

VISUAL STUDIES WORK SHOP

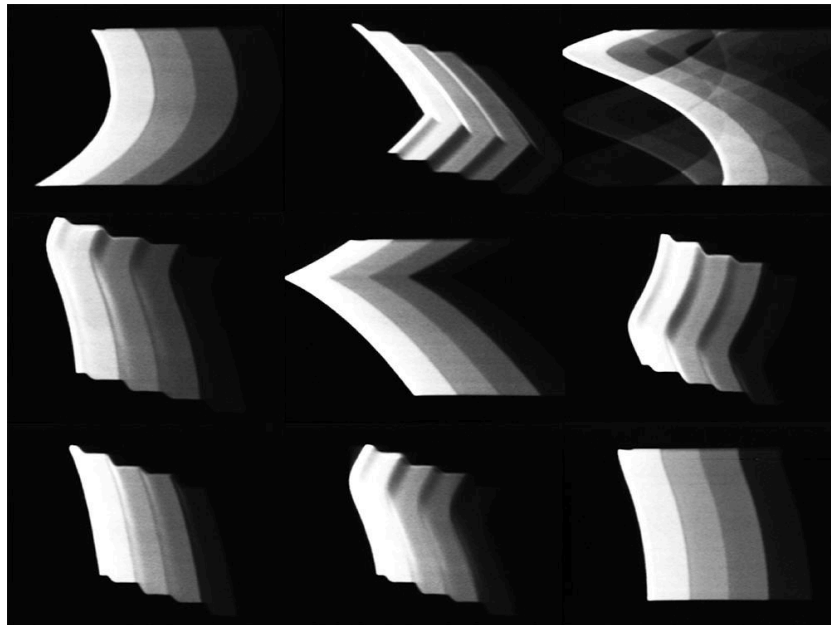
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VISUAL STUDIES WORKSHOP ANNOUNCES PEER BODE: SIGNAL INTO MEMORY EXHIBITION



Peer Bode: Signal into Memory (image from "Process Tapes: Rutt Etra")

Rochester, NY (December 17, 2025)—Visual Studies Workshop (VSW) announces its **Peer Bode: Signal into Memory** exhibition, on view in Rochester, NY February 6 through June 6, 2026. The exhibition features projections and installations of recently digitized videotapes from Peer Bode's archive which have never been shown publicly.

For more than five decades, video artist **Peer Bode** (Hornell, NY) has created an influential body of work that investigates electronic media events, systems of perception, and the cultural impact of media tools and technologies. His earliest works were made at the Experimental Television Center, where he worked with video processing tools and innovative engineers to expand upon the possibilities of the emerging field of video. This exhibition will feature an extended selection of Bode's "Process Tapes", many of which were recorded as real time events at the Experimental Television Center between 1975-83.

Bode's career is deeply rooted in Western New York and the Southern Tier. He served as Program Coordinator and artist-in-residence at the Experimental Television Center (Binghamton, NY; Owego, NY; now based in Atlanta, GA) in the late 1970s, completed graduate

studies in the Media Study Program at the State University of New York at Buffalo, and later led the Video Arts Program at the School of Art and Design, NYSCC at Alfred University. His work has been widely exhibited, including at Anthology Film Archives, The Kitchen, MoMA, the Whitney Biennial, P.S.1, and the New York Avant-Garde Film Festival, as well as in Paris, Stockholm, Medellín, China, and other international venues.

Signal into Memory includes projections and installations of recently digitized videotapes from the artist's archive which have never been shown publicly, as well as prints that reflect his work with video in material form. Throughout the exhibition there will be a series of events featuring video artists and toolmakers as part of the VSW Salon (to be announced in January 2026). In May, 2026, VSW Press will release a companion publication, expanding upon the works in the exhibition and including original essays and images from Bode's archive.

Peer Bode: Signal into Memory is curated by Tara Nelson and Nilson Carroll of Visual Studies Workshop, where Bode's tapes have been preserved.

Tara Nelson, Chief Curator at VSW says, "Peer Bode's work with electronic media has significantly influenced the field of video art for the past 50 years. By working directly with the artist to preserve his archive, my co-curator, Nilson Carroll, and I have gained a deeper understanding of Bode's experimentation with the electronic signal as both an art form and a social system. The videos in this exhibition — many of which have never been seen publicly — are exciting examples of the potential of video as an interactive environment, and will invite viewers into a living archive of video art."

Exhibition Details

Peer Bode: Signal into Memory

February 6 through June 6, 2026

Gallery Hours:

Wednesday - Friday, 11am to 6pm

Saturday, Noon to 4pm

At Visual Studies Workshop, 36 King Street, Rochester NY 14608

Learn more: vsw.org/exhibition/peer-bode-signal-into-memory/

Peer Bode Bio:

Video artist Peer Bode (pronounced "Pear BOHdah") has been working with video, performance, sound and multiple forms of printed media for over five decades. Bode is a graduate of Binghamton University's Cinema Department, and has studied with Larry Gottheim, Nicholas Ray, Ken Jacobs and Peter Kubelka, and later with Woody and Steina Vasulka, Paul Sharits, Tony Conrad and Hollis Frampton at SUNY Buffalo's Media Study Program. Bode worked at the Experimental Television Center (ETC), which his lifelong mentor and friend Ralph Hocking established in Binghamton in 1969. At the ETC, Bode made his foundational early works while assisting and collaborating with the video artist and engineer David Jones, whose "Jones Frame Buffer" became a signature processor within Bode's oeuvre.

About Visual Studies Workshop: Visual Studies Workshop nurtures experimental and expansive approaches to photography and media arts, and builds community among artists and the public through exhibitions, publications and residencies. VSW was founded in 1969 in Rochester, NY by photographer, educator and curator Nathan Lyons (1930–2016), and became one of the earliest independent, not-for-profit, artist-run spaces in the country. More than 50 years later, the organization's mission is reflected in its core programs: VSW Salon screenings and exhibitions, Project Space Artist Residencies, and VSW Press. In support of VSW programs, the organization holds substantial photography and moving image research collections and an art library for artists, critics and the general public to explore, research and reuse. vsw.org

VSW programs are currently supported by The New York State Council on the Arts with the support of the New York State Legislature, Konar Foundation, Joy of Giving Something, Monroe County NY, The Phillip and Edith Leonian Foundation, and all our members and individual supporters.

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