

This is a chapter in piero scaruffi's "A Visual History of the Visual Arts": <http://www.scaruffi.com/art/history>

# The Computer Age

- Conceptual Art
  - The meaning of art lies in the artist's intention, not in the actual artwork
  - Art can be made out of anything and by anybody
  - The real essence of art is language and ideas
  - The visual experience is secondary
  - The artist can even not know what the artwork will look like (“what will happen will happen” philosophy)
  - Gutai Bijutsu Kyokai (1954) and Allan Kaprov's happenings (1958)
  - Very international
  - Peak: 1968-74

# The Computer Age

- Conceptual Art/ Body Art
  - Marina Abramovic (1946, Yugoslavia)

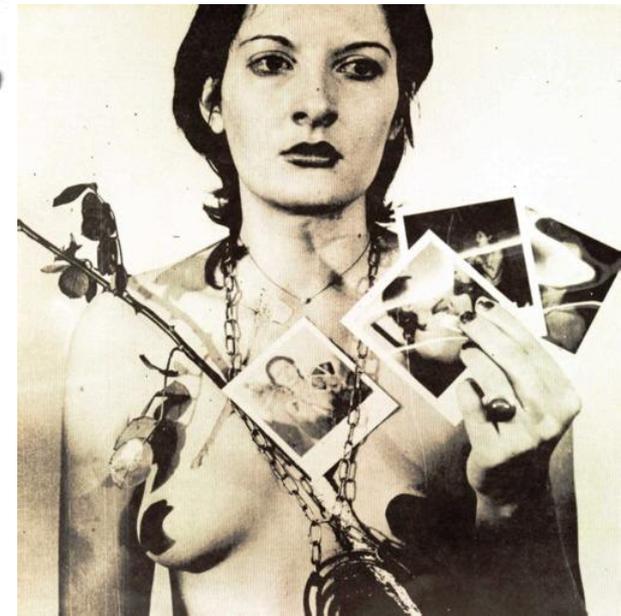


“Rhythm 10” (1973)



“Rhythm 0” (1974): *“There are 72 objects on the table that one can use on me as desired. I am the object. During this period I take full responsibility”*

“Imponderabilia”  
(1977)



# The Computer Age

- Conceptual Art/ Body Art
  - Marina Abramovic (1946, Yugoslavia)

"The House With the Ocean View"  
(2002): for 12 days the artist lives on  
three platforms in an art gallery  
without eating



"Lips of Thomas" (1975): the artist  
carves a pentagram in her abdomen  
and whips herself senseless



# The Computer Age

- Conceptual Art/ Performance Art
  - Marina Abramovic (1946, Yugoslavia)

"The Lovers (The Great Wall: Lovers at the Brink)" (1988)  
For three months Ulay walked eastward from the western end of the Great Wall in the Gobi Desert, walking eastward, while Abramovic walked westward from the eastern end of the Great Wall at the Yellow Sea until they met to mark the end of their relationship



# The Space Age

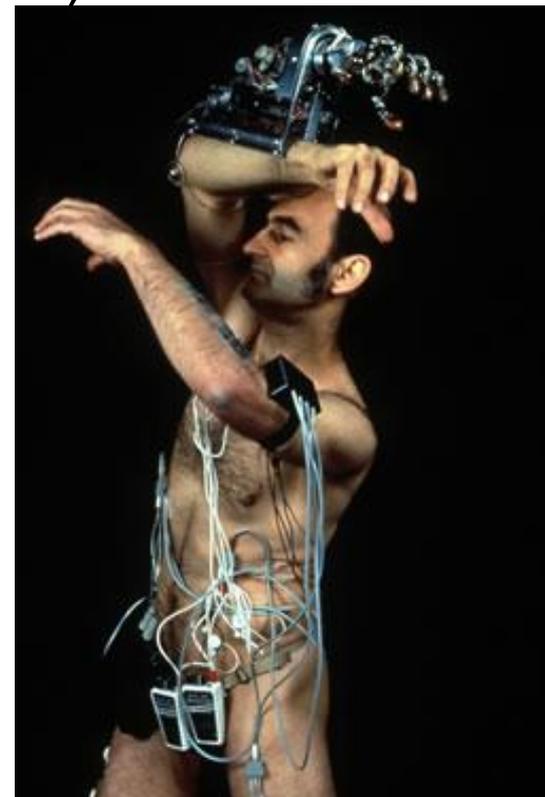
- Body Art
  - Stelarc/ Stelios Arcadiou (1946, Australia):  
suspensions



“Sitting/Swaying”  
(1980)



(1985)



“Third Hand” (1980)

