

Art and Science Proclaim Alliance in Avant-Garde Loft

By HENRY R. LIEBERMAN

In a sound-drenched Lower Manhattan loft building that was enlivened by revolving painted disks, film projections, floating pillows and miniskirted girls in paper smocks, representatives of industry and labor joined a number of artists and scientists yesterday to proclaim a "working alliance" between art and technology.

This modest and uncertain merger seeks to bridge the gap between the two worlds. It is intended to bring modern technological tools to the artist for creating new art forms and fresh insights and viewpoints to the engineer for creating a "people-oriented" technology.

The event was celebrated at a news conference "happening" in the six-story loft building at 381 Lafayette Street used for studio purposes by Robert Rauschenberg, the avant-garde artist.

Mr. Rauschenberg's 'Oracle'
Another sculptural construction was a sound-emitting assembly consisting of a tire, truck door, window frame, bathtub and air vent. This is Mr. Rauschenberg's "Oracle."

Kheel's 'Biggest Mediation'
Mr. Rauschenberg, along with Dr. Billy Klüver, an electronics engineer who is specializing in laser research at the Bell Laboratories, and Theodore W. Kheel, the lawyer-labor mediator, are prime movers in the art-technology merger.

"For me," said Mr. Kheel, "this is the biggest mediation I've ever undertaken."

Among the art objects on display was a large drawing of a nude generated by a computer. Masterminded by two engineers, L. D. Harmon and K. C. Knowlton, this project involved the making of a transparency from a photograph and scanning it

with a device operating like a television camera.

The information on the transparency was then stored on magnetic tape in the form of pulses standing for digits, with the brightness level of the picture elements represented by numbers ranging from 0 to 7. After processing all the numbers, the computer printed a drawing of micropatterns formed by clusters of symbols used in electronic design.

Visitors at the studios were intrigued by a sculptural representation of a woman taking a shower. As droplets of water dripped from the shower-head in a white stall, moving-picture images of the woman were registered by a projector behind the stall on a sand-blasted Plexiglass panel.

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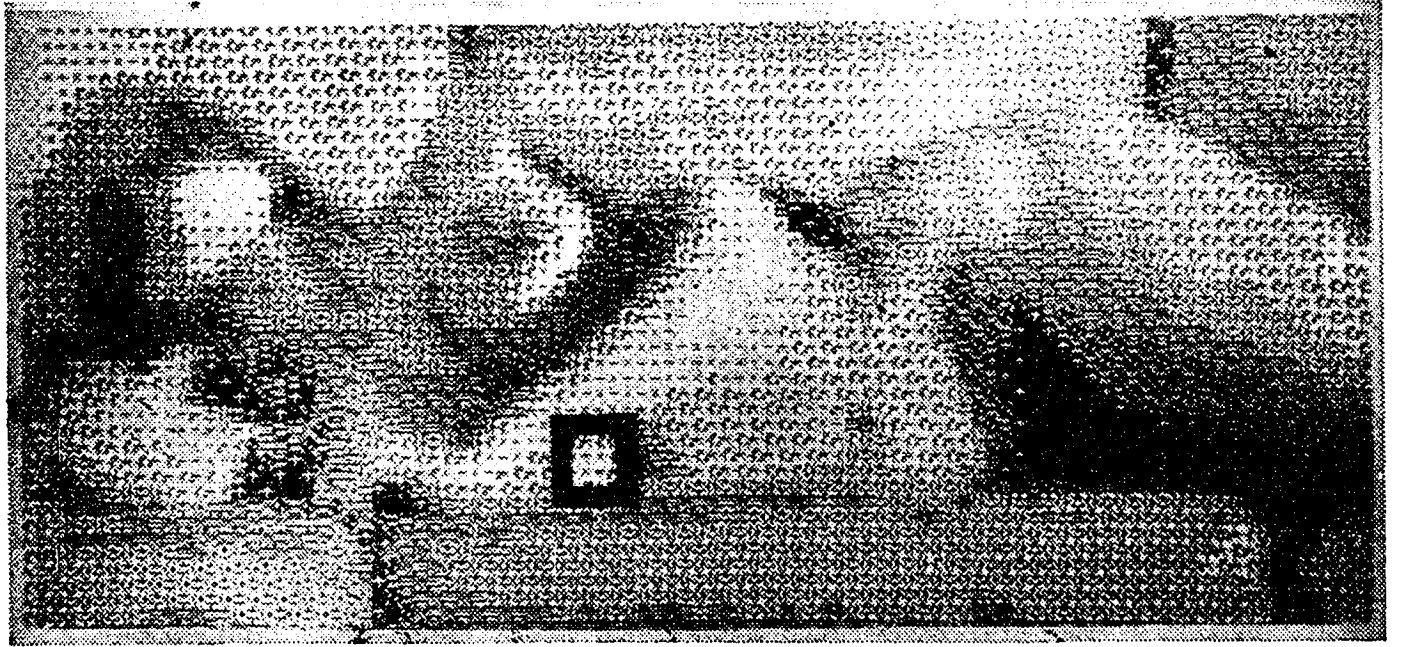
Five radios are used, with the tuning dial of each being rotated by motor. Thus, each radio picks up snatches of the broadcasts of all the local radio stations. To eliminate wiring from assembly components to the central pickup point, signals from the radios are relayed to the components by small FM transmitters.

