

Androgynette

Explanation of Improvisations

Part I - *Ballet of Self Doubt*

Each performer selects a piece of repertoire that they feel encapsulates 'quiet virtuosity'. Starting in complete stillness, each performer begins teasing out the gestures they use to prepare to play/sing. They begin playing sections of their chosen pieces, similarly building up the gestures required. After they feel they have reached a point of 'transformation' in their playing, they return to stillness. After three such cycles the performers leave the circle in their own time and begin Part II.

Part II - *Ballet of Images*

The performers move freely around the space. When they come in contact with one of the 6 images on they interpret and perform it in some way, then return to moving around the space. When they encounter another performer, each plays their interpretation of whatever image they were last at. Each performer guesses which image the other was performing and moves to it (whether or not the guess was correct). They then interpret the image, informed by the other performers interpretation or not, and the pattern continues. Ledger and I push the piano into position, and they ensemble move into place for Part III.

Part III - *Ballet of Repetition and Body Etude*

Ledger performs *Body Etude*. The ensemble join in at the four repeated bar sections. During one and three the ensemble imitate Ledger's variations. During two and four the ensemble and Ledger improvise independently.