

# A Book of Instruction and Drawings by Yoko Ono

**Introduction by John Lennon** 

WITH A NEW INTRODUCTION BY THE AUTHOR

Synopsis Write your own		

Name: weight: Sex: Colour

#### GRAPEFRUIT

A book of instructions + drawings by Yoko Ono

Introduction by John Lennon

Simon & Schuster

New York • London • Toronto • Sydney • Singapore



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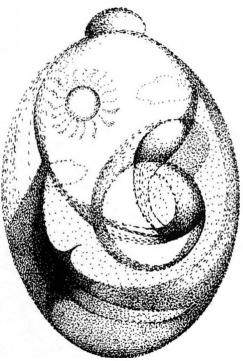
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#### Publisher's Note

Grapefruit was originally published in a limited edition of 500 copies by the Wunternaum Press in Tokyo in 1964.

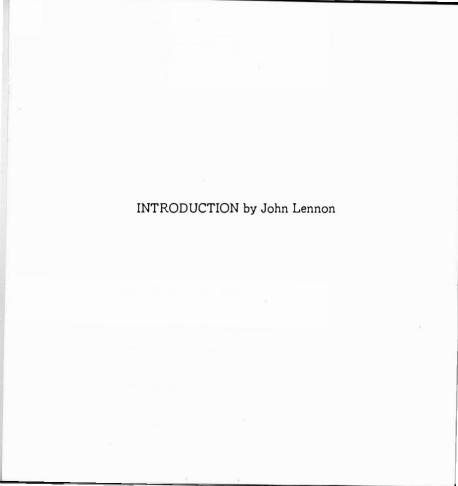
The 1970 edition contained material from the original, and pieces and drawings done in subsequent years by Yoko Ono.



Open this bottle.

Once upon a thyme, Kind told Keen that she must tell a gory, every naught, to ease his heavy blind. Her head would troll if she hadn't. Instead, Keen gave Kind sheep of paper with some destructions. After 365 hits of this, Kind was a happy mane and Keen was a proud womb. Together, they roved and laughed forever after. Who could frame them. Hi! y.o. '00







Hi! My name is John Lennon I'd like you to meet Yoko Ono.

## JOHN LENNON AS A YOUNG CLOUD

#### Theatre Piece

scene 1) Open and close inside John's head. scene 2) Open and close other people's head. scene 3) Open and close sky.

1968 spring

Where do you want to spend eternity? -a stone in Wales

THEATRE Scene 1

I was reading over my shoulder hearing nobody answer the bell.

Place: darkshaded living room of a brownstone building in upper west-side New York.

Time: Summer afternoon, 1971

MUSIC

## LET'S PIECE I

500 Noses are more beautiful than one nose. Even a telephone no. is more beautiful if 200 people think of the same number at the same time.

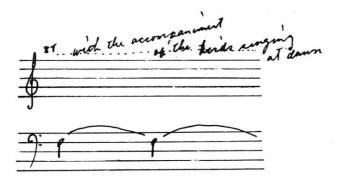
- a) let 500 people think of the same telephone number at once for a minute at a set time.
- b) let everybody in the city think of the word "yes" at the same time for 30 seconds. Do it often.
- c) make it the whole world thinking all the time.

1960 spring

#### SECRET PIECE

Decide on one note that you want to play. Play it with the following accompaniment:

The woods from 5 a.m. to 8 a.m. in summer.



1953 summer

## LAUGH PIECE

Keep laughing a week.

1961 winter

COUGH PIECE

Keep coughing a year.

1961 winter

#### VOICE PIECE FOR SOPRANO

#### Scream.

- 1. against the wind
- 2. against the wall 3. against the sky

## PIECES FOR ORCHESTRA

No. 1

Peel

No. 2

Peek

No. 3

Take off

1962 summer

# PIECES FOR ORCHESTRA

No. 4

Tear

No. 5

Touch

No. 6

Rub

#### A PIECE FOR ORCHESTRA

Count all the stars of that night by heart.

The piece ends when all the orchestra members finish counting the stars, or when it dawns.

This can be done with windows instead of stars.

1962 summer

WALL PIECE FOR ORCHESTRA to Yoko Ono Hit a wall with your head.

