

For what appeared to me in my dreams was the voice of the spirit.

for four performers

daniel allas (2019)

Object list:

Computer

Speakers (2, stereo)

Microphones (2)

Contact microphones (2)

Mixer

Headphones

Projector

Portable LED lights (2)

Blue tissue paper (multiple sheets)

Plastic cups (4)

Glass cups (2)

Glass bowls (2)

Sheet metal/thunder sheet (3)

Threaded rods (4)

Soda cans (4 of clear soda, 4 of dark soda)

Lighters (2)

Colored beads (multiple)

Marbles (multiple)

Performance notes:

During the piece, the projector and the LED lights cast words and images across the performance space. Inspect the venue to find the best place for the projector image. The ranked priorities for the projector are: 1) legibility, and 2) close proximity to the ceiling (where the shadow images are located).

Performers play the objects on the floor of the venue, perhaps near the first row of chairs in the audience. The LED lights are placed in the center of the performers, casting shadows against the ceiling.

Stereo speakers face the audience, for playback (from a Max patch) and amplification. All amplification equipment should be strategically placed so that they do not cast obstructive shadows.

A note about the piece:

The longer I'm alive, the more I believe in the importance of maintaining a spirit of innocence.

By this I do not mean maintaining naïveté or ignorance. A fulfilling life requires discovering the way things actually are, whether these discoveries turn out to be joyful or heartbreaking - or somewhere in between.

But I also believe there are many forces that work relentlessly to dull the senses, to cast such thorough doubt that despair is the only answer, to kill every innate, child-like impulse until very little hope is left.

Although it doesn't seem possible to silence these forces completely, I have learned the hollow rhythms of their stories; and, having heard them, I still believe there are other, unheard stories that I want to tell - stories emanating from an innocence maintained, full of the spirit and alive.

Time	Daniel	Lucy	Victoria	Nina
0'01"	be still	be still	be still	be still
0'31"	light 1 paper hands	plastic cups	light 2 paper hands	plastic cups
2'05"	paper hands agitated	glass cup	paper hands agitated	glass bowl
3'22"	cover light 1 - cue	marbles out	cover light 2 - cue	marbles out
3'30"	hands up	glass above light	hands up	glass above light
3'48"	glass above light	cont. glass above light	fade out	fade out
4'58"	stop	stop	be still	metal wobble
5'15"	be still	be still	metal wobble	cont. metal wobble
5'18"	move lights	metal wobble	cont. metal wobble	cont. metal wobble
5'45"	cont. moving lights	bow metal	bow metal	bow metal
6'23"	lights off + open sodas	cont. bowing metal	cont. bowing metal	cont. bowing metal
6'50"	stop - cue	stop - cue	stop - cue	stop - cue
8'00"	can + mic setup	bow can	be still	bow can
8'30"	bowl setup	cont. bowing can	bowl setup	cont. bowing can
8'50"	lights on + pour process	pour process	lights on + pour process	pour process
15'50"	remove can + to mixer	remove can + flick in bowl 1	cont. pour process	cont. pour process
16'00"	proj. off + play mixer	cont. flicking	spin beads in bowl 2	colored beads
18'30"	lighters	cont. flicking	prep for lights off	dark soda
19'23"	cont. lighters	stop	lights off	stop
19'40"	END	END	END	END