reel Mind Theatre & Film Series and the Rochester Int'l Children's Film Festival. She is currently the Director of Communications at Spiritus Christi Church.

Nancy Rosin is an activist and videographer who spent over 40 years documenting the work of numerous progressive political movements in Rochester NY. In addition to her involvement with Portable Channel, TV Dinner and a number of early feminist groups, she is the author of a history of the Rochester Public Market.

Maria Scipione has been an activist in Rochester since moving here in 1977. She was the organizer for then Metro Act in the late 80s. She currently is an actor, director, and teacher. She works at The Harley School and the College at Brockport.

Program

Variety

• **TV Dinner Sample (1991)**

Original Format: 3/4" Umatic

This tape features excerpts from TV Dinner segments "TV Dinner PSA" "1492-1992: Celebration/ Reconsideration," and "Resistance to War."

• **TV Dinner PSA for NYSCA (1990)**

Original Format: 3/4" Umatic

Several excerpts from TV Dinner broadcasts. Includes clips of an AIDS quilt event, Noam Chomsky's visit to Rochester, an interview with Shirley Chisholm, and a Puerto Rican dance company.

• **TV Dinner Sample for NYSCA (1992/1993)**

Original Format: 3/4" Umatic

A TV Dinner compilation tape for grant funding. Includes an excerpt from "National Healthcare."

Reproductive Rights

• **TV Dinner Sample for NYSCA (1990)**

Original Format: 3/4" Umatic

Excerpt detailing the 1989 March on Washington over abortion rights.

Police

• **TV Dinner: Policing the Police Part 2 (1992)**

Original Format: 3/4" Umatic

Speakers including Rev. Raymond Graves, Matthew Rusco, Denise Young, Wilma Boddie-Beamon, Erskine Nero, Rev. Lewis W. Stewart, and others discuss civilian review of the Rochester Police Department.

• **TV Dinner: Police Brutality Speakout (1996)**

Original Format: 3/4" Umatic

This episode of TV Dinner focuses on a public speakout at New Bethel Church (Rochester, NY) about civilian control over the Rochester Police Department after an incident involving police brutality. Speakers discuss their interactions with the police and city officials in Rochester, and include Mayor William A. Johnson Jr.

Central America

• **Central American Days of Protest at Federal Building (1985)**

Original Format: VHS

Scenes and interviews from a "death march" protest against US intervention in Central America at the Federal Building in downtown Rochester. Alejandro Gomez, a trade union activist from El Salvador, speaks to the crowd.

• **TV Dinner: Central America (1987)**

Original Format: 3/4" Umatic

Sally McCoy speaks about Central America.

All tapes have been excerpted for this program

The VSW Salon is a bi-monthly engagement in the VSW microcinema featuring film screenings, artist talks, Community Curator events, performances, photo presentations and conversations. VSW Salon showcases the work of local and national artists, and invites them to present their work in an intimate “microcinema” equipped to show 16mm, Super 8, digital photography and video on state of the art equipment.

The Community Curator program invites representatives from community groups in the Rochester region to curate film screenings using VSW’s collection of over 10,000 film and video titles. Participants in the program work with the Curator of Moving Image Collections to research and select a full program of films that speak to the interests of the group, while opening a broader dialog with the Rochester community. The goals of the Community Curator program are to empower cultural organizations to create their own media programming, expand global and cultural awareness within the Rochester community, and strengthen ties between students, artists, and communities that will cultivate and advance multi-cultural relationships.

