

EXPANDED EDUCATION FOR THE PAPERLESS SOCIETY[©]

MUSIC

by NAM JUNE PAIK

GREAT THINKERS

It is a blunder, bordering on a miracle, that we have no, or very few, images and voices of the great thinkers of the recent past on record, especially as the 16mm talkie was readily available. For instance we have hardly a record of Husserl, Freud, Proust, Joyce, Kandinsky, Berdyaev, Merlau-Ponti, Suzuki, Gide, Thomas Mann, Schoenberg, Varese, Bartok, Mondrian, Dilthey, Wittgenstein, Shaw, Valery, Jung, Keynes, Buber—even Nietzsche and Tolstoy lived well into the film age, as did Thomas Edison himself. This negative wonder is the biggest waste of instructional resources, if we recall how much footage of late-late-show movie and Hitler newsreel was filmed. Therefore, nothing is more urgent and successproof than to film the images and voices of aging great thinkers of today, and yesterday, in sufficient and surplus quantity, who might pass away any day, such as Marcel Duchamp, Jaspers, Heidegger, Gabriel Marcel, Ortega Y Gasset, Lucasc, Toynbee, Radaklishnan, Ernst Bloch, Niebuhr, Puller, Sartre and Russell. The interviewer should be a qualified philosopher himself and the camera crew as minimal as possible, so that Jaspers or Heidegger can talk as naturally as "Chelsea Girls". An NBC or NET-style expensive film technique is not only unnecessary, but may be harmful for this subject.

PHILOSOPHY

America has 5,000 colleges, which require 20,000 philosophy teachers. The shortage of qualified teachers of philosophy is acute, especially at the junior community college level. This discipline cannot profit much from automatic devices or computerized quiz machines. The supreme act of "philosophieren" requires a total involvement of the whole personality. Therefore new information techniques such as videotape, film, audio devices, loop techniques, non-linear printing techniques, light art, stroboscope, medical electronics, brain wave transmission should be used for the total conveyance of great philosophers' messages, and for the stimulation of students' own "Philosophieren" and maybe for the preparation of post-McLuhan, non-linear, possibly more iconographic and totally involved 22nd century philosophy. If philosophy wants to recover the hegemony which it held for centuries, the students of philosophy proper should also be exposed to today's electronic situation, instead of to parchment philology.

Needless to say, Jaspers and Heidegger's own explanations about themselves would be a strong means for qualitative and quantitative improvement of philosophy education. This technique applies also to other humanities and social sciences, in which personality and scholarship are essentially combined.

READING AIDS

Videotape reading aids can also be useful for major philosophy classics in original language and English. IBM is making a computer index of painting related to music. The same thing could be done, if it is not already underway, about the pictorial material on philosophy, although my idea of videotape guides to philosophy is far from the mere accumulation of portraits or birth places, etc.

a. Medieval Music
source and modern transcription and musicological problems parallel with sounds (stylistic analysis and development e.g. plain chant—Tropus—Sequenze—Motettus) and Neumen problems ("The most authentic performance of Gregorian chant is no more authentic than the Neo-gothic church built in the 19th century"—Besseler)

b. Polyphonic Music (13th—17th Century)
esoteric polyphonic techniques, indicated with arrows, etc. Ockeghem's 32 part fugue will be properly appreciated for the first time in history in this way—also Bach's Choral Vorspielen, Kunst der Fuga etc.

c. Classic Music
thematic development, macro-form analysis, interpretational problems, such as controversial dynamic, phrasing, different sources, finger, batton, breathing, various stresses on inner parts Marquato, which often escapes untrained ears, etc.

d. Music of Romantic Era
By following the proceedings of Leitmotiv on videotape, program music can be restored from oblivion. Also text-melody correlation (recent semi-sensation in musicology, Professor Georgiades' "Schubert Lieder") and the deterioration of functional harmony.

e. Serial and Electronic Music
Intellectual information concerning the total organization of whole parameter, frequency analysis, and technical information of electronic sounds. In some Stockhausen, Boulez' music, the complexity of score makes the simple following of sound with score very hard, and this "paper music" (in a good sense) requires the paper understanding, since the accurate performance is impossible.