Last year an artist-engineer collaboration called "Nine Evenings: Theater and Engineering" left the art critics bewildered. A few visitors at the Lafayette Street show also looked with puzzlement on "Oracle." But the show sponsors emphasized that it was the idea of collaboration, and not a specific art work, that counts most.

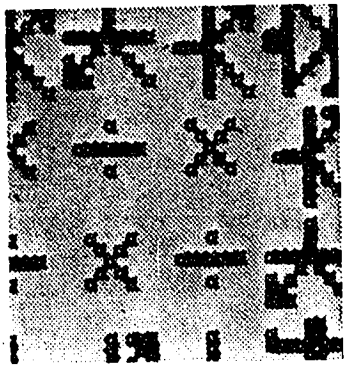
Contributions Are Listed

While 20 helium-filled pillows floated eerily in a two-story room called "the Chapel," the need for bringing artist and technologist together was stressed in speeches by Senator Jacob K. Javits, a traditionalist who sees merit in modern art; Ralph C. Gross, president of the Commerce and Industry Association; Edwin Langsam, film projection supervisor of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company; Herman D. Kenin, head of the A.F.L.-C.I.O.'s new Scientific, Professional and Cultural Employment Council, and Dr. Warren Brodey, a psychiatrist, of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

A.T. & T., the International Business Machines Company, the Atlantic Richfield Corporation and various labor groups are among the organizations that have made \$1,000 contributions for furthering the cooperation between artists and engineers. But Mr. Gross urged industry to enlarge "the less than 3 cents of each corporation-



Drawing of nude above was generated by a computer under direction of L. D. Harmon and K. C. Knowlton, engineers. Black square encloses the detail shown.



looks that make it "more human, more reasonable, more varied, more lifelike, if you wish."

Robert Rauschenberg, the 41-year-old soft-spoken Texan who has been called an artistic enfant terrible, agrees that technology has beautiful gifts to offer the artist. Far from fearing it, he finds it an "exciting challenge."

"No Place Is Safe"

"If you don't accept technology you better go to another place because no place here is safe," he said. Asked what made technology so exciting for him, he replied: "Nobody knows the kind of art that will be created if two or three men in diverse fields become collaborators."

About 370 artists already have written to Dr. Klüver and Mr. Rauschenberg seeking technical assistance for projects they have in mind. The letters include requests for information on synthetic fabrics, pigments, enamel finishes, translucent spheres, micro-organisms, electromagnetics, "slow chemical destruction of objects," "extending the range of sensory perception" and an "efficient way" to make paintings appear and disappear.

A Natural Marriage
He has advised sculptors on how to build self-exploding contraptions, helped painters add neon lights and motors to their works, and provided them with amplifiers, oscillators, speech synthesizers, image producers and various kinds of electronic detectors to extend their range. To Dr. Klüver, it is a natural marriage.

Technology supplies new materials, new techniques and new imagery to the artist. In return, technology gets from the artist new out-

