

MOBIUS NEWSLETTER

354 CONGRESS STREET, BOSTON
(FORT POINT) 617 542-7416

VOL. 3 #1 SEPT/OCT 1985

This season will be Mobius' third at Congress Street, and we are pleased to report that our programs are growing. We have just gotten word that we have received funding through the New Works program of the Mass Council for a series of collaborations that will be started this year and presented next season. The series is curated by Richard Lerman, and what is exciting about the project is that they are collaborations between Boston-area artists and national and international artists. Participating on the Boston end are Ellen Rothenberg, Nancy Selvage, Malcolm Goldstein, Michael Timpson, Tom Plsek, Larry Johnson, Curtis Roads and David Moss.

In talking with other artist-run spaces across the country, it appears that we occupy a rather unique position. There are not many groups that run a space with as much and as diverse programming as we do, in addition to producing a full season of work as a company.

Mobius Performing Group's first work of the season will be a coproduction with TheaterWorks of David Miller's new work, "That's what I do all Year Round". His description of it is: "A birthday party in Purgatory descends to Hell, from which we emerge to view Paradise in a cup of tea in your lover's eyes."

The challenge for us this year is to continue and strengthen our own work as a group while continuing to provide space and support to other artists. As we present more established national artists, it is crucial for us to retain the flexibility necessary to support truly new and unusual work, as well as the emerging artists in Boston.

We hope you find this season's work provoking.

ECLECTIC PIECES

Songs and compositions by
Jonathan Keezing

Sept. 6, Friday
8:00 pm

One of my desires is that my work helps make people more aware of their environment and interactions. I feel that increasing their aural spectrum and ability to find meaning in the subtle is a means of helping this process in a small way. My work stresses surprises, be they

sudden rhythmic, harmonic or textural changes, or subtle shifts which bring to light a new motif. As a solo performer, I perform on Roland synthesizer, electric and prepared guitars, tape, found sound, and voice. This set up with amplification and processing gives me a wide variety of textures to explore and fits into the back of my Volkswagen Beetle. The work I will present on September 6 is divided into 3 segments which explore a variety

of genres and textual possibilities. In a creative medium, one should feel free to work within the constricts which have personal meaning. Lost Silences attempts to extract the essences from each thread in sound. Eclectic Pieces tend to be quirky little vignettes which explore composition techniques, social issues, and sonic exploration on guitar. The final segment will include selections from Stravinsky, Bach, Frank, and Satie, performed in a duet.

AROUND THE WORLD IN SEVEN

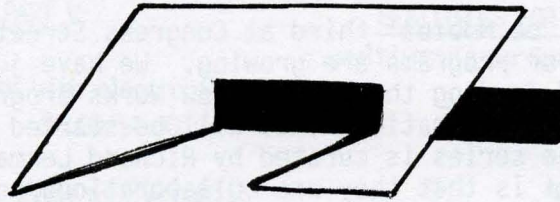
DAZE - a week of visual art and performance curated by No-Brand Art
Aug 28-Sept 3 / gallery 1-6 pm
call for performance times

No-Brand Art is a non-profit arts organization founded in 1982 under the direction of co-founders Nick Nagy and Brewster Lutrell. This marks No-Brand's third year of "socially relevant" activity in the arts with exhibitions in the fall of 1985 in Detroit, Houston, New York, El Paso, and Boston. The previous exhibitions of No'Brand vary significantly in content and experience. Our freshness of energy comes from asking, "What is new or exciting or risky or excellent? What would be something experimental or confrontational? What ingredients make for a provoking and challenging activity for the arts?" The directions of those in the visual arts, theatre and performance determine these questions. No-Brand seeks only to generate the conditions for them. This community resolve is one of the more important conditions of our organizational intent. We have invited those at Mobius to join us in creating a superlative setting for the showcasing of art. An invigorated group of poets, visual artists, performing and performance artists has been assembled. The intention: that the viability of the arts in Boston is nurtured and applauded.

WORKS-IN-PROGRESS / OCTOBER

Mobius will present a weekend of experimental work-in-progress Oct 18-20. All mediums are invited. Anyone interested in performing should send a proposal to Mobius no later than Aug. 16. Call Mobius for more info.

INSTALLATIONS AT MOBIUS - Mobius has applied for funding to present a series of installations at Mobius in the 86/87 season. Artists interested in being considered should submit slides and a proposal no later than Sept 20. The series will be curated by Helen Shlien who plans to be making studio visits and meeting with artists in late Sept/early Oct.



TURF
Performances by Gina Mullen and Arsem/Raymond
Sept. 13, 14, 20, 21
8:00 pm

The work I will be presenting is autobiographical in nature, centered on a personal landscape of family, ethnic tradition and territorial instinct. Using live action/text, slides and audio track, an environment is created in which I examine the bond between geography and culture, and the tension of family continuity in an immigrant culture
GM

BREATHE/DON'T BREATHE
Performance by Marilyn Arsem and Bob Raymond
Sept. 13, 14, 20, 21
8:00 pm

Breathe/Don't Breathe will be the third performance by Bob and I which uses a series of related domestic images. The images -- baking hair bread, sewing together a little person out of various animal body parts from the grocery store, a corpse awakening -- are out of dreams and fantasies.

