

IMPROVISATION ON THE BASIS OF TERRY RILEY'S IN C 21 Sep - 25 Sep 2011

Drumming GP, directed by Miquel Bernat

A group of choreographers/performers coordinated by Mark Tompkins. Members: David Wampach, Elisabete Francisca, Frans Poelstra, Laurent Pichaud, Mariana Tengner, Sofia Dias, Vera Mantero and Victor Roriz.

In this work, the improvisation process begins with the choice of the instruments to play. Our only constraint - beyond the score itself – will be the prior decision concerning the approximate duration of the performance. Everything else will be left to the performers' criteria (...) Miquel Bernat

The main challenge we'll face is knowing how to navigate through the musical score and how to transpose it to an equally open dance score. Each show will be 'site-specific'. Therefore our approach must necessarily be adapted to the circumstances, wherein the choreography will be established on the basis of tasks, actions, timings and spatialisations (...) Mark Tompkins

The score, In C by American composer, Terry Riley, composed in 1964, assumed major historical importance because it inaugurated the North-American minimalist movement and fostered the principles of open work. Free improvisation of the score, constituted by 53 cells in a single page and without specification in relation to the number of "instrumentists", as proposed to Drumming and his group of choreographers, confirms the inclusion of research and experimentation processes, inherited from the Judson Generation, in the practises of many of the contemporary artists included within the "Improvisations/Collaborations" series.

Artistic collaboration and improvisation form the core pillars of the In C improvisation process and the foundations of the encounter between musicians and performers in the process of common exploration and discovery in the Serralves Auditorium, Tennis Court and Memorial Centre Park, and in the invention of different forms of representation and co-existence between performers and audiences.

IMPROVISATIONS

CIRCULATION :: 21 September, 9:30 pm :: Serralves Auditorium

A theatre where the apron at the front of the stage is painted black, thus forging an intimate relationship with the audience. The musicians are distributed around the stage and the dancers may circulate inside and outside the decor around them..

This is the first and shortest presentation, LET'S MEET AND GET IN TUNE

MARATHON :: 23 September, from 7pm until 11pm :: Serralves Tennis Court

The public space will encompass 2 fronts, as in a tennis match. The performance will take place at dusk, at the transition from sunlight (I hope!) to artificial light. It's the longest performance, a kind of marathon, where the resistance of the artists and audience will create a kind of trance and in any circumstances a memorable experience.

LIVING PICTURE :: 25 September, 17:00 :: Vila do Conde Memorial Centre

Presentation integrated within the Programme of the Circular Performing Arts Festival / Partnership - Circular Cultural Association and Vila do Conde Municipal Council

A performance will take place in the Memorial Centre, a museum that has a hillside park, designed across three man-made terraces, surrounded by stone walls. The audience will be invited to attend on the lower terrace and bring their own picnic. I imagine a more informal and playful performance - a living picture (...)