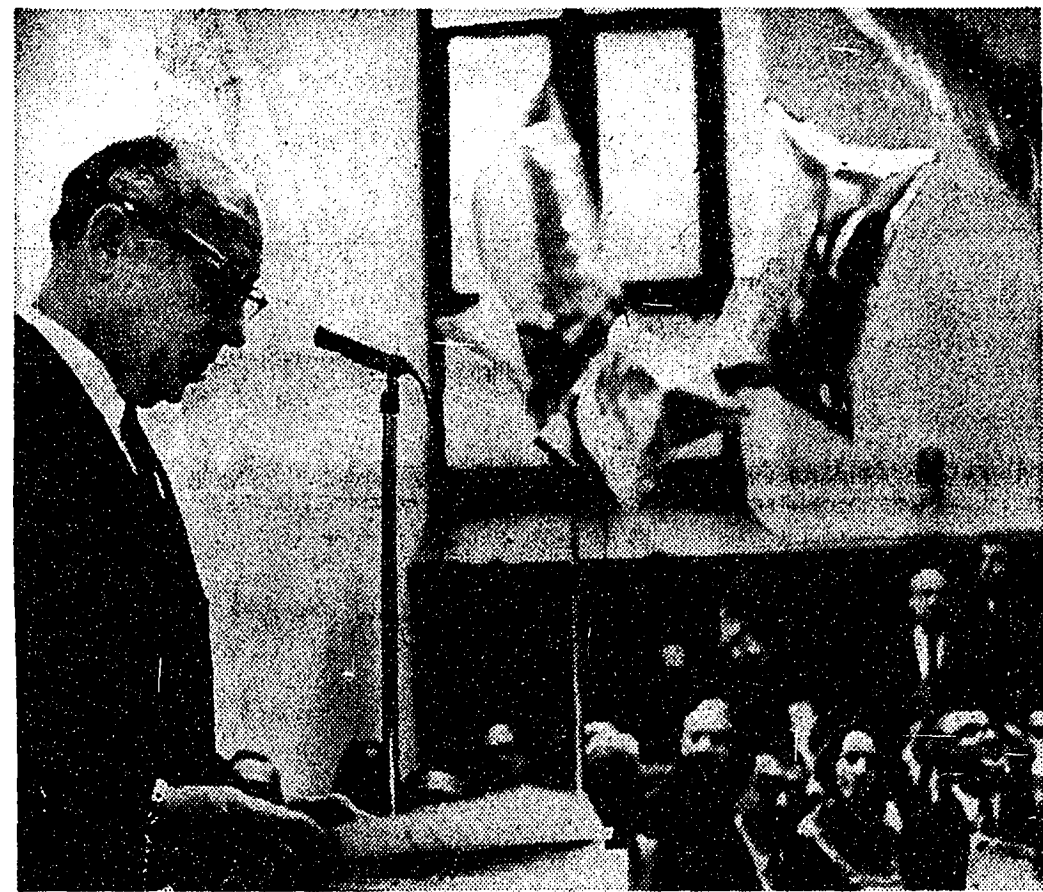
lets from the artist new outlets for his work.

"Nobody wants to paint rotten oranges anymore," he said.



The New York Times (by Neal Boenzi)

Dr. Billy Klüver, electronics engineer specializing in laser research, arranges helium-filled pillows.



Senator Jacob K. Javits speaking yesterday at gathering at 381 Lafayette Street. A traditionalist, the New York Republican nevertheless finds merit in modern art.

dividuals in seeking to make "valuable contributions."

He noted that union members were also consumers, members of audiences and citizens concerned with the quality of society.

The event served to dramatize a drive to win organizational support for the art-technology merger and to mark the transfer of Experiments in Art and Technology, Inc., a nonprofit organization of artists and engineers, to the new Automation House being prepared at 49 East 69th Street.

Automation House will be the center of the American Foundation on Automation and Employment, headed by Mr. Kheel and concerned



Robert Rauschenberg, the artist, says, "If you don't accept technology, you better go to another place."

Heavy Fog Delays Flights to Kennedy For Up to 2 Hours

Kennedy International Airport was shrouded by fog early yesterday that caused delays of up to two hours for flights from overseas.

The fog did not affect operations at La Guardia and Newark Airports, but patches of it hung over several parts of the city, particularly along the East River.

The fog started a dismal day for the metropolitan area. By mid-afternoon, it had begun to rain and by the evening rush hour, the rain had become a downpour.

At midnight, the Weather Bureau said that the rainfall for the day had measured 1.18 inches and that the rain had stopped shortly after 10 P.M. The forecast for today was for variable cloudiness and cooler temperatures, with the high between 60 and 65 degrees.

The fog yesterday morning forced the airlines to divert flights from Europe into Montreal and Baltimore. Some were delayed in those cities for up to two hours, waiting for the fog to lift at Kennedy.

Planes bound for Europe were not delayed because instrument take-offs were permitted. Incoming domestic flights were delayed up to 15 minutes.

At 8:30 A.M., the ceiling was about 300 feet at Kennedy, with visibility ranging from one-half to three-quarters of a mile.

The rain later in the day slowed traffic on the major highways in the metropolitan area, but there were no reports of major tie-ups.

Heavy rain at Kennedy International Airport caused delays of up to an hour during the evening, but operations were reported back to normal by 11 P.M. La Guardia Airport reported no major delays.

News Summary and Index

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 11, 1967

The Major Events of the Day

International

The Bolivian Army high command officially confirmed yesterday that Ernesto Che Guevara was killed Sunday in a clash between guerrillas and Government troops. The Eighth Army command at Valle Grande said that he had admitted his identity and that fingerprint evidence had identified the body as that of Maj. Che Guevara. [Page 1, Column 8.] Official Washington reacted cautiously to the Bolivian reports, but there was an increasing tendency to regard them as true. Both United States [18:4] and Latin-American experts said that the death of the man who had pledged to make the Andes region a new Vietnam would be a serious setback for Premier Castro's attempts to export his revolution. [18:2-3.]

