

David Critchley

'Static Acceleration' 1977 7mins B&W

'Static Acceleration' was made at a time when most of my ideas revolved around unrealisable conundrums as proposals for action. It follows 'Zeno Reaches Zero' where Zeno's paradox is overtaken by time, and 'Yes/No – Say/One', a film which speaks its title depending on forward or backward running. In 'Static Acceleration' the rapidly accelerating sideways shaking head and beat are progressively slowed down to maintain a regular pace – made possible by the then novel speed control on a Sony open reel edit deck.

'Trialogue' 1977 10mins B&W

'Trialogue' was part of a series of works including 'Instruction Limitation' which explored the technical possibilities of early video machines put to creative ends. The revealing of 'structure' was the underlying quest, and in 'Trialogue', a single self referential descriptive text has been split three ways, and re-combined by re-shooting from screen. Whilst technically conceived, a form of poetry emerges, single words hanging in time for a while, before being brought down to earth by the closure performed by connecting the disjointed phrases.

'Pieces I Never Did' 1979 35mins Colour

"Then there was the one about all the ideas I'd written down in notebooks, but never got round to doing..." Put together over a year of making attempts to interpret jottings about sculptures, performances, films and videos, 'Pieces I Never Did' is a basket of work realised in one minute video format, regardless of how inappropriate this relatively new medium proved to be. The original three screen version is now lost, but I might get round to digitally re-making it one day.....