

No Room (2017)

Hans Roels

minimum two performers around a quiet, enclosed space

The performers play outside the concert space on adjacent walls, doors, windows, pipes, heating or ventilation systems, etc. leading to the concert space. The performed sounds reach the audience through these materials. Also explore more distant spaces and materials because sound may travel in unexpected ways through walls and pipes.

Perform like the night, with many silences.

Create a performance based on the following five events:

- (a) *short* sounds: one-off sounds with a unique timbre and location
- (b) *repetitive* sounds, performed in a strict, regular rhythm, from extremely slow to very fast, on exactly the same spot, with the same dynamics and the same percussion mallet (or other beater)
- (c) *moving* sounds: performed by making a spatial *trajectory* of any size on walls or materials, in a more or less regular rhythm
- (d) *sustained* sounds: homogenous, static sounds, with the same dynamics from start to end, starting and stopping abruptly
- (e) non-musical *actions* (moving a vacuum cleaner, walking down the stairs, pulling a trolley, etc.)

Make sure that there is a continuous *alternation* of these events and of sections – grouping events – with *irregular* durations. Silences are continuously present, in and between events and sections. Give each sound its own profile in the silence and in the room.

Place one or more microphones outside the concert space and play these environmental sounds very softly in the concert space (f); if possible (also) through speakers in devices of the concert site (for example: a smartphone in a living room of a house). Interrupt these live environmental sounds with silences.

Trigger: try to start and stop the sustained sounds (d), outside environmental sounds (f) and perhaps the actions (e) simultaneously with one of the shorter sounds in (a), (b) or (c).

Use any wireless system or set of arrangements to let the 'outside' roaming musicians communicate with each other or hear the performed 'inside' music in the concert space.

(... perform like the night ...)