

# CONFLUENCE



## VAN McELWEE

**Confluence** applies a complex editing score to images and sounds gathered by a video camera moving through crowded places. Among these scenes are a market in Cairo, a carnival in St. Louis, commuters in Tokyo, and a funeral in Varanasi. The unique edit-form of **Confluence** weaves these streams of movement together like notes in a musical score. Events are broken loose from their normal flow and are organized into autonomous clusters. The result is a transformation of the recorded world and its projection into a new temporal matrix. The tunnel of time becomes porous; crisscrossed by passageways and escape routes. Winner of the Grand Prize at the NAP Biennial, the Experimental Video Award at The Athens International Film and Video Festival, and the Director's Choice Award at the 19th Annual Black Maria Film and Video Festival. 14:00 minutes, stereo. 1999

### INSTALLATION

**Confluence** is also designed as an installation of 5 monitors/sources, arranged in an irregular grouping. Different parts of **Confluence** play on each monitor, constantly overlapping and interacting in different ways. This activates the space of the gallery and creates yet another level of temporal clustering

Van McElwee's body of work includes over thirty tapes and installations and has received numerous grants and awards, including the American Film Institute Independent Filmmaking Award, The National Endowment for the Arts Independent Production Fund (seven time recipient), and a travel grant from the Government of India. McElwee's work has been exhibited extensively worldwide and is represented by The Kitchen in New York, Trabant Gallery in Vienna, and Heure Exquise! in France. McElwee is Professor of Media and Video Area Head at Webster University, St. Louis.

*"... an exotic melange of visual and audio rhythms."*  
John Columbus, Director, Black Maria Film & Video Festival

*"Van McElwee pushes the medium of video fast and far."*  
Robert Duffy, St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

***“In Confluence, McElwee jumps from one location to the next as if merging into an altered state”***

**TL Reid, Afterimage.**

For videotape and specifications, contact Van McElwee.

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