1962 winter

## BUILDING PIECE FOR ORCHESTRA

Go from one room to another opening and closing each door. Do not make any sounds. Go from the top of the building to the bottom.

1963 winter

# DRINKING PIECE FOR ORCHESTRA

Imagine letting a goldfish swim across the sky

Let it swim from the West to the East. Drink a liter of water.

Imagine letting a goldfish swim across the sky.

Let it swim from the East to the West.

1963 spring

#### BODY SOUND TAPE PIECE

Make body sound tapes of different people at different times. Of the old, young, crying, longing, excited, calm, doubtful, etc.

1964 spring

#### TAPE PIECE I

Stone Piece

Take the sound of the stone aging.

#### TAPE PIECE II

Room Piece

Take the sound of the room breathing.

- 1) at dawn
- 2) in the morning
- 3) in the afternoon
- 4) in the evening
- 5) before dawn

Bottle the smell of the room of that particular hour as well.

#### TAPE PIECE III

#### Snow Piece

Take a tape of the sound of the snow falling.
This should be done in the evening.
Do not listen to the tape.
Cut it and use it as strings to tie gifts with.
Make a gift wrapper, if you wish, using the same process with a phonosheet.

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#### TAPE PIECE IV

Moving Piece

Take a tape of the sound of the stars moving.

Do not listen to the tape.

Cut it and give it out to the people on the street.

Or you may sell it for a moderate price.

#### TAPE PIECE V

### Comb Piece (a)

Take a tape of your wife combing every day. Keep it. Bury it with her when she dies.

## Comb Piece (b)

Take a tape of your husband combing every day. Keep it. Play it after he dies.

#### Comb Piece (c)

Take a tape of your child combing. Let her listen to it when she is sick in bed.

#### FISH PIECE

Take a tape of the voices of fish on the night of a full moon. Take it until dawn.

1964 spring

## OVERTONE PIECE

Make music only with overtones.

1964 spring

## CLOCK PIECE

Listen to the clock strokes. Make exact repetitions in your head after they stop.

#### COLLECTING PIECE

Collect sounds in your mind that you have overheard through the week. Repeat them in your mind in different orders one afternoon.

#### SNORING PIECE

Listen to a group of people snoring. Listen till dawn.

#### **BELL PIECE**

Listen to a bell for an hour.

Diminish the sound to piano
by ringing it over in your head.

Diminish the sound to pianissimo
by ringing it over in your dream.

Diminish the sound poco a poco
troppo pianissimo by forgetting.

Try other sounds
i.e., mother's voice
baby cry
husband's hysterics

#### ECHO TELEPHONE PIECE

Get a telephone that only echoes back your voice. Call every day and talk about many things.

#### BICYCLE PIECE FOR ORCHESTRA

Ride bicycles anywhere you can in the concert hall. Do not make any noise.

## BEAT PIECE

Listen to a heart beat.

#### PULSE PIECE

Listen to each other's pulse by putting your ear on the other's stomach.

## **EARTH PIECE**

Listen to the sound of the earth turning.

#### WATER PIECE

Listen to the sound of the underground water.

## WATER PIECE

Steal a moon on the water with a bucket. Keep stealing until no moon is seen on the water.

#### DAWN PIECE

Take the first word that comes across your mind. Repeat the word until dawn.

#### ROOM PIECE I

Stay in a room for a week.

Do not take anything except water.

Have someone whisper to you in the end of the week.

## ROOM PIECE II

Stay in a room for ten days. Do not eat. Smoke. Whisper to each other in the end of the ten days.

#### ROOM PIECE III

Stay in a room for a month. Do not speak. Do not see. Whisper in the end of the month.

#### BACK PIECE I

Put the light out.
Stand behind a person for four hours.

#### BACK PIECE II

Put the light out.
Walk behind a person for four hours.

#### LINE PIECE I

Draw a line. Erase the line.

LINE PIECE II

Erase lines.

LINE PIECE III

Draw a line with yourself.
Go on drawing until you disappear.

#### CONCERT PIECE

When the curtain rises, go hide and wait until everybody leaves you. Come out and play.

#### HIDE-AND-SEEK PIECE

Hide until everybody goes home. Hide until everybody forgets about you. Hide until everybody dies.

