



310.459.6957 tel : : 310.388.1318 fax
box 2212::malibu:ca::90265::usa
www.asklabs.com

ELECTRUM

A Documentary Short Film



"... an awesome document of the world's largest tesla coil..."

*Gregory Weinkauf
Los Angeles New Times*

"A visual buzz with a techno beat..."

*Nick Burns
San Antonio Current*

SYNOPSIS:

The worlds of art and science collide when a wealthy New Zealand art collector realizes his desire to throw lightning bolts from his front porch. ELECTRUM is a documentary about an unusual group of artists and technicians who build the world's largest tesla coil. The resulting machine has the ability to generate 3 million volts and throw 50-foot bolts of lightning at the flip of a switch.

Electrum is the kinetic lightning sculpture by artist Eric Orr (b.1939 - d. 1998), a seminal figure in the Southern California-based light and space movement of the 1960's. Mr. Orr was commissioned to create Electrum and hired high-voltage engineer Greg Leyh to fabricate the sculpture. Mr. Leyh's colorful past includes experimenting with high-voltage devices and a long-running collaboration with San Francisco's notorious performance art group, Survival Research Laboratories.

Filmmaker Alberta Chu investigates the interface of science and art. ELECTRUM is a digital film featuring rare tesla coil footage shot by Director of Photography David Safian. ELECTRUM was edited by Monica Gillette using the Avid. ELECTRUM's original musical score by SKY is a haunting blend of electronica and classical music.

The award-winning ELECTRUM documentary has screened at film festivals around the world, and has been broadcast on select PBS stations. ELECTRUM is being distributed by APTVS (American Public Television) a 2003 release date will be announced shortly. Pyramid Media handles the educational distribution of ELECTRUM.

For more information on the ELECTRUM documentary, or to purchase the ELECTRUM video, please visit www.asklabs.com.

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PRESS CONTACT:

Alberta Chu
310.418.5824
alberta@asklabs.com