Charlotte Moorman performing *TV Cello* in collaboration with Nam June Paik, 1971, Takahiko Iimura.

# STEAM TO STEAM PUNK

## 200 YEARS OF TECHNOCULTURE

ART 12B
Summer Session 1
MW 9:00-11:50
HG 1800
Course Code: 01015
Instructor: Kelly Donahey

Art 12B can be used to satisfy one General Education (GE) Requirement in Category IV, Arts and Humanities. Art 12B is a core course in the Digital Arts Minor, Department of Art, Claire Trevor School of the Arts.

**What is nature? What is culture? What is technology? What is art? How did we arrive at our contemporary technoculture? Are there clear links and reoccurrence of past technology that we can find in our contemporary digital media?**

*Steam to Steampunk* is an interdisciplinary survey of the intersections between culture, nature, technology, and art since the industrial revolutions of the 19th century. We will focus on global 20th and 21st century media art practices and the theories and inventions critical to their development. Cybernetic art works of the 1960s and 70s, robots, bioart, cyborgs, computer art, and kinetics will all be explored. The role of the artists as inventor will also be key. Each week will be dedicated to a concept or problem important to a selection of radical art works, exhibitions, and artists. We will take a networked approach to the material. As a class, we will apply our disciplines and interests to questions asked by generations of artists, critics, and inventors. The format of this course is designed to allow each student to establish their own relationship to the material. This is an introductory course open to all undergraduate students. Students from all disciplines are encouraged to enroll. You will be asked to challenge yourself with ideas that might not become clear until they are revisited later in the quarter. Each session you will be asked to complete a short reading assignment in order to participate fully in lecture and discussion. Grades will be based on class participation and short writing assignments. Email Kelly Donahey, kdonahey@uci.edu, with questions.

UCI Claire Trevor School of the Arts | Art