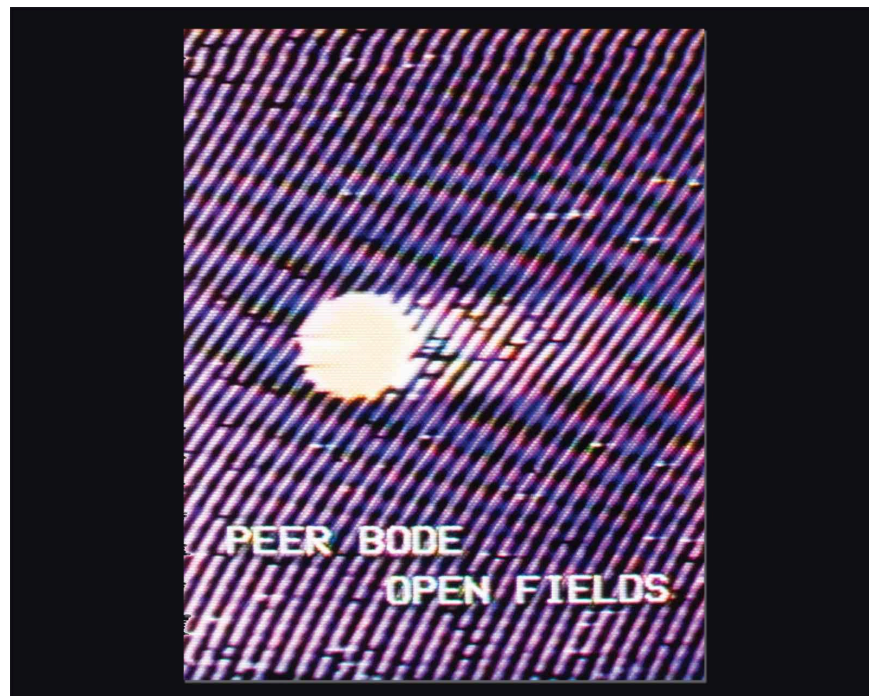


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VSW PRESS RELEASES *PEER BODE: OPEN FIELDS*

Rochester, NY (April 2, 2026) Visual Studies Workshop (VSW) announces *Peer Bode: Open Fields*, the latest publication from VSW Press/Film Art Book imprint, to be released May 2026.

This unique artist book centers around video recordings made in the early 1970s by artist **Peer Bode** during a period of experimentation with synthesized video tools and techniques at the Experimental Television Center in Binghamton and Owego, NY. Bode was among the first artists to explore the potential of the video signal as an artistic form.

Peer Bode: Open Fields reflects upon Bode's earliest inquiries and inventions with video processing, and includes excerpts from his personal archive of ephemera, notebooks and recordings. The book includes an essay by artist **Sherry Miller Hocking** and transcripts from a conversation between Bode and **Hank Rudolph**, co-founder of Signal Culture.

“*Peer Bode: Open Fields* provides essays, images and never before seen ephemera from the archive of an artist who was deeply involved with the early video art scene. This book shines a light on the practice and philosophy of an artist who was experimenting, inventing and theorizing the potential of video and its impact on society in the earliest days of the form. *Peer Bode: Open Fields* truly reflects Bode’s approach to working with the video signal, making it a unique publication in the field of artists’ books,” shares **Tara Merenda Nelson, VSW Chief Curator and Managing Editor of VSW Press.**

Currently on view at Visual Studies Workshop, the ***Peer Bode: Signal into Memory*** exhibition, runs 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.

VSW will host an [in-person and online book launch event](#) on May 14, 7-9pm.

Peer Bode: Open Fields

Publication date: May 2026

Perfect bound softcover

8 x 10 inches, 165 pages

Full color photographs

ISBN 0-89822-215-X

\$45.00

[LINK to online bookstore](#)

Sample spreads and images available, contact VSW Publicist Mariclare Hulbert at mariclare.hulbert@gmail.com

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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