

The Double – Russian industrial music and low tech videos (1993)

This music video compilation made by two young Finns captures perfectly the zeitgeist of the early 1990's on both sides of the temporarily fallen Iron Curtain. On the Russian side there are the omnipresent ruins of the old industrial society and a prevailing sense that anything absurd or ridiculous may happen at any moment; on the Finnish side the postmodernist juxtaposition of incongruous materials such as early, wild Russian TV ads with interviews of underground video-makers, as well as low tech aesthetics and production methods seen as a liberation from centralized control. What brought them together was a temporary breakdown of hierarchies in the mainstream media – the Finnish national TV partially financed this hunt for deeply untraditional amateurs, while the Russian national TV provided editing equipment and plenty of nationwide air time for these outsider auteurs and their videos with titles like "Fucking Electricity" (sic), "Brain Parasites", "Captivated by the Handicapped", or "You Must Forget Everything".

1. Pusk: *V plenu u invalidov*
Captivated by the Handicapped, 1993
2. Iskusstvennoye dykhaniye: *Vanya (Revolyutsiya)*
Vanya (Revolution), 1992
3. Microsurgery: *Amalgama*
Amalgam, 1989
4. Vadim Koshkin & Nikolai Shiroky: *Parazity mozga*
Brain Parasites, 1993
5. Notchnoi Prospekt: *Abyss*
directed by Konstantin Bozhiev, 1989/1993
6. Elena Nabel: *Je voudrais me taire*
1992
7. Igor Verichev: *Vy dolzhny vsyo zabyt*
You Must Forget Everything, directed by Sergey Shutov, 1992
8. Velvet & Velvet Dolls: *Skazka*
Fairytale, 1992
9. Laboratoriya merzloty: *Svet v kontse tunnelya*
Light at the End of the Tunnel, fragment from a pirate cable tv show, directed by Kirill Preobrazhensky and Alexey Belyayev, 1991
10. Currents of Death: *Fucking Electricity*
directed by Vadim Koshkin, 1993
11. Stuk bambuka v XI chasov: *Snezhnyi myod*
Snow Honey, 1992

All videos directed by the artists, except where noted
Compilation and introduction: Anton Nikkilä and Mika Taanila, 1993
Duration: 50 minutes