

T. R. UTHCO
(1970 – 1978)

T.R. Uthco was a media art collective that was formed in San Francisco in 1970. Although its personnel fluctuated depending on the projects undertaken, its central members were Doug Hall, Jody Procter and Diane Andrews Hall.

The collective saw itself as responding to the unsettling politics of the time through interventions into everyday life, the creation of and participation in spectacles, and through media analysis and subversion. Their work was performed in unofficial spaces, like city streets, as well as in more established venues like museums, galleries, and university auditoriums. It was during the early 1970s while on tour on the East Coast that Doug Hall and Jody Procter began to develop and refine the “artist-president,” a figure based on JFK, who they thought of as the first great “media president.” With Procter as the speechwriter, Hall as the artist-president delivered speeches in an exaggerated Kennedy accent that referenced the rhetorical style and pretension of the political speech without providing any specific message.

DIANE ANDREWS HALL

Born: 1945, Dallas, Texas

Education: BFA, H. Sophie Newcomb College, New Orleans, Louisiana, 1967
MFA, Hoffberger School of Painting, Maryland Institute College of Art, Baltimore, Maryland, 1969

DOUG HALL

Born: 1944, San Francisco

Education: BA, Harvard College, Cambridge, Massachusetts, 1966
MFA, Rinehart School of Sculpture, Maryland Institute College of Art, Baltimore, 1969

JODY PROCTER

Born: 1943, Boston, Massachusetts
Died 1998, Eugene, Oregon

Education: BA, Harvard College, Cambridge, Massachusetts, 1966