

Nam June Paik ~ media artist often called "the father of media art."

Born in Seoul in 1932, youngest of 5 siblings

Paik & his family fled their home in Korea during the Korean War. They fled to Hong Kong, but later moved to Japan.

Paik was trained as a classical pianist<sup>in 1950</sup> and graduated from the University of Tokyo six years later.

After Paik moved to West Germany to study music history at Munich University

In Germany Paik met conceptual artists, and from 1962 on he was a member of Fluxus, also known as the Neo-Dada art movement.

inspired by the composer John Cage and the use of everyday sounds & noises in his music.

During 1963 & 1964 two engineers showed Paik how to interfere with the flow of electrons in color TV sets, pieces that led to the Abel-Paik video synthesizer a key element in future TV work.

In 1964 Paik moved to New York and worked with classical cellist Charlotte Moorman to combine all video, music and performance in the ~~open~~ art installation TV Cello... many TV monitors were stacked upon each other to create the look of a cello. When the cellist drew her bow across the "cello" images of her and other cellists appeared on the screens.