

# MALCOLM COCHRAN > REQUIEM

*Washing Feet, 1996-97*

**Split-video projection, marble block, light stand, foam board**

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At Heathrow Airport in London I noticed an Indian man having his feet washed by a younger family member. The situation startled me, and the image stuck with me. It developed into an idea for a work in which I would wash the feet of family, friends, and strangers and record the images on two video cameras: one at head height, the other focused on the feet and the basin in which they were washed.

In the summer of 1996, I was a resident at the Headlands Center for the Arts in San Francisco. I used the occasion of the Center's open house to wash the feet of forty-seven people. This footage was edited so that images of the heads and feet are fully in sync as they are simultaneously projected. From the start, I imagined projecting the heads on a screen and the feet on a block of marble. It is at once physical, sculptural, grounded, and ephemeral.

Malcolm Cochran