Becoming...again for one or more performers

Michael Boyd 2014

Performance Instructions

This piece is for one or more performers of any type.

Performance length must be decided in advance by the performer(s) and may last for any duration that is easily divisible by twelve. A performance might be as short as one minute or as long as one year. Shorter durations lend themselves to focused performance settings such as a concert, while longer durations might be more fitting for a performed installation or modifications to one's daily life.

The performance score (right) is comprised of three concentric circles, each divided into four segments that contain one verb. The perimeter of the score is labeled with Roman numerals I through XII, similar to a traditional clock. Each Roman numeral position is associated with the three verbs found at that position in each circle. Adjacent Roman numeral positions share two verbs and differ by one.

Performers begin performing at any of the twelve Roman numerals, concurrently interpreting the three verbs associated with that position to create performance gestures. The performance gestures that result from this interpretation can be sonic, visual, and/or theatrical. The exact way that a trio of verbs suggests gesture(s) will vary significantly, as none have obvious performance connotations and might be interpreted in myriad ways. Performers should be creative, experiment, and explore! Performers should progress clockwise through the Roman numeral positions, spending an equal amount of time at each (one twelfth of the total performance duration). A performance ends when a performer returns to the position where he or she began.

When two or more performers are involved, they can perform independently, coexisting spatially, or may interact with each other based on the interpreted verbs. They may choose similar or different performance durations, leaving the performance space when not active. For longer performances further temporal/spatial customization may be employed (perhaps designating certain spaces and/or times for performance).

