An A-Z of The Ting: Theatre of Mistakes – B

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Ballet for Cars

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Birth Ballet Chorale

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Marie-Anne Mancio

B

an A-Z

The Ting: Theatre of Mistakes

ppp 6

"After a long training [1962-5], I danced for a while [1966] with the Royal Ballet. The Royal Opera House was an exceptionally privileged space, for a performer, but being in the corps-de-ballet felt more like being enlisted in the army than it felt like play. I became a writer, playing with words, you might say, then a performance artist. Perhaps a Kleinian past influenced my choice of careers, and contributes even now to my notions concerning the essence of performance. At the same time, the discipline of the ballet was important. Disciplined play is my ideal, for these contradictory terms are not necessarily in conflict." (Anthony Howell, The Analysis of Performance, Routledge, 1999, 197)

"I can remember a phrase I used to use - that the exercises might be so difficult that a ballet dancer would find them very hard to perform." (Anthony Howell in Nick Kaye's Art Into Theatre, Harwood Academic, materiam, 1996, 132)

Howard Tong recalls ballet dancers who attended Ting workshops but could not stand still. (Conversation: Howard Tong, London, October, 2008)

Birth Ballet Chorale (Wednesday July 3rd 1974, Janz Studio, The Dairy presented by Softly, Loudly).

See also: Vicki Chick, David Coxhead, Carlyle Reedy, Scape, Amikam Toren



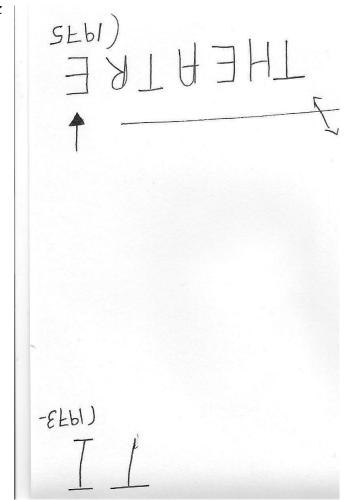
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2009-09-03



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HA (laughs): I suppose it was Time Out. Time Out then was practically a Xerox. I think it was probably through Time Out... There's a ballet for pregnant ladies. Come along. There was a lot of pregnant ladies in Camden. Having got pregnant on Primrose

[gnitoeqxe expecting]

JE8: Where did you source the pregnant women from or Was it all the women the men in the company had got pregnant? [Signe Lie Howell and Christina

.z9Y :HA

JEB: So women would just turn up on the day and were given a set of instructions?

HA: This is pre-Ting really. There was Jane Clark and Robert Janz. We had three huge, striped sheets, American stripes. King-sized striped sheets which were on tees which you could carry around... the pregnant women had red umbrellas and were turning very, very slowly so they could be enclosed by these great, huge sails. You'd have all these sounds going on overlapping each other.



Birth Ballet Chorale (Ballet for Pregnant Ladies) Photos: ©The Theatre of Mistakes, The Theatre of Mistakes Archive



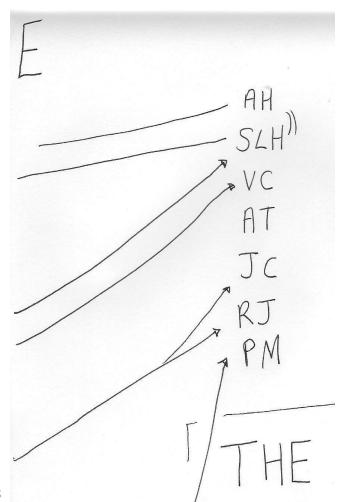
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For writings by and about Bowman see -

See also: Archive, Bibliography, Introduction



Jason E. Bowman trained as an artist, dropped out of being a cultural theorist, and tuned into being a curator and visual arts consultant. He rarely works or thinks alone. He was the co-curator for Scotland at the Venice Biennale in 2005 and is currently curating Anniversary - an act of memory for Monica Ross and developing the case for a retrospective of The Ting: The Theatre of

(diagram of a completed vision disc enclosed)

Notes for *Summer Pieces*, 20th June-20th July 1975, The Theatre of Mistakes Archive

Bowman, Jason E

in London, and notices and a supply of cards placed in the foyers of public libraries and galleries. A thousand cards will be printed. Cards returned with completed plans to the address on the page of instructions will be employed in the resolution of this project. Notices concerning the development of this project will appear in WALLPAPER magazine.

I am interested in collecting plans of the obstructed discs of vision that occur from centres chosen at random anywhere and everywhere in London.

Enclosed with a page of instructions is a card with a circle printed upon it, it's centre marked with a cross. These are to be distributed via the address lists of art organisations

A person stands in the centre of a hypothetical disc that radiates from them at eye level. The furthest distance one can see from any single position indicates the radius of that particular disc of vision. In many cases in an urban locality "all round vision" of the circumference of such a disc of vision will be obstructed,

ALL ROUND VISION

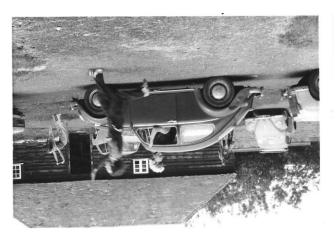
uesns 'uivnog

The installation was reviewed by John Welch. ©The Theatre of Mistakes, The Theatre of Mistakes Archive Susan Bonvin Device for Looking at Landscape Purdies farm, 1974

entry for more information). the Art Room. Collaborates with husband Andrew Eden (see that Artist, All Round Vision. Founder/editor of Wallpaper. Exhibited at

See also: Bibliography, Purdies.

Photos: @The Theatre of Mistakes, The Theatre of Mistakes Archive Amikam Toren's Ballet for Cars at Purdies farm, 1974



BOFTLY LOODLY				
presents		1		
		Roles:	Singers	Flying Saucers
BIRTH BALLET CHORALE			Arch Dancers	Snake
			Sheet Dancers	Helpers
"A dance without an audience"		1	Snails	Dancers on the
		1	Cheetahs	Day
Wednesday July 3	7p.m.	1	Pregnant Ladies	
		Dancers or	the Day:	
2. The Singers' Room		 Walk along straight lines with hands by your sides, very slowly, pausing with both feet together between each step. Always keep to the left. Do not walk along 		
2. The Dance Arena				
3. When you feel you have completed your part in the				
Choric Song & Choreography:	Anthony Howell	Janz Studi	, The Dairy, 25 Prince	of Wales Crescent, NW1
Production Assistant:	Jane Clark	1		
Metal Sound Structures:	Janz	Softly Loudly gratefully acknowledges aid from the Buxton Arts Foundation		
			Ţ	

Program and Instructions for Birth Ballet Chorale (Ballet for Pregnant Ladies) The Theatre of Mistakes Archive

Ballet for Cars (1974)

See also: Purdies, Amikam Toren

Excerpt of review of Ballet for Cars, The Theatre of Mistakes Archive:

Whether seen as entities or as facilities, the cars in this ballet provided what was perhaps the apotheosis of the events at Purdies Farm, where, when the horns of those assembled sounded, a pillar of that sound went up, deafening the attendant drummers, scattering the surrounding performers, diverting the attention of dirt track competitors on the neighbouring common, and, at a distance of twelve miles, causing a freak tornado in Woking.

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Prologue: choice by chance for blindfolded performer

Three Act Piece Photo: © The Theatre of Mistakes

There was also an early Performance for the Blind but no-one recalls what this was...

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