

PUSH::POP::STACK

[part VII of the ongoing **TASK** series]

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- Any number of performers may take part in a performance. Participants need not be professional musicians.
- Requirements
 - A table
 - The objects dictated by your chosen set of actions
- Forming Scenes
 - (1) Access the following document which contains a master list of activities:
<https://tinyurl.com/yyj8azyn>
 - (2) Decide how many scenes you would like to perform (the number of scenes can range from one to infinity);
 - (3) Each scene is comprised of at least 5 and at most 10 actions from the master list; each action on the master list may only be used once!;
 - (4) Write down the actions of your scene in a series of columns; this document can be viewed during performance or memorized; an example of three scenes is found below:

SCENE 1

Inflate a balloon;
Eat a muffin;
Recite a haiku;
Change a light bulb;
Put on a tie;

SCENE 2

Have a conversation on the phone;
Tie your shoes;
Whistle a short tune;
Type a message on a typewriter;
Make a paper airplane;
Do 10 jumping jacks;

SCENE 3

Brush your teeth;
Put on a jacket;
Untangle headphones;
Take and upload a selfie;
Count to 53;
Play chess;
Draw a dog;
Open a bottle of water and
pour it into a glass.

- Instructions
 - (1) Gather the necessary items/props/instruments required to perform your chosen actions. Place them on the table;
 - (2) Imagine you are attempting to complete each action/task in your scene simultaneously. In order to do this you will need to rapidly jump between tasks while remembering your position within each task (so when you return to it you may proceed from your last checkpoint);
 - (3) ***You may only spend a maximum of 3" on any given task before you MUST jump to another active task;***
 - (4) You may freely jump between actions/tasks;
 - (5) When you return to a task, proceed from the state from which you left it;
 - (6) Once a task/action is completed you may ignore it.

(7) When all tasks have been completed, the scene has ended. If you are performing only one scene, the piece is over. If you have more scenes to perform, take a brief pause in between each scene.

- Example Performance of Scene 1

- (1) Pick up balloon from table and position it correctly within your hand (3");
- (2) Recite a few syllables from the haiku (2");
- (3) Blow into the balloon (3");
- (4) Pick up the light bulb and position it over the lamp base (2");
- (5) Recite a few syllables from the haiku beginning from where you left off (3");
- (6) Screw in the lightbulb (3");
- (7) Blow into the balloon (2");
- (8) Take a bite of the muffin (2");
- (9) Recite a few syllables from the haiku (you will likely have muffin in your mouth) (3");
- (10) Pick up the tie and put it around your neck (2");
- (11) Blow into the balloon (3");
- (12) Take a bite of the muffin (2");
- (13)...

- These tasks become entangled and interpenetrate each other when performed in this way (i.e. eating the muffin influences how quickly you blow up the balloon or how intelligible the haiku recitation is);
- Some events (such as inflating the balloon and screwing in the lightbulb) can be jumped into and out of in different ways:
 - Sometimes it will make sense to continue the action as you perform another actions (i.e. continue to screw in the light bulb as you recite the haiku; or recite the haiku as you are blowing into the balloon, etc.)
 - Sometimes you will need to stop the task, freeze your physical positions, move on to a new task, and then come back to the initial task continuing from where you left off (i.e. blowing up the balloon, pinching the balloon so the air doesn't escape, remain holding the balloon close to your mouth, take a bite of the muffin, return to blowing into the balloon...)
 - Sometimes you will need to put the object down as freezing in position will inhibit other actions (i.e. you may need to put the light bulb down to pick up the tie because your other hand is full with the balloon. Once the tie is placed around the neck, you will need to pick up the light bulb again, etc.)
- If a performance is being staged please contact me (ryan@ryancarraher.com) with any questions or concerns.
- This task can be performed live, documented as a video recording, a written commentary about your performance experience, or not documented at all.