INSTANT GLOBAL UNIVERSITY

Suppose a girl in Kentucky wants to study the Japanese Koto instrument, and a graduate at U.C.L.A. wants to experiment with certain Persian or Afghanistan musical instruments. How would they do this?

The mailable television (i.e. videotape) would enable the individual lessons for many subjects to be given from anywhere to anywhere. For instance, twenty different music students of an American university could study twenty instruments of a Gagaku orchestra, which exists only in the Japanese emperor's court, using videotape, and then go on a concert tour to Japan dressed in authentic costumes. This would be a major cultural shock to the Japanese, comparable to that of Admiral Perry. This technique applies in less spectacular, but more substantial fields.

g. Event and Action Music
Often there is no way to make the notation of music except by recording the whole performance. Stockhausen and Ligeti suggested a film of my action music pieces (1959-61) to be used as a score, which I rejected for a philosophical reason. However, for many events music (which exists now in every country in the world) such as Brecht, Chiari, Christiansen, Hidalgo, Kosugi, Patterson, Schnebel, Shiomi, Tone, Welin, Young, videotape will be a useful supplement for their sketchy instructions.

f. Music Graphic
In this other kind of "paper music", sound and notation are far apart so that the imaginary double play becomes an integral part of understanding. The listener should know that e.g. Tudor pushes the middle C key for an apple figure on Cage's piano concerto, whereas K-E Welin goes under the piano and eats a nut for the same symbol. This *fetishism of ideas* is piercing through Pop art, Miniskirt and the Fortran block diagram and is a stylistic criterion of 20th century culture. Following the score in the indeterministic music is indispensable in the opposite meaning from the deterministic music.

h. Mix Media Music
All opera, and all non-European music are mix-media pieces. Videotape is the only legitimate way of study, except for the actual performance. For ethnological music, which broke the barrier of academy since the success of Ravi Shankar and Folkways Records, videotape exerts maximum power. E.g. the acoustical analysis of pitch and timbre (obertone, formant) should replace the outmoded, often insulting pentatonic transcription. Pentatonic is the invention of 19th century Europe.
i. The younger generation is increasingly visually inclined with more desire for the total and instant perception. How would the classic music, including the new serious music, fare in the age of ELECTRONIC VIDEO RECORDING?
The above experiments, plus more Utopian research, are preparatory experiments for this big question.

SINGING LESSONS

Most singing students finish their full college course without playing even once in the opera which they studied so painstakingly. This kind of half study turns them into half teachers. Acting in the opera should not be reserved only for the most talented. The following video Erstaz will enable singing students to taste the operatic situation much more than now, and to shorten the rehearsal time by ten to one, which results in the increased frequency of actual performance, e.g. *Traviata*.

1st film (or video tape) should be made of everything but Soprano part, and used for the soprano part rehearsal.
2nd film is made likewise without tenor part and used for the tenor part rehearsal.
3rd film likewise without baritone
4th film—likewise without base.
Film can be projected onto four walls simultaneous to ease the acting lesson.

This method, which has already proven workable in the field of pop music, applies even more to drama, e.g. Macbeth without Lady Macbeth, Hamlet without Hamlet, Romeo without Juliet. A teenage Ophelia can be a co-star to Lawrence Olivier's Hamlet via the screen.

This whole scheme will be much more effective, if 3-D Holography is once realized on the stage.

A simple chorus piece without one part would help the sight singing exercises and a string quartet without one instrument would cut out the rehearsal time and ease the traffic jam—slightly.

If revolution meant for Russians of 1920

electrification

then the revolution in 1960 means

electronification . . . mind to mind . . . planet to planet.

a. There are more than dozens of TV stations in operation in campuses here and also, most likely, abroad. A contest of student TV stations should be held, which would attract wide attention from journalism, etc.

b. In addition to the student house organ paper, the student body should use their TV station for news, commentary, etc.

c. In addition to the Year Book and graduation photographs, every student can make a short self introductory speech or act on videotape, which would run on TV in student restaurants or main corridors incessantly. The graduation book can be an Electronic Video Disc, if it gets popular. If we allot half a minute for each student, still we can show 1000 students for one day.

"was vernunftig ist, das ist wirklich, und was wirklich ist, das ist vernunftig" (Hegel)

d) It is often said that in the big university the faculty and student body lack interrelation. I urge a simple but effective solution. Important faculty members, especially the Presidents and Deans, should make regular TV speeches or hold discussions with the student body and this video recording should be going on day and night at gathering points of students. A video recording system would also be allotted to students, so that they can also convey their answer to the higher administrative body. Many universities have a \$1m. TV system, and currently it is no more than a "sleeping beauty".

"What is more educational is most aesthetic, and what is most aesthetic is most educational" (Paik)

e) French, German, Italian, Spanish, Russian TV should be shown constantly in the student gathering places. It helps language study (without strain), deepens global consciousness, (again the instant global university), and helps the study of journalism, political science, arts, economics, etc. TBS (Japan) station had a bi-lingual broadcasting system and we are making an enquiry about the present state of this experiment. This makes English speaking people understand one of the major TV stations of Japan.

f) I asked for the catalogue of educational film about music at Stony Brook, Lincoln Center Library, Columbia Teachers' College. The result was very poor. I was in several TV programs here and abroad, which are all untraceable now, in labyrinth. I recall seeing several good music programs, which have high instructional content, which are all lost in the deep sea of TV stations. An international catalogue of educational film and videotape at least, on music, art and philosophy, should be made, or accelerated if in progress. Also a salvage action should be conducted on the remaining newsreel of film including 8mm amateur film fragments of recently passed great thinkers, such as Schweitzer, Buber, Shaw, Camus, Suzuki, etc., before it gets too late.

g) . . . I was happy with Richard Hartzell's opinion, that my electronic color TV experiments have instructional resource value.

Dozens of playabilities can be assembled to a console and can be distributed to Kindergarten or elementary school. Its educational effects:

- 1) Children are exposed to electronic situations very early.
- 2) My electronic TV shows various basic facts of physics and electronics concretely, such as amplitude modulation, radar, various scanning, cathode ray, shadow mask tube, oscilloscope, ohm's law, obertone, magnetic character, etc. and it is a very pleasant way to learn these important facts.
- 3) It gives the possibilities of electronic drawing. It is better than the light pen because my way is multi-colored and it provides much interaction with the air program.
- 4) Since my color TV is the unusual, unorthodox application of an every day commodity, this stimulates the kids for more original, less prejudiced thinking.

An attachment for 10 possibilities can be manufactured for from \$200-300. The cheapest 18" color TV set costs \$244 retail, which would sell wholesale for about \$180. The total cost would be in the range of \$500.

ELECTRONIC/ACADEMIC COMMUNITY

But even McLuhan misuses and mixes up the words "electric" and "electronic", which have as much difference as tonal and atonal, much less the average academician. In order to focus the attention of the whole academic community drastically to this electronic situation, the following events are suggested.

EAST-WEST PROBLEM

As a citizen of Korea, a minority nation in the minority continent, therefore necessarily a cynical observer, who picked up three Western and three Eastern languages during eighteen years of wandering from Hong Kong via Cairo to Reykjavik, I am particularly sensitive about the East-West problem. Reischauer, formerly Ambassador for America to Japan called for sweeping renewal on this subject, from elementary schools on, and surely East-West communication is the biggest task of communications research. A professor in Kyoto University wrote "If West knows about East only one-tenth of what East knows about West, there will be no war".

a) The ambiguity of a Chinese poem and philosophy is better explained on videotape than by any other means. Reflex pondering and rich association of mental process, and calligraphical content and style, original mandarin sound on soundtrack, etc. convey the many parameters of a Chinese poem much better than the current way of printing. This technique also applies to ambiguous French poems of Mallarme, Valery etc. including original French reading.

b. 80% of the family planning job in India is the publicity job, for which artists are best talented. The only way to reach an Indian villager is through mix-media language, which is the avant garde's artist's own language. Meanwhile a first class ad-man would never go to India to live and probably third class talents are getting paid in India at first class rates and are doing third rate jobs. Bizarre vision, unorthodox approach, rich imagination, and, most important, a genuine love of India and a will to study and admire Indian culture—all these make the artist a qualified publicity worker for family planning, and probably more talent for this work will be gathered among artists than among any other group.

ARCHIVE

In the age of information, the library of the university will become, if this rude parallel is allowed, as active as the Central Intelligence Agency in America. Therefore, besides the above mentioned Jaspars-Heiddeger films etc., the following archive is suggested.

a. The feeling of environment and inner space is not conveyable through books or movies, but many medium to small sized monuments (smaller gothic church, Egyptian cave in Luxor, Stone garden of Ryo-anji Kyoto, even Sistine Chapel) are smaller than a big pool or a gym. Through the multi-projection of color slides on four walls and ceiling the authentic feeling of these monuments is much better reproduced than by other traditional means. For instance, in the case of, say, Chartres, or the Stony Garden of Kyoto, the gradually but constantly changing hues of colored windows or stone according to the time of day and the weather might give more information about the artistic content than a hasty trip with a noisy guide, especially when the sound of the original church chorus etc., is played. Perhaps we could even reproduce the

whole Acropolis in the soccer field. This project has considerable technical difficulties but a company like the Disney Corporation could construct it with tents and travel around various college campuses.

b) A famous art work with various comments by many classical art historians, such as Vassari, Stendal, Goethe, Winkelman, Ruskin, Pater, Woelflin, Dvorzak, Worringer, Berenson, Weidle, Sedlmayr. c) Some literary works which are concretely related to certain places or scenery can be recorded on videotape. In that way students can experience a literary stroll with the guide of genial description, learning a foreign language, e.g. Goethe's *Italianische Reise*, Gide's *Congo*, Thomas Mann's *Magic Mountain*, Sartre's *Bourge* as a model city of *nausee*, and Proust's French scenes, Bashe's *Okuno Hosomichi* etc.

a. I found that used computer tape (half inch) is useable on a Sony videotape recorder. Despite considerable loss in video and audio, although it is far below the level of artistic and entertainment use. Anyway, this enables one to record a one hour TV show for \$1, (a saving of 50:1 compared to new tape)—10,000 hours tape of 1960's TV programs will be very valuable for the future. The supply of used computer tape in Canal Street has dried up, but an arrangement could be made between a big corporation and a university, since every month much surplus and used tape is put out of service from the computer. This cheap video recording possibility will also make the recording of on and off campus scenes easily executable.

b. Audio Tape Library. I assume some institution is recording important radio

stations, such as WBAI, Pacifica Radio, WNYC, etc. . . . record these important documents of this century . . . record ALL panel discussions in radio TV stations etc. It can be done cheaply.

c. Allan Bryant is a Princeton educated musician, who calls himself a full time music collector and part time composer. This ex-patriot has been recording on tape many broadcasts of New Music on German and Italian radio stations since 1959. He has done valuable world premieres and rare performances but I do not know the present state of his collection. Although it has defects, it is still valuable already and certainly will be valuable in the future.

d) Heinz Sohm, a dentist in Stuttgart, has a most comprehensive and highly professional European avant garde archive, from 1960 to date. It is valued very highly among professionals.

NEW USE OF SLIDE OR VIDEOTAPE