

Some places to which we can  
come and for a while «be free  
to think about what we are  
going to do»

Robert Barry, 1970 -present



Several propositions,  
suggestions,  
Statements

what might this be?



## Emptiness and time travel

moving in space makes thought

let's go for a walk



Nowhere is better  
than something

collective decision  
making





Conceptual artists are  
mystics rather than  
rationalists.

Sol Lewitt, sentences on conceptual art



«Use of materials is generally casual, the results often perishable. The effort to turn idea into art as directly as possible makes «finish» undesirable. emphasis is on process, on idea - but not in the sense of «ideal» there is a distrust of too much logic or thought.»

The way-out west: interviews with four San Francisco artists, Bruce Nauman, William wiley, William Geis, and Bill Allan

1967. Joe Raffaele and Elizabeth Baker



## Instructions for a mental exercise

Bruce Nauman, 1974

- A. Lie on the floor near the centre of the space, face down, and slowly allow yourself to sink down into the floor. Eyes open.
  
- B. Lie on your back on the floor near the centre of the space and slowly allow the floor to rise up around you. Eyes open.

Distrust everybody,  
lie on the floor.

or is getting to know others  
an option?

Start at the beginning

Not all ideas come in the  
correct order

Ideas do not necessarily proceed in logical order. They may set off in unexpected directions, but an idea must necessarily be completed in the mind before the next one is formed.

Sol Lewitt, sentences on conceptual art





Concentrate the mind on  
something

think about something else

or

All the things I know but of  
which  
I am not thinking-  
1:36pm; June, 1969

Robert Barry



What might we do here?



What are the characteristics of the room?

How might they be measured and recorded, surveyed?

What might we do to change it?

Floating thought

concentrated disengaged  
concentrated uncommitted

outside of a particular space,  
occupied.

occupied in action within a space all  
the while remaining detached and  
absent from that space.

doing things in a context all the while  
absent from that context.

the action occupies the space the  
place is empty of presence.

## Floating room

We are trying to get to the centre of some place: that is, exactly halfway between each pair of parts.

We want to move our centre (some measurable centre) to coincide with such a point.

We want to superimpose our centre of gravity on this point.  
Save enough energy and concentration to reverse.

(The centre of most places is above eye level.)

Bruce Nauman, 1972





Observing a location

in detail

recording the information with  
photographs, videos  
drawings and texts.  
use this as the raw material for a  
song.



With a microphone and amp

Speaking for an extended period  
continuously addressing the people

in the room/the place

where ever you find yourself

who ever they might be



More songs about buildings and food

(the title of Talking heads 2nd album, 1978)



I am a pop song

is a place a pop song?

never written

title of a song

# Demonstrations



using any number of found objects  
demonstrate a concept or idea chain to the  
others in the room or place.

(the process can be filmed)

possible subjects:

flow

drift

raft

vision

sight

line of sight

shoot

tray

stack

shelf

throw

Sabbortage

transparency

society

The demonstration will lead to an arrangemnet that is both  
conceptually and visually pleasing, a sculpture may be  
achieved in this process.



spatial exploration (this implies the use of the body and it's senses)



Ideas can be works of art; they are in a chain of development that may eventually find some form. All ideas need not be made physical.

Sol Lewitt

Sentences on Conceptual art



The words of one artist to another may induce an idea chain, if they share the same concept.

Sol Lewitt

Sentences on Conceptual art





Between what is said and what is done.

Between what is thought and what is said.

Between what is done and what is thought

before action

After thought

Ideally what I would like to do with you this semester is produce a number of different forms in various different formats.

I would like you to write some songs, form bands and perform those songs live make a recording and print a vinyl disc with the songs on it.

to keep a photographic, written and drawn diary about a number of specific locations, which will provide the raw material for your songs.

In each weekly seance, I would like to try out different actions with you, some physical some spoken, some drawn.

I would like to discuss the notion of place

to write a report at the end of each atelier





























































































































