

# urban occupation : ACTION research : Nam June Paik



image: Nam June Paik, «Good Morning, Mr. Orwell», 1984  
source: <http://www.mediaartnet.org/assets/img/data/1480/bild.jpg>

## authors / actors / participants:

Nam June Paik, artists including John Cage, Salvador Dalí, Laurie Anderson, Joseph Beuys, Merce Cunningham, Allen Ginsberg and Peter Orlovsky, George Plimpton, 10 million people

## title: Good Morning, Mr. Orwell!

**location:** New York, Centre Pompidou Paris, and South Korea      **date:** January 1, 1984

## manifesto:

Paik's prolific and complex career can be read as a process grounded in his early interests in composition and performance. These would strongly shape his ideas for mediabased art at a time when the electronic moving image and media technologies were increasingly present in everybody's daily lives. Paik's life in art grew out of the politics and anti-art movements of the 1950s, 1960s, and 1970s. During this time of societal and cultural change, he pursued a determined quest to combine the expressive capacity and conceptual power of performance with the new technological possibilities associated with the moving image.

## techniques /

### tools:

A live broadcast shared between WNET TV in New York and the Centre Pompidou in Paris and hooking up with broadcasters in Germany and South Korea reached a worldwide audience of over 10 or even (including the later repeat transmissions) 25 million.

### action:

Right at the start of the much-anticipated Orwellian year Paik was keen to demonstrate satellite TV's ability to serve positive ends such as the intercontinental exchange of culture combining both highbrow and entertainment elements. The broadcast carried forward Paik's videotape 'Global Grove' of 1973 – an early, pioneering concept aimed at international understanding through the vehicle of TV – by expanding the concept with the possibilities of satellite transmission in real time.

### outcome:

The wide presence of the media arts in contemporary culture is in no small measure due to the power of Paik's art and ideas. Through television projects, installations, performances, collaborations, development of new artists' tools, writing, and teaching, he has contributed to the creation of a media culture that has expanded the definitions and languages of art making.

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## - research : precedents

Koponen, Mesimaaria, 319375

image: Nam June Paik, «Participation TV», 1963 – 1966  
source: <http://www.mediaartnet.org/assets/img/data/2638/bild.jpg>

image: Nam June Paik's Good Morning Mr. Orwell, video still  
source: <http://www.arts-electric.org/images/stories/streamingmuseum2.jpg>

### **bibliography:**

Internet 28.04.2009:  
<http://www.paikstudios.com/essay.html>  
<http://www.mediaartnet.org/works/goog-morning/>  
[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nam\\_June\\_Paik](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nam_June_Paik)