

Syllabus Objectives

Comprehensive Objectives and Outcomes

- * For students to understand the concepts that define Performance Art, its origins and its distinctive role in contemporary art.
- * To introduce the medium's potential for modes of expression, statement, aesthetics and presentation that are uniquely unpredictable, challenging, provocative and exciting.
- * For students not to feel alienated by esoteric performance, but to be enabled to develop their own critical voice with which to comment on their experiences.
- * For students to be enabled to confidently develop Self as performer/medium, creator/author with freedom from self-conscious inhibitions.
- * For students to develop their own distinctive creative voice with which to pursue their work.

Specific Goals and Objectives

Definition, History & Context

- * To research and analyze definitions of performance art – with the understanding that this is an evolving art form to be continuously re-defined.
- * To introduce key historic movements in performance art, as well as individual artists and groups throughout the twentieth century. And to regard the political, social and philosophical issues surrounding the creation of performance art in each era.
- * To look at recent work in contemporary performance art, discuss how it fits into historic context and how it is now developing due to current influences.

Physical Preparation

- * To introduce and explore methods of preparing the body as a versatile medium for art.
- * To engage in relationship with fundamental concepts of self, body, time, space, gravity, surface, form, body sound and motion.
- * To establish a routine of basic exercises in which to develop these principles as a regular practice.

Creative Response, Play & Interaction

- * To utilize aspects of physical preparation in creative response and interaction.
- * To engage in relationship with “other” in response to such entities as: sound, image, text, environment, object, color, smell, taste, texture, concept, narrative, technology, person and identity.
- * To discover and develop the potential of Self as a viable means of artistic communication.

Assignments & New Work

- * To apply physical and creative tools explored in the class towards the development of original new work.
- * To establish Self as “author” or “creator” of artistic work.
- * To foster a decision making process of creative critical thinking.
- * To present original new work as a culmination of experimental process and manifestation of the work as art piece.
- * To receive feedback and reflection on the work produced.