# The Space Age

- Body Art
  - Stelarc/ Stelios Arcadiou (1946, Australia)



"Ping Body" (1996)



"Split Body" (1995)



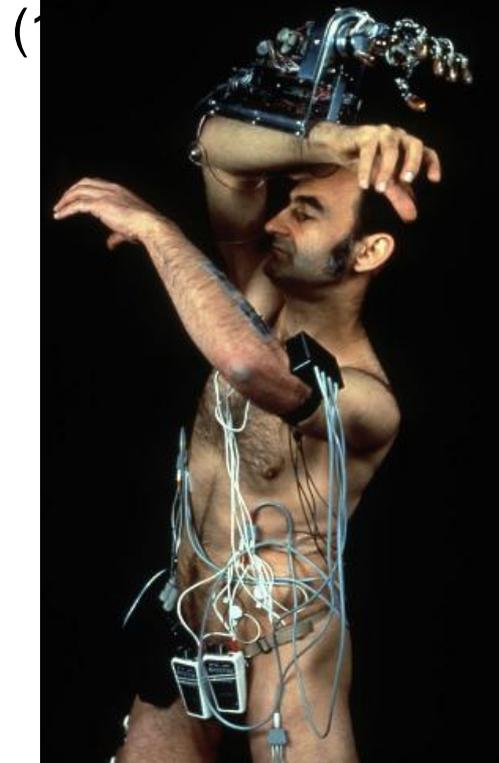
# The Space Age

- Body Art

- Stelarc/ Stelios Arcadiou (1946, Australia):  
augmenting the human body - cyborgs  
("the human body is obsolete")

("Amplified Body,  
Laser Eyes & Third  
Hand" (1985)

"Third Hand"

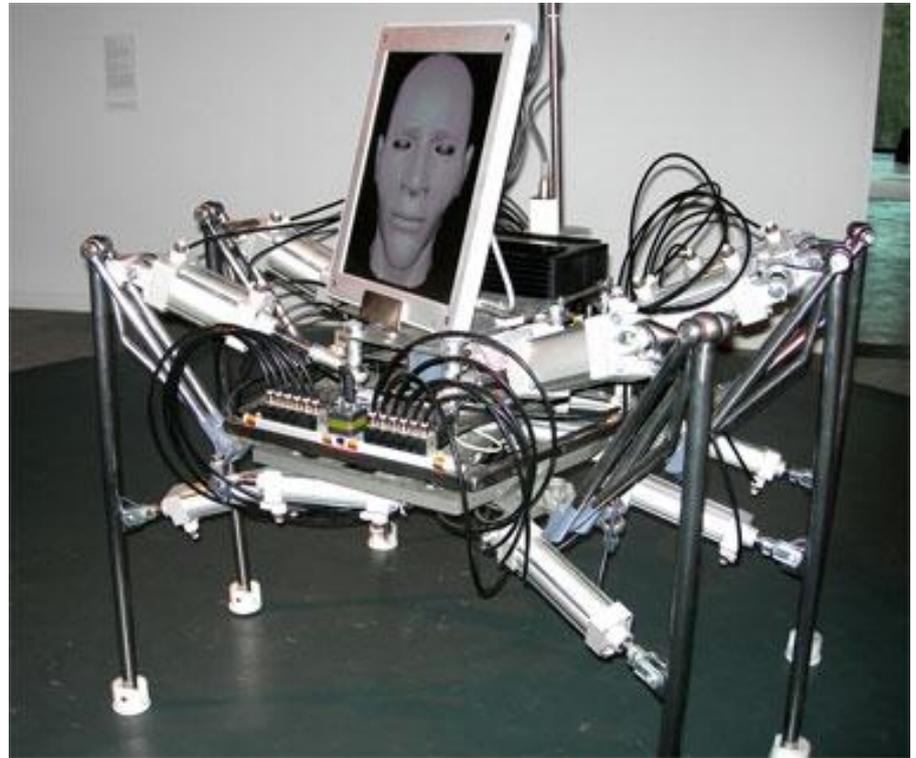


# The Space Age

- Body Art
  - Stelarc/ Stelios Arcadiou (1946, Australia):



“Ear on Hand” (2006)



“Walking Head” (2006)

# The Space Age

- Body Art
  - Mireille Porte/ Orlan (1947, France)



"Kiss of the Artist" (1976):  
spectators insert a coin to  
get a kiss. Coins are  
collected at the crotch.



