**FLUXUoS!**

CAST:

GEORGE MACIUNAS: Richard Talbot

JOHN CAGE: I. Wilkie

ALLAN KAPROW: Adam Forbes

EMMETT WILLIAMS: tbc

INTERRUPTER: Lynne Crook

*The performance area is pre-set as follows:*

*Table to front of area, offset left. On top of it a box, cards, pens and a sign saying ‘Please write down the name of something or someone you want to get rid of. Please then deposit card in box’. Four chairs at the back, the extreme stage left chair (4) with ‘UoS’ sign set on it. In front, a table covered in a cloth with a suitcase on top. Fake piano positioned stage right with chair. On the floor, the piano template outline with twenty-six objects and corresponding alphabet cards set out.*

**SCENE ONE**

*The four re-enactors enter from behind audience in the order, Williams, Kaprow, Maciunas and Cage and stand at their places in front the chairs placed at 3,2,1 stage left to right and at piano chair. Each carries a ‘score’ from which they can read their lines as if performing in an oratorio. All are dressed formally. Maciunas sports an eye-patch.*

CAGE: Good Afternoon, ladies and gentlemen. My name is John Cage. I am an artist and the musical inspiration behind the Fluxus movement.

MACIUNAS: My name is George Maciunas. I am an artist the founder of Fluxus Movement. I have been described as a one-eyed, good-for-nothing, Huguenot.

KAPROW: My name is Allan Kaprow. I am an artist and the father of the Happening.

WILLIAMS: My name is Emmett Williams. I am an artist and the chronicler of the Fluxus movement.

MACUNIAS: Unfortunately, Yoko Ono cannot be with us tonight. She, too, is an artist but unlike us, she is…still alive. Together, we are…

ALL: Fluxus.

MACIUNAS: Fluxus is **Flux.**

ALL: Flux!

MACIUNAS: to affect, to flow, to flush, to **Purge.**

ALL: Purge!

KAPROW: To purge the world of bourgeois sickness, ‘intellectual’, professionalised and commercialised culture.

WILLIAMS: Purge the world of dead art, imitation art, abstract art, illusionistic art,

CAGE: Mathematical art, to purge the world of Europanism. To **Promote**

ALL: Promote!

CAGE: Promote a revolutionary flood and tide in art

MACIUNAS: Promote living art, anti-art, promote non-art reality,

KAPROW: To be grasped by all peoples and to **Fuse**

ALL: Fuse!

KAPROW: The cadres of cultural,

WILLIAMS: Social,

MACIUNAS: And political revolutionaries,

ALL: Into united front and action.

CAGE: And now, ladies and gentlemen, we would like to begin by playing for you my composition 4.33.

**SCENE TWO**

*All sit and take up their scores as if to sing in a choral way. CAGE readies himself at the piano and, once the tuning fork is struck, if available, he starts the metronome. The silence begins. At precisely I minute 8 seconds into the silence, KAPROW stands and speaks.*

KAPROW: The piece is not actually silent…it is full of sound, but sounds which I did not think of beforehand, which I hear for the first time the same time others hear. What we hear is determined by our own emptiness, our own receptivity…nothing is single or unidimensional. This is an action among the ten thousand: it moves in all directions and will be received in unpredictable ways. These will vary from shock and bewilderment to quietness of mind and enlightenment.

*The others stand and applaud KAPROW.*

**SCENE THREE**

*They then stop and count the audience silently for 20 seconds. Then WILLIAMS starts counting them aloud from “*1 to 7”*, MACIUNAS takes over “*7 to 14”*, CAGE counts “*14 to 21” *and KAPROW “*21 to 28”*. (The same people can be counted twice or thrice as applicable!)*

**SCENE FOUR**

MACIUNAS: And now ladies and gentlemen, we bring you happenings, events, action poetry, environments, visual poetry, films, street performances, non-instrumental music, games, correspondences, et cetera, all done in the spirit of non-teaching.

*CAGE blows the pitch pipes –* ALL sing meaningfully in a language made up on the spot.

*After a burst of this song CAGE blows the pitch pipes and holds up a sign which says ‘Extra Sensory Misperception Part One’.*

**SCENE FIVE**

*During this sketch KAPROW asks WILLIAMS* to guess the correct number of fingers he is holding up*. He holds his fingers up under his coat. When WILLIAMS guesses, KAPROW reveals the correct number to the audience. They do this three times. They bow.*

**SCENE SIX**

*CAGE holds up a sign saying ‘Extra Sensory Misperception part two’*

*From behind table at back, MACIUNAS and KAPROW will emerge five times, bow and return behind the desk.*

*First time, both emerge. MACIUNAS wears bowler hat, KAPROW wears the eye-patch. Both bow and return behind desk.*

*Second, MACIUNAS wears the beard and the eyepatch, KAPROW the hat. Both bow and return behind desk.*

*Third, MACIUNAS wears the hat and the eyepatch, KAPROW the beard. Both bow and return behind desk.*

*Fourth, MACIUNAS shows the paper plate and the shaving foam can, KAPROW is wearing the Donald Trump mask. Both bow and return behind desk.*

*Fifth, both re-emerge. MACIUNAS smashes the pie into KAPROW/Trump’s face. Both bow and return behind desk.*

*CAGE holds up a sign saying ‘Semi – silent Kabou’inema’.*

**SCENE SEVEN**

*WILLIAMS takes out a candle from the suitcase and grunts.*

CAGE: Take a candle

*WILLIAMS breaks it, grunting*.

CAGE: First it is a candle.

*WILLIAMS takes out a toy and breaks it, grunting*

CAGE: Then it is not a candle.

*WILLIAMS takes out another candle and breaks it, grunting.*

CAGE: Then once more it is a candle. *Pause.* This was Zen Buddhism explained to those in the dark.

*LYNNE interrupts with the question* ‘Is La Monte Young in the audience?’

SCENE EIGHT

*CAGE holds up a sign saying ‘Alphabet Symphony’. He invites the audience to shout out a letter of the alphabet. MACIUNAS, WILLIAMS and KAPROW head to the selected letter as placed on the piano template. They turn over then read out what to do from the instruction card and then use the object in the prescribed manner. They do this twice each.*

*CAGE holds up a sign which says ‘Collective Poem’.*

SCENE NINE

*CAGE gathers the audience cards and reads out the collective poem.*

*CAGE blows the pitch pipes and then hurriedly writes out a sign which reads ‘The Lunatics Have Escaped! Weisbaden, 1963’*

SCENE TEN

ALL *smash up the fake piano whilst singing in a language made up on the spot. CAGE blows the pitch pipes, ALL bow extravagantly then exit back through the audience.*