

PERFORMANCE ART

FALL 2020

Instructor: Shane Lutz	Class Dates & Location: Tuesdays & Thursdays, 3pm - 5pm in McGill 115
Contact Information: shane.lutz@umontana.edu	Office Hours: 11:00am - 1:00pm on Thursdays in Recess Coffee in the Education Bldg

Course Overview:

This class is designed to explore performance art through theory and application. Half of our time will be devoted to reading articles on the history of performance art from the last 70 years. We will explore the historical context through which this form developed, how it changed and responded to other artistic movements, and the semiotics behind famous pieces such as *I Like America & America Likes Me*, *My Queer Body*, *The Artist is Present*, and others. The rest of our time will be spent presenting original performance art pieces developed by students, emphasizing process and creative exploration. After developing these short performance pieces (3 - 7 minutes) over the course of the semester, we will present a showcase of our work during finals week that is open to anyone to come and enjoy!

Required Materials:

MARINA ABRAMOVIC: Routledge Performance Practitioner Series
Articles, Interviews, Texts, and other materials will be made available via Moodle.

GRADING SCALE & BREAKDOWN

Evaluation will be based on participation in class activities and discussion; three papers, weekly written responses, and a dramatic literature journal - all for formal assessment.

Grading Scale:	
A	100 – 90% [A-: 90-93]
B	89 – 80% [B+: 87-89, B-: 80-83]
C	79 – 70% [C+: 77-79, C-: 70-73]
D	69 – 60%
F	59 and Below
Assignments:	Percentage:
Attendance	15%

Participation & Feedback	15%
Presentation on Performance Artist	15%
Performance Journal	15%
Midterm Draft of Piece	15%
Final Performance of Piece	25%

PRESENTATIONS:

Each student will research and develop a brief presentation on a performance artist of their choice. These presentations should include biographical information, historical context, notable works and performances, and other relevant details. Presentations should be between 5 - 10 minutes.

READING JOURNAL:

Students will keep a journal for reflections on readings, discussions, performances, feedback, and their own artistic process. Students can either turn in a journal at the end of the semester or turn in an essay-length reflection on their development as an artist.

Course Schedule:	
Date	Topic/Assignments:
Week 1	TUESDAY What is Performance Art? THURSDAY Exercises & Exploration in Performance
Week 2	TUESDAY <u>READ</u> : "On Nonconformity" from <i>The Shape of Content</i> by Ben Shahn Available on moodle THURSDAY Continue Exercises & Exploration of Performance Techniques
Week 3	TUESDAY <u>READ</u> : "The Real Experiment" by Allan Kaprow Available on moodle THURSDAY Continue Exercises & Exploration of Performance Techniques
Week 4	TUESDAY <u>WATCH</u> : <i>BED PEACE</i> by Yoko Ono Link to youtube on moodle THURSDAY Continue Exploration & begin presenting bits and pieces of potential material These presentations represent <i>where you're at</i> in the process.
Week 5	TUESDAY

	<p><u>READ</u>: Ellen Stewart & The La MaMa Experimental Theatre Club Articles available on moodle</p> <p>THURSDAY Performances</p>
Week 6	<p>TUESDAY <u>READ</u>: “The Personal is Political” by Carol Hanisch Available on moodle</p> <p>THURSDAY Performances</p>
Week 7	<p>TUESDAY <u>READ</u>: Chapter 1 in <i>Marina Abramovic</i></p> <p>THURSDAY Exploration of the Abramovic Method from Chapter 4 of the Performance Practitioner Book</p>
Week 8	<p>TUESDAY <u>READ</u>: Chapter 2 in <i>Marina Abramovic</i></p> <p>THURSDAY Continue Exploration of the Abramovic Method from Chapter 4 of the Performance Practitioner Book</p>
Week 9	<p>TUESDAY <u>READ</u>: Chapter 3 in <i>Marina Abramovic</i></p> <p>THURSDAY Continue Exploration of the Abramovic Method from Chapter 4 of the Performance Practitioner Book</p>
Week 10	<p>TUESDAY <u>READ</u>: “Form in Performance” from <i>The Shape of Content</i> by Ben Shahn Available on moodle</p> <p>Thursday Continue performances</p>
Week 11	<p>TUESDAY <u>WATCH</u>: “Turtle Dreams” by Meredith Monk & Ping Chong Available on moodle</p> <p>THURSDAY Performances</p>
Week 12	<p>TUESDAY <u>READ</u>: “Preaching to the Converted” by Tim Miller Available on moodle</p> <p>THURSDAY - Thanksgiving Break No Class</p> <p><u>WATCH</u>: “My Queer Body” by Tim Miller over break! Link available on moodle</p>

Week 13	TUESDAY <u>WATCH:</u> "I Like America & America Likes Me" by Joseph Beuys THURSDAY Performances
Week 14	TUESDAY Performances THURSDAY Final Draft of Performances
Week 15	EXAM PERIOD Showcase of performance art pieces