What we are working on is a way to present the material in a non-narrative fashion.

Clearly the images deal with life/death, and we are trying to find a way to present it so that it is not morbid or ghoulish, but somehow retains a very real mixture of everydayness, mystery, humor and sadness.

Building on these images we are exploring ways to add another layer - that of recording sound - text, music and natural sounds. In the first version Bob read Gregory Bateson's "Why a Swan" ["how do you tell the difference between a sacrament and a metaphor?"], which was juxtaposed with a tape recording of my reading diaries of women traveling west in the 1800's. ["Today I counted 23 graves along the trail..."] In the second version we made a tape of kitchen sounds [chopping food, running water, frying food - no voices] which was combined with a tape of synthesized music Bob had made. This was played throughout the performance as I sang live in an atonal/arythmic child-like fashion.

With this new version we will start to work with projecting slide images against the three walls as an environment. We will also be adding new images (finally the bones??) and new sound material.
MA

SOUND ART AT MOBIUS - PART V

DAVID TUDOR - solo performance for electronics
performances: September 28 & 29
workshop at Mobius : September 29

HEDGEHOG

The hedgehog is an instrument commonly used years ago by chimney-sweeps.
Here it becomes an instrument of unpredictable vibrations, excited by a chain of electronic components, which together with the hedgehog, make a performance-variable oscillator.

The musical production envisioned (which encompasses the the performance itself), has three intermingled strata:

- establishing oscillation through the chain (continuous, pulsed, self-generating modes);
- taking small samples of the oscillations produced, altering their content, and reintroducing them into the chain, thus changing the state of the oscillator;
- further altering the sample so as to make them appear sonically different, and deployed variously in space.

The aesthetic guiding the performance is one of listening, discovery, and change.

the swealtering
heat of a 90°
day
somehow the news-
letter must go
out today
a interview?
a sketch?
no
creative juices
are sweated out
before there is
a chance to put
them to use
somehow the only
thing that seems
reasonable is to
leave it
behind
a walk
a swim
by a lake in the
woods
if only a breeze



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ATTENTION: Mobius invites you to contribute graphics,
photos, text, or other items of experimental interest
to the newsletter. Call 542-7416 for more info.
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BEATITUDES FOR DYING MEN

Media performance by
James Williams
Oct. 4,5, 11, 12
8:00 pm

Beatitudes for dying men is the result of twenty years of calls, correspondance and visits to a long-time friend who recently dies of AIDS. The audience is free to decide whether the work is personal or not, universal or not, gay, or not or about AIDS or not.

Using multi-layered audio, spoken text, choreography for several dancers/speakers, slides of Dore's illustrations for Dante's Divine Comedy, medical illustrations and other subjects, I am creating a work whose content and issues are well known: Friendship, love, death, sexuality, politics, community, and spirituality, (secular humanism). I am grappling with the "big" issues: salvation without god; life without guilt; sorrow without despair; political change through awareness; sex without repression. I refer to the work as a contemporary Seventh Seal; Carol Anthony, who is the choreographer, refers to it as the religious avant-garde. Need I add that the work is rather demanding, though not without its lighter moments.

My Accreditations? I have produced several full-length works in the past, notably Real Men and Dada at the Mass. College of Art, and History at the Cage Gallery. I have performed in short works at Mobius, notably Personal Visions of Olaf the Holy; and produced last year's Iger/quan collaboration of The Tale of Q. I have produced, directed and performed in Boston theater since 1974. I am as good a person as I can be under the circumstances.

aug 28-sept 3
AROUND THE WORLD IN SEVEN DAZE
visual art with evening performance
curated by No-Brand Art
call for performance times
gallery: 1-6 pm free



SOUND ART AT MOBIUS - PART V

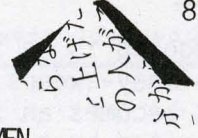
David Tudor
sept 28 & 29 solo work with electronics
\$6.00/\$4.00

Sept 6
ECLECTIC PIECES
new music presented and performed
by jonathan Keezing



8:00 pm

sept 13,14,20,21
Turf
performances by Gina Mullen
with Arsem/Raymond
\$5.00
\$4.00 BPA members/students
8:00 pm



oct 4,5,11,12
BEATITUDES FOR DYING MEN
multi-media performance by James Williams

8:00 pm \$6.00

sept 29 informal workshop, open to the public
1-3 pm free

MOBIUS EVENTS



Mobius is funded in part by the Massachusetts Council on the Arts and Humanities a state agency, by a grant from the Boston Arts Lottery Council, and generous private support. Sound Art at Mobius was made possible by a New Works grant from the Massachusetts Council on the Arts and Humanities. The Northeast/Northwest Exchange series is funded through an Art Exchange grant from the Massachusetts Council on the Arts and Humanities.

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