#### WALKING PIECE

Walk in the footsteps of the person in front.

- 1. on ground
- 2. in mud
- 3. in snow
- 4. on ice
- 5. in water

Try not to make sounds.

#### CITY PIECE

Walk all over the city with an empty baby carriage.

#### CITY PIECE

Step in all the puddles in the city.

WIND PIECE

Blow hats all over the city.

#### SNOW PIECE

Think that snow is falling.
Think that snow is falling everywhere all the time.
When you talk with a person, think that snow is falling between you and on the person.
Stop conversing when you think the person is covered by snow.

# TWO SNOW PIECES for solo or trio

No. 1

Watch snow fall until dinner time.

No. 2

Watch snow fall until it covers thirty-three buildings.

# THREE MORE SNOW PIECES for solo or orchestra

No. 1

Send snow sounds to a person you like.

No. 2

Walk in the snow without making footprints.

No. 3

Find a hand in the snow.

#### WOOD PIECE

Use any piece of wood.

Make different sounds by using different angles of your hand in hitting it. (a)

Make different sounds by hitting different parts of it. (b)

#### STONE PIECE

Find a stone that is your size or weight. Crack it until it becomes fine powder. Dispose of it in the river. (a)
Send small amounts to your friends. (b)
Do not tell anybody what you did.
Do not explain about the powder to the friends to whom you send.

#### TUNAFISH SANDWICH PIECE

Imagine one thousand suns in the sky at the same time.

Let them shine for one hour.

Then, let them gradually melt into the sky.

Make one tunafish sandwich and eat.

#### WALL PIECE I

Sleep two walls away from each other. Whisper to each other.

WATER PIECE

Water.

PURIFICATION CHAMBER PIECE—for a person who claims to suffer from complexity of the mind or schizophrenia.

Build a room where you do nothing but stand and carry a stone until it's unbearable. You will soon find that your thoughts are purified to the point of thinking only about the weight of the stone.

# PAINTING

#### PART PAINTING

Series 5

congratulations!

you are one of the 10,000 selected people to whom we are sending this part painting by yoko ono. each person has received a portion of this painting. we are planning to hold a gathering in the future to put all parts together to appreciate the

painting in its original form. but meanwhile, you may recommend us select names to send parts as there are a few still in our hand. it is important that you mention in your letter the social position of your friend, as the size of the portion will be decided accordingly.

SERIAL NO. #9,331

# PAINTING IN THREE STANZAS

Let a vine grow. Water every day.

The first stanza - till the vine spreads. The second stanza - till the vine withers. The third stanza - till the wall vanishes.

# PIECE FOR THE WIND

Cut a painting up and let them be lost in the wind.

#### PAINTING FOR THE WIND

Cut a hole in a bag filled with seeds of any kind and place the bag where there is wind.

# PAINTING FOR THE WIND

Make a hole. Leave it in the wind.

#### PAINTING TO SEE THE SKIES

Drill two holes into a canvas. Hang it where you can see the sky.

(Change the place of hanging. Try both the front and the rear windows, to see if the skies are different.)

#### PAINTING FOR THE SKIES

Drill a hole in the sky.
Cut out a paper the same size as the hole.
Burn the paper.
The sky should be pure blue.

# A PAINTING TO SEE THE SKY III

See the sky between a woman's thighs. See the sky between your own thighs. See the sky through your belongings by making holes in them.

i.e., pants, jacket, shirt, stockings, etc.

# PAINTING TO LET THE EVENING LIGHT GO THROUGH

Hang a bottle behind a canvas.

Place the canvas where the west light comes in.

The painting will exist when the bottle creates a shadow on the canvas, or it does not have to exist.

The bottle may contain liquor, water, grasshoppers, ants or singing insects, or it does not have to contain.

#### PAINTING TO SEE THE ROOM

Drill a small, almost invisible, hole in the center of the canvas and see the room through it.

#### SHADOW PIECE

Put your shadows together until they become one.

1963

# **CUT PIECE**

Throw it off a high building.

#### A PLUS B PAINTING

Cut out a circle on canvas A. Place a numeral figure, a roman letter, or a katakana on canvas B on an arbitrary point.

Place canvas A on canvas B and hang them together.

The figure on canvas B may show, may show partially, or may not show.

You may use old paintings, photographs, etc. Instead of blank canvases.

### A PLUS B PAINTING

Let somebody other than yourself cut out a part of canvas A.
Paste the cut out piece on the same point of canvas B.
Line up canvas A and canvas B and hang them adjacent to each other.
You may use blank canvases or paintings or photographs to do this piece.

# PAINTING UNTIL IT BECOMES MARBLE

Cut out and hang a painting, design, a photograph, or a writing (printed or otherwise), that you like.

Let visitors cut out their favorite parts and take them.

For example, if the visitor likes red, let him take all the red parts.

Ask many visitors to cut out their favorite parts until the whole thing is gone.

Also, instead of cutting the parts out, you may ask them to paint black ink over them.

In case of the writing, you ask the visitor to cut out his favorite letter or word.

# PAINTING TO ENLARGE AND SEE

# PAINTING TO EXIST ONLY WHEN IT'S COPIED OR PHOTOGRAPHED

Let People copy or photograph your paintings.

Destroy the originals.

# PAINTING TO HAMMER A NAIL

Hammer a nail in the center of a piece of glass. Send each fragment to an arbitrary address.

#### PAINTING TO HAMMER A NAIL

Hammer a nail into a mirror, a piece of glass, a canvas, wood or metal every morning. Also, pick up a hair that came off when you combed in the morning and tie it around the hammered nail. The painting ends when the surface is covered with nails.

1961 winter

### **BLOOD PIECE**

Use your blood to paint. Keep painting until you faint. (a) Keep painting until you die. (b)

#### WATERDROP PAINTING

Let water drop.
Place a stone under it.
The painting ends when a hole is drilled in the stone with the drops,
You may change the frequency of the water-drop to your taste.
You may use beer, wine, ink, blood, etc. instead of water.
You may use typewriter, shoes, dress, etc. instead of stone.

# PAINTING TO SHAKE HANDS (painting for cowards)

Drill a hole in a canvas and put your hand out from behind.
Receive your guests in that position.
Shake hands and converse with hands.

#### TIME PAINTING

Make a painting in which the color comes out only under a certain light at a certain time of the day. Make it a very short time.

# PAINTING FOR THE BURIAL

On the night of the full moon, place a canvas in the garden from 1 a.m. till dawn.

When the canvas is dyed thoroughly in rose with the morning light, dismember or fold it and bury.

#### The ways of burial:

- 1) Bury it in the garden and place a marker with a number on it.
- 2) Sell it to the rag man.
- 3) Throw it in the garbage.

#### **SMOKE PAINTING**

Light canvas or any finished painting with a cigarette at any time for any length of time.

See the smoke movement.

The painting ends when the whole canvas or painting is gone.

# PAINTING TO BE SLEPT ON

Hang it after sleeping on it for more than 100 nights.

## PAINTING TO BE STEPPED ON

Leave a piece of canvas or finished painting on the floor or in the street.

1960 winter

# PAINTING TO BE WATERED

Water every day.

#### PAINTING TO BE WORN

Cut out jackets or dress from acquired paintings, such as Da Vinci, Raphael, De Kooning. You may wear the painted side in or out.
You may make underwears with them as well.

# KITCHEN PIECE

Hang a canvas on a wall.

Throw all the leftovers you have in the kitchen that day on the canvas.

You may prepare special food for the piece.

1960 winter

# PAINTING FOR A BROKEN SEWING MACHINE

Place a broken sewing machine in a glass tank ten or twenty times larger than the machine. Once a year on a snowy evening, place the tank in the town square and have everyone throw stones at it.

1961 winter

#### MEND PAINTING

Pick an old scarred painting.
Wash it thoroughly with soap.
Powder it. (This process may be eliminated according to your taste.)
Perfume it.
The perfume may be a cheap one or an expensive one, depending on your taste.
The time should be in the evening before the lights are lit.
You should go near the window and do it if it becomes too dark.
You may use an old wall, pavement, shoes, gloves instead of a painting.

## CANNON PIECE

Paste your name on the window. Borrow a cannon. Go to a distance and fire against your name.

The name can be a name or a number taken out at random from a telephone