In testimony before the Senate Preparedness Subcommittee last August, Secretary of Defense Robert S. McNamara said that the bombing of North Vietnam had not significantly affected Hanoi's war-making capability nor seriously deterred the flow of men and materials into South Vietnam. He also expressed doubt that reduced bombing would lead to a marked increase in American casualties but said that the bombing was continued because "on balance we believe it helps us." [1:5.]

And it did continue, as United States Navy pilots bombed a military area in the suburbs of Haiphong in a pre-dawn raid that left fires said to be visible for 20 miles. The area, described as containing military barracks and assembly and storage facilities for helicopters and missiles, was struck for the first time. It and the nearby airfield at Cabri have apparently been removed from the Pentagon's list of restricted targets. [1:7.]

The South Vietnamese President-elect, Nguyen Van Thieu, pledged a broadened search for peace in a major address at the inauguration of the country's newly elected Senate. But General Thieu said that if the search failed, his Government would intensify the war. [1:6.]

The Vietnam war will cause the United States to be temporarily one division short of the five it is pledged to have available for Europe in case of a major war. [1:7-8.]

The Soviet Government announced a 1968 budget that includes increased spending for both arms and consumer goods. [1:4.] Proclaiming the initiation of a treaty to

limit military activities in space. President Johnson called for the Soviet Union, the United States and other nations to cooperate in turning space exploration from a "contest" into a "partnership." [1:1.]

In another area of arms limitation, the Johnson Administration is fearful that the proposed international treaty to prohibit the spread of nuclear weapons could be postponed or even scuttled by dilatory tactics among allies in Western Europe. [1:2.]

National

Senator George A. Smathers proposed that the Government's planned spending this year be cut by 3 per cent in every agency, with the money to be available only upon a Presidential finding of "urgent national interest." The proposal is an attempt to break the impasse between the Administration's desire for a tax rise and Congressional demands for spending cuts. [1:2.]

Ignoring those demands, the Senate passed a \$4.77-billion public works money bill, which includes "pork barrel" legislation for river, harbor and flood control projects. And it appeared likely that the House will approve today a pay increase for Federal employees and increased postal rates. [1:2-3.]

Metropolitan

The New York Coalition was organized to combat slum problems with an initial membership of 105 persons ranging from nationally prominent leaders in business and labor to local figures best known in the slums where they live and work. Christian A. Herter Jr., the group's chairman, said that its purpose "is to enlist the energies, skills and resources of the private sector to improve the quality of life in New York." The local coalition is one of 50 being set up across the country. [1:1.]

In the aftermath of Sunday's double-murder, "paranoia" was replacing "love" as the key word among the East Village's hippies, who were mourning the death of James L. Hutchinson, a hippie known as Groovy. [3:2-3.]

A bill was introduced in the City Council that would make it mandatory for business concerns that offer trading stamps to provide their customers with the option of a three per cent discount in lieu of the stamps. [5:5-6.]

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"A rich suspect may be summoned to the police station; the poor suspect is more often arrested."—Arthur J. Goldberg, in an address to judges. [51:4.]

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Drug Agency Finds No Human Danger In Artificial Sweeteners

WASHINGTON, Oct. 10 (AP)—The Food and Drug Administration, responding to inquiries it said came from consumers, says there is no scientific evidence to show that widely used artificial sweeteners are a hazard to health.

However, the agency said studies of the chemicals were continuing in the United States and abroad.

"If at any time the scientific evidence shows some basis for restricting the use of artificial sweeteners, the F.D.A. has the authority to take action," the agency said.

The agency made the statements in an apparently little-publicized "Fact Sheet" that a spokesman said was prepared early last month because of inquiries.

The question of safety "is asked with increasing frequency as beverages and food products sweetened with sugar substitutes multiply on supermarket shelves," the sheet said.

"Articles in newspapers and periodicals citing possible dangers related to the artificial sweeteners also contribute to the concern on the part of consumers," the publication said.

"The safety of artificial sweeteners — saccharins and cyclamates — has been reviewed periodically for more than a decade. As is true of a wide array of other food additives developed by industry, the artificial sweeteners have undergone extensive toxicity testing in past years. They are listed among the additives 'generally recognized as safe' by scientists in and out of the F.D.A."

"The new factor, of course, is the vast increase in the use of the artificial sweeteners, particularly the cyclamates. When first introduced, artificial sweeteners were used primarily in the diets of diabetics."

State Dept. of Townships, Water, and Electric Distribution, W. 4-1330-1000.