

SUNDAY MARCH 28, 2021

Dance & Deep Listening

Elliot Mercer, Kenyon College

Registration Cap: 11

LIMITED REGISTRATION. INDIVIDUALS ONLY

Workshop Overview:

What would you hear if you were to listen to every sound in your environment at the same time, including the sounds of your own imagination? How would you describe them, draw them, and perform them through your moving body? Rooted in Pauline Oliveros' approach for Deep Listening, this workshop integrates sonic meditations, movement improvisations, poetic writing, and performance scoring for both solo and collaborative creativity.

Through the practice of slowing down to listen to the sounds of daily life, nature, and our own dreams, we will extend playful explorations of the world that surrounds us into a multi-modal creative process. Enlivening a dialogue between the body, life experience, sound, imagery, and imagination, this workshop utilizes art-making as a process for personal and community creativity.

Each workshop session will include a diversity of scores that approach task-based movement activities from the perspective of anatomical exploration, breath, psycho-kinetic visualization, and/or engagement with the environment.

Workshop Content:

In this workshop we will collectively analyze the practice of scoring as an exploratory process, examining the philosophy of scoring as an intentional alternative to set choreography.

Full-group discussion will be a process of sharing personal experiences to the workshop material and reflections on creative resources that were developed during the performance process.

Breakout rooms will be used to create smaller discussions with two or three participants, allowing for smaller and more personal conversations on creative practice.

Participants will be given scores to undertake on their own, in their own homes and surrounding environments, between the workshop sessions.

Space/ equipment requirements for participants:

Participants will need access to a space in which they can move comfortably, but this workshop does not require a dance studio. Participants will join the workshop with both video and audio.

Schedule:

TIME—all times are in Eastern Time	SESSION
12:00-1:30pm ET	Session 1
1:30-3:00pm ET	Break
3:00-4:30pm ET	Session 2
4:30-6:30pm ET	Break
6:30-7:30pm ET	Session 3

Presenter Bio:

Elliot Gordon Mercer is a Visiting Assistant Professor of Dance at Kenyon College. Drawing from his ongoing work with choreographers Anna Halprin and Yvonne Rainer, his interdisciplinary artistic process is rooted in experimental approaches to scoring, mixed-means performance, and collective creativity. Mercer received a Ph.D. in Interdisciplinary Theatre and Drama from Northwestern University and holds a Certificate in Deep Listening from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute.
