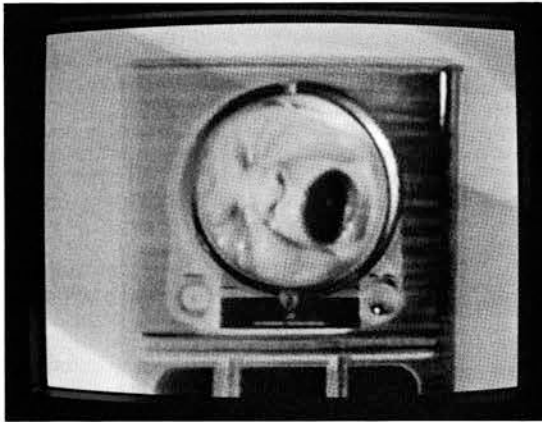


DOUBLE YOU (and X, Y, Z.)

Peter
D'Agostino



**Pertaining to
Philadelphia VII:**

Videodisc
Installation by
Peter D'Agostino

**Philadelphia
Museum of Art**
April 18–July 5, 1987

Peter D'Agostino was born in New York City in 1945, and educated at the School of Visual Arts, where he studied painting and sculpture. In the early 1970s, he began to work with video and video installations. Since that time, he has created works for numerous exhibitions, including the 1981 Whitney Biennial and the 17th Bienal de São Paulo, Brazil, in 1983. He is widely recognized as one of the most important figures working in the video medium today. In 1982, D'Agostino moved to Philadelphia, where he is currently Associate Professor in the Department of Radio-Television-Film, School of Communications and Theater, Temple University.

Exhibitions

- Aarhus Kunstmuseum, Aarhus, Denmark. "Video International," February 1976.
- Galleria d'Arte Moderna, Bologna, Italy. "Week of International Performance," June 1977.
- The Museum of Modern Art, New York. "Projects XXIX: California," September 20–November 6, 1979.
- San Francisco Museum of Modern Art. "Space/Time/Sound—1970s: A Decade in the Bay Area," December 21, 1979–February 10, 1980.
- Whitney Museum of American Art, New York. "1981 Biennial Exhibition," January 20–April 12, 1981.
- São Paulo, Brazil. 17 Bienal de São Paulo. "New Metaphors/Six Alternatives," October 14–December 18, 1983.
- Long Beach Museum of Art. "Video: A Retrospective: 1974–84," September 9, 1984–January 20, 1985.
- Ljubljana, Yugoslavia. "Video Biennale," October 1985.
- The Gallery, Tokyo, Japan. "New Art Vison '86," February 27–March 11, 1986.
- American Academy in Rome, Italy. "DOUBLE YOU (and X, Y, Z.)," November 1986.

Music

Jon Gibson
Second camera
Skip Sweeney
Videodisc consultant
Ken Shannon
Video/Sound/Editing
Peter D'Agostino

Double You (and X, Y, Z.)

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- Boyle, Deirdre. *Video Classics: A Guide to Video Art and Documentary Tapes*. Phoenix, 1986.
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- D'Agostino, Peter. *Alpha, Trans, Chung/A Photographic Model: Semiotics, Film, and Interpretation*. San Francisco, 1978.
- Coming and Going*. San Francisco, 1982.
- The Uni/Necessary Image*. New York, 1982.
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DOUBLE YOU (and X, Y, Z.)

An Interactive Videodisc
Installation by Peter D'Agostino

The primary subject of this work is the acquisition of language, while the underlying structure is derived from another source—physics. Through analogy and metaphor, light, gravity, strong forces, and weak forces serve to parallel four stages of early language development—from cries at birth to first words, sentences, and songs sung at age two.

Viewer/participants create a personal montage of associations and meanings from a variety of sounds, words, and images. Although the disc can be played like a game, it is not predicated on winning or losing but on making various discoveries.

The index, for example, provides an electronic book where most of the 52 chapters of the piece (composed of 48,000 frames) can be selected and read in any sequence chosen by the viewer. Other forms of interaction incorporated into the design of the disc include "surrogate travel" (part 2), which is used to create an analogy between words and places. The language games (part 3) are composed of image icons representing words that form sentences. Part 4 can be described as a video music box where songs are randomly selected from the moving images of a carousel.

The last part reveals the source of the title. *Double You (and X, Y, Z.)* is from a children's song that concludes with "now I know my ABCs, next time won't you sing with me."

Touch to begin interacting

Select one of the four chapters, the prologue, or the index to open the work. The videodisc can be opened like a book or played at random, like a game.

Prologue
1 Light/Birth
2 Gravity/Words
3 Strong Force/Sentences
4 Weak Force/Songs
Index



Light/Birth

Select: X or Y



Gravity/Words

Select: A Place to Find the Words
Treasure Island
Marin-S.F. Bay
Golden Gate Bridge
Bayshore Freeway
San Francisco



Strong Force/Sentences

Select: Any combination of X, Y, and Z to form a sentence



Weak Force/Songs

Select: X, Y, or Z

Prologue

It is now believed there are four forces that cause all physical interactions in the universe: light, gravity, strong forces, and weak forces.

Epilogue

The recent discovery of W and Z particles is thought to be a giant step in unifying all the forces in nature. "But all of our ways of picturing the invisible are metaphors, likenesses we snatch from the larger world of eye and ear and touch."—J. Bronowski