"The Reincarnation of Saint-Orlan" (1990),  
plastic surgeries

# The Computer Age

- Conceptual Art/ Body Art/ The Art World gone Crazy
  - Confluence of dadaism, abstract expressionism, body art, conceptual art
  - 1968: Gunther Brus (1938, Austria) urinates and defecates on a stage, then masturbates while singing the Austrian national anthem
  - 1971: Chris Burden (1946, USA) has himself shot in the arm
  - 1972: Vito Acconci (1940, USA) masturbates while fantasizing about the audience and the audience can hear him (“Seedbed”)
  - 1972: Ana Mendieta (1948, Cuba) decapitates a chicken and lets blood spurt over her naked body
  - 1989: Bob Flanagan (1952, USA) nails his penis to a wooden board

# The Computer Age

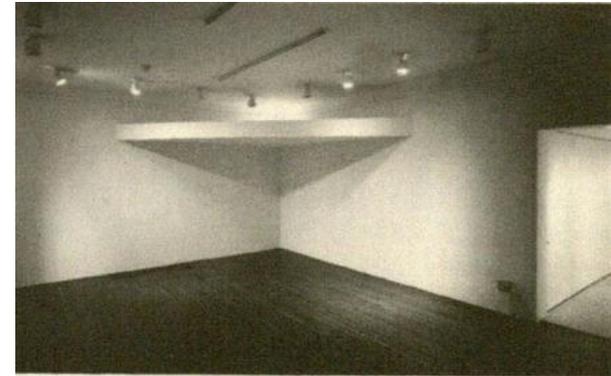
- Conceptual Art/ Body Art/ Ordeal art/ Endurance art
  - Chris Burden (1946, USA)



“Shoot Me” (1971): the work of art consists in the artist being shot in the arm



1971: the artist spends five days living inside a metal locker with a bottle of water to drink and a bottle to collect urine (his graduate thesis from art school)



“White Light/White Heat” (1975): the artist lives on an elevated triangular platform for 22 days without eating or speaking

# The Computer Age

- Conceptual Art
  - Chris Burden (1946, USA)

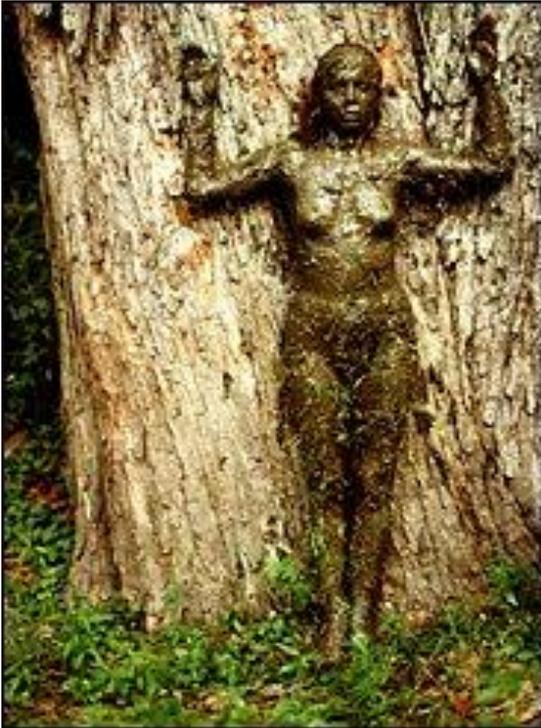
"Metropolis II" (2011)



"Urban Light" (2008)

# The Computer Age

- Body Art
  - Ana Mandieta (1948)



"Tree of Life" series (1977)

# The Computer Age

- **Body Art**
  - **Rebecca Horn (1944, Germany)**



“Einhorn” (1972)

# The Computer Age

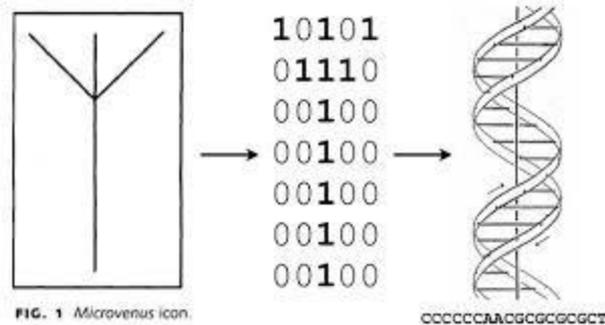
- **Body Art**
  - **Karen Finley (1956)**



"We Keep Our Victims Ready" (1989): The artist covers her naked body with chocolate, candy hearts, bean sprouts and tinsel, all symbolizing a way that women are treated by society.

# The Computer Age

- Bioart
  - Joe Davis (1950)



"Microvenus" (1988) encodes and inserts the superimposed letters "Y" and "I" into a bacterium which then proliferate

This is a chapter in piero scaruffi's "A Visual History of the Visual Arts": <http://www.scaruffi.com/art/history>