

Metaphor Workshop

Metaphor: Motion and Meaning

“The essence of metaphor is understanding and experiencing one kind of thing in terms of another”- Lakoff and Johnson.

The workshop focuses on the practice of translating sound into movement, and concepts into spatial relations that are tangible. We don't dance to the music, but we make it visible, as a solo, duet and group effort. What kind of shape is ‘ba’? What action is the sound ‘ts’? Even more, how is the movement of A flat different from B sharp, or what is volume level 7? We use the higher regions of our brain to be able to practice translating a human voice or more abstracting an instrument, into a dance. By using synesthetic tools, we find tricks to translate the volume, note, consonants, timbre and dynamics of a song or human voice.

The workshop reveals how we may have similarities in motivation, but differences in our expression. Why do each of us dance differently? Do we perceive differently? What aspect of sense making, can we create and participate in together? We start by using writing exercises to warm up the mind. What is the color, taste and behavior of TIME? We also draw, charting the dynamics of a song like the seismogram of an earthquake. This starts to reveal how we think. We also look at how there are actions embedded in the normal meaning of words, often expressed in gesture. Normally done unconsciously, in these exercises we see how adverbs and prepositions usually embody movement, and how, though strange, there are quality commonalities in the similarity between how different people would translate words like 'the' or 'fact.'

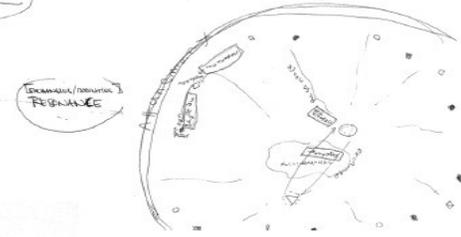
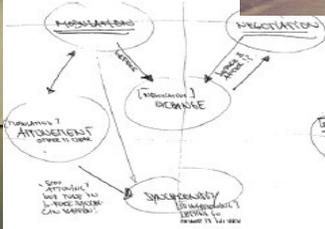
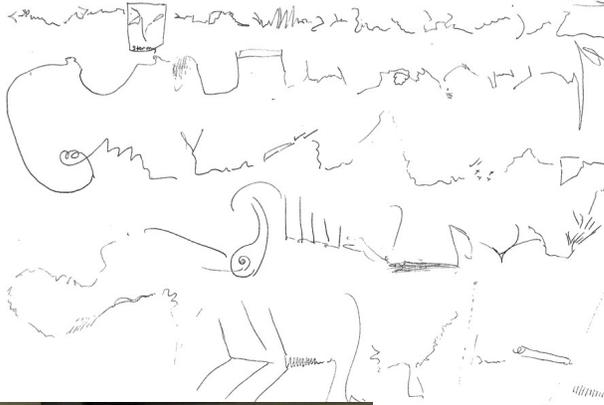
From Greek, the word metaphor means “to carrying across.” When taking qualities from one object and using them to describe another, the act of metaphor can be seen as an experienced based action itself. Categories, concepts and experience are inseparable. We begin to understand how human thought works and how it comes from the body. This allows us to understand a deeper meaning in form and have a greater sense of relationship when working together. This is also a practice that demands you break free from movement patterns and guides you to re-understanding your body and the movement choices that are available.

Collective Dancing to voice: <https://vimeo.com/133781774>

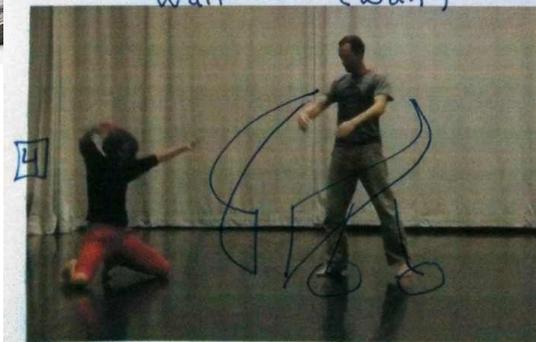
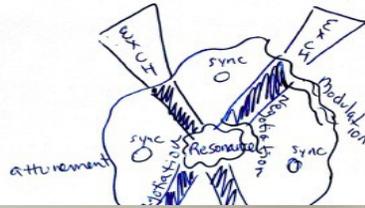
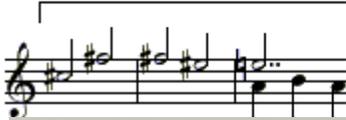
Duet to instruments: <https://vimeo.com/84939511>

Drawing sound: <https://vimeo.com/135742608>

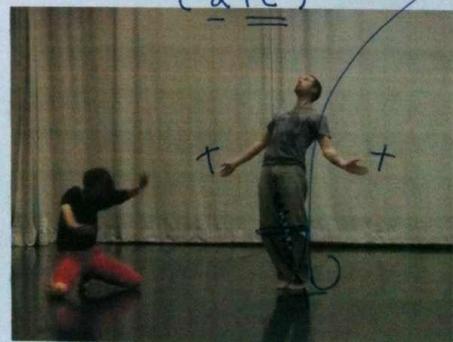
Duet example in performance: <https://vimeo.com/131654180>



Liebestod (mort dans l'amour)



Wah is airy, windy & has vibrations - more grounded



'A' is higher, more open Hands open And make 't' accented Feet coming together make 't' sound