

## MEDIA RELEASE

Zurich, March 5, 2013



### New publication:

## ***Compendium of Image Errors in Analogue Video / Kompendium der Bildstörungen beim analogen Video***

**For some decades now, an increasing number of art collections have been acquiring analogue videotapes. The new publication, a *Compendium of Image Errors in Analogue Video*, provides conservators, curators and other caretakers with practical advice on viewing, cataloguing and assessing the condition of the analogue videotapes in their art collections. The Compendium is the second volume in the *KUNSTmaterial* series published by the Swiss Institute for Art Research (SIK-ISEA).**

Over the last few decades, videotapes have become an integral part of many art collections, used as information carriers for both single-channel works and complex video installations. To this day, video as a medium continues to present major challenges to the art historians, curators, conservators and registrars responsible for these art collections, who are often at a loss when confronted by the need to identify and then assess the condition of videocassettes and tapes in a wide variety of different formats. And yet, when planning to digitise analogue video material, it is vitally important to assess the precise nature of any image errors, because these analogue defects can often be removed or minimised before they are irreversibly merged with the actual image content during the digitisation process.

The dual-language Compendium (both book and accompanying DVD are presented in German and English) is intended to act as a guide for collection caretakers who wish to view and catalogue their analogue videotapes and assess their condition. Its central chapter categorises and describes 28 image errors commonly encountered in analogue video, caused by tape error, device error, operator error or production error. Further chapters discuss the principles of video technology and the artistic use of analogue image errors. A glossary explains the technical terms used in the book.

The Compendium is the second volume in the *KUNSTmaterial* series launched by the Swiss Institute for Art Research (SIK-ISEA). It was devised and produced as part of the "AktiveArchive" research project, which was financed by the Swiss Federal Office of Culture (FOC) and took the form of a partnership between SIK-ISEA and Bern University of Arts BUA.

### Publication details

Johannes Gfeller, Agathe Jarczyk, Joanna Phillips, *Kompendium der Bildstörungen beim analogen Video / Compendium of Image Errors in Analogue Video* (Swiss Institute for Art Research, *KUNSTmaterial*, Vol. 2), with a contribution by Irene Schubiger, dual-language (German / English; translation: Bill Maslen), Zurich: SIK-ISEA / Published by Scheidegger & Spiess, 2012; ISBN 978-3-85881-381-7

22 x 28 cm, 272 pages (incl. 8 pages of data sheets) with 208 illustrations (mostly colour), six full-page illustrations by Maurice Ettlin, hardcover with DVD insert (61 videos). **The publication can be ordered online at [www.sik-isea.ch](http://www.sik-isea.ch) (Publications).** Price: CHF 120.-

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