

In this section, you won't find much about alternate television, per se, but the attitudes central to Radical Software emerge from other contexts. Our own excitement with video has always been backdropped against the need to deal humanly with an insistent and prolific technology (which having made us comfortable, wouldn't leave us so). We see a commonality in experiments with radio, computers, bio-feedback, and other technologies. Draw the links as you will.

To be sure, links already forged among video people by Radical Software I, II, and III need to be extended and strengthened. We need to reiterate basic information, tap our technical ingenuity, and collect experiences to match our theorizing.

You'll find some of that here, almost entirely from the West Coast, showing perhaps the extent to which the network has already taken shape. At the same time we're scratching at new surfaces and we'd like to hear how you feel about it.

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We raised the question and hope to keep the question raised that people think about what to do with power, whether it is in terms of large sums of money, or large quantities of talent, or exquisite access to juice of any kind. We've gotten into a kind of cottage industry way of thinking — if it isn't something that can go on around the hearth, we are not going to have anything to do with it. And it may be an important form of coping out that we've gotten into, so that we can cheaply chide all the evil that we see around us that is coming at us in big chunks. And we aren't coming back at it with big hunks of our own creativity or juice or any of it. We are being small in a very big game. And if we are serious about the game, planetary survival, then we are going to need to be serious about the big tools that are used in the big game. And we have a long way to go to learn how to use them right.

Stewart Brand
Demise Party, June '71

THE WESTERN MOVIES

**My Father always watches the westerns on TV.
He opens his eyes wide,
with a cigarette in his mouth.
He watches TV,
dropping the cigarette ashes
in the fireplace.
The cigarette becomes very short.
He holds it with his fingers
until it burns his fingers.**

Ito Hirohiko, Age 8

*From There Are Two Lives,
edited by Richard Lewis,
Simon and Schuster.*

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