REAL TIME

(a Video Environment for the USA Bicentennial Exhibition)

It is now technologically feasible to monitor aspects of the whole earth. In fact it is being done. However, the real time information thus generated is not generally made available to the public. The following is a proposal for an exhibition which permits the public to sense the simultaneity of micro-cultural events on planet earth:

Eighteen 25" monitors suspended seven feet above the floor and 6.28 feet apart circumscribe a space eighteen feet in diameter. Eighteen images are presented. Each is a real time telecommunication (via satellite) from eighteen major cultural centers around the planet. At each of these centers three camera positions are selected revealing macro- to micro- perspectives of the cultural environment by day or night. Position one reveals the overall contour, movement, size, and topography of each center. Position two presents exterior public spaces, e.g., a marketplace, streetcorner, mosque, etc. Position three includes interior spaces, e.g., an office, a nightclub, or a native's home. Flexible pre-programmed automated switching allows for the selection of the eighteen single camera views to be transmitted to the exhibition hall.

by Ira Schneider 1973

ONE LOOK
MANY POINTS OF VIEW
ONE WORLD