

"Video Flag x" by Nam June Paik will be at Detroit Institute of Arts through March 2. Three tapes, one for the stars and two for the stripes, run continuously. Each is a half hour long. Because they are not coordinated, the full image is seldom, if ever, duplicated.

Artist makes electronic flag from television sets

"Video Flag x" by video and performance artist Nam June Paik, is at Detroit Institute of Arts through Sunday, March 2. Combining characteristics of painting and sculpture, "Video Flag x" consists of 84, 10-inch color television sets, which form a 10 by 13 by 2 foot sculpture with a continuously changing visual matrix.

Stars and stripes suggesting the image of the American flag are produced from video tapes completely reworked by the artist to produce a series of brilliant, flickering images in red, white and blue. Twenty sets form the star section and 64 sets represent the stripes created by split screens. Originated by the Carl Solway Gallery

of Cincinnati, Ohio, "Video Flag x" was shown for the first time at the Chicago Exposition for International Art in May 1985.

This electronic painting is neither a political statement nor a symbol of patriotism, Paik said. "It is pure art. Pure abstract art. Any job is to show that TV does not have to be soap operas and sitcoms. It can be this. Duchamp showed the shovel as an art work and I show TVs. This is my mental gymnastics."

Korean-born Paik is internationally recognized as the source of the video art movement. Since his first rewired television sets in 1963, Paik has tried to expand

the limits of this electronic medium.

The DIA showing of "Video Flag x" is made possible with support of Lila and Gilbert Silverman of Southfield. As a companion exhibit, a group of Paik's etchings are on display in the galleries, Cavanaugh Wing, second level.

The exhibits are free and open during regular hours, 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Tuesday-Sunday.

Jeanne Love of the department of modern art will discuss "Video Flag x" in a free Masterwork of the Week gallery talk at 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 22, and Friday, Jan. 24.

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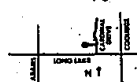


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County is ready with bright ideas

Local governments, historical societies and museums have been contacted in an effort to seek events recognizing the 1988-89 Michigan Sesquicentennial celebration in Oakland County.

"These festivities will be collated into a poster for redistribution to each community so that each event will be

well publicized and attended," said Virginia DeBenham Rodgers, chairman of the two-year celebration in Oakland County.

"Communities seeking ideas for celebrations within their communities can contact the Cultural Affairs office at Oakland County," Rodgers said. "We

have a list of 150 suggestions from which to choose."

Call 858-0415 for Sesquicentennial Celebration '88-'89 information.

The Sesquicentennial flag was raised in early fall by County Executive Daniel T. Murphy at the County Service Center and flies daily beneath the state flag.



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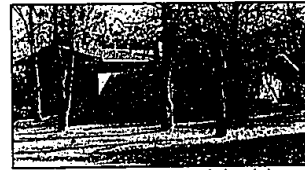
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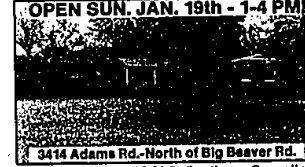
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