iArt

Art & Digital Imaging Technology:
The Top 40 Show @ LACDA
by Roger Macintosh

The use of digital technology to create, manipulate, and display images has been widely adopted throughout the media arts. Kodak moments are occurring less frequently as digital cameras are used to take vacation snapshots and the photo on tomorrow's front page. Just about every movie made today uses digital techniques to create fantastic worlds or simply to make skies blue. Some movies are shot digitally with high definition television cameras in a process tactfully called "electronic cinema". The need to print thousands of costly and fragile release prints will eventually be eliminated by the use of digital projectors in theaters.

Meanwhile, Moore's Law has yet to be repealed and one of the results is that the use of digital image processing is no longer limited to ad agencies and media corporations. Twenty years ago, one would have needed to ~~~~ up with a ~~~~ of a milli~ ~~~~ buy a Quantel system the size of ~~~~

Based on what I'd like to hang in my living room, my favorite was Ansen Seale's simple image of what appears to be a long train by a beach. What I thought was a fairly straightforward Photoshop enhancement of a photograph turned out to be a digital slit scan, and an unusually calm one in comparison to the artist's other work involving this technique.

I found the Top 40 images to be a lot better than most gallery shows, but many of the pieces became more interesting after learning what the artist had done to create the image. If someone who does this kind of work all the time is unsure of what he's seeing, then the average viewer probably doesn't even know they should have a question. Rex Bruce agreed that more information would be helpful and will be posting