INSTRUCTIONS FOR AN AUDIO PERFORMANCE

A POLLYFIBRE MANUAL

2012
INSTRUCTIONS FOR AN AUDIO PERFORMANCE PART 0
Brief Outline Of Technical Spec For the Haifa museum

Instructions for a performance will be uploaded to the storage room website.
Minimum interpretation: download and exhibit the instructions.
Extended interpretation: A performer or group of performers will follow the instructions and stage the performance.

1st set of instructions: how to prepare a scissors for an amplified scissors recording (pre-performance).

2nd set of instructions: How to create an amplified scissors recording (live performance).

Requirements per performer:
Amplified scissors
Sheet/s of vinyl plastic
Mixing desk
Soundsystem (amplifier + speakers)

Requirements of museum:
Wall space for instructions (dimensions are variable)
For live performance: minimum of 1 performer plus space with a mixing desk, amplifier and speakers.

The piece can be performed simultaneously by as many people as there are inputs on the mixing desk.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR AN AUDIO PERFORMANCE PART 1
How To Prepare A Scissors For An Amplified Scissors Recording (pre-performance)

You will need:
1 pair of scissors, ideally large tailoring shears with metal handles
1 contact microphone - for best results use the Guitar Tech EGT-102 Transducer pick up
1 ¼ jack to ¼ jack guitar lead
(See diagram A)

For testing you will need:
1 mixing desk, amplifier + speakers (see diagram C)

1. Attach the contact microphone directly to the scissors blade. If using the EGT-102 each pad should be stuck to a different blade.

2. Plug the guitar lead into the microphone via the 1/4inch jack adaptor that is supplied with the EGT-102 (see diagram B)

3. The lead can now be plugged into the mixing desk. You will likely need to turn the gain up on the channel quite high. The frequencies can then be adapted to refine the tone and pitch of your amplified scissors.

4. Play around with the positioning of your hand when playing the scissors – this will affect the type of sound created and also helps to ground the instrument.
INSTRUCTIONS FOR AN AUDIO PERFORMANCE PART 2
How to create an amplified scissors record(ing)(live performance)

You will need:

1 prepared scissors
Sheet/s of plastic vinyl, minimum size 12” x 12” (the vinyl can be any colour but should be about as thick as lightweight card)
Paper templates printed prior to performances
1 turntable record player
1 mixing desk + soundsystem (amp/speakers)

Plug the scissors/s into the mixing desk and adjust frequencies as necessary.

Place template A onto the first sheet of vinyl plastic and cut around the dotted line as indicated. Then trace the pattern of the template with the blade of the scissors to score the pattern into the vinyl surface. Finally pierce the centre point with the sharpest point of the scissors.

Place vinyl disc on record player turntable and play while creating another disc.

Repeat with as many vinyl sheets as desirable. Experiment with your own patterns to create improvised sounds and scratch patterns.

Performance can be executed by multiple performers with multiple record players to create a canon effect.

See diagram D for suggested layout of space where x indicates position of performer.
DIAGRAM D

MIXER

AMPLIFIER

TURNTABLE

SPEAKER 1

SPEAKER 2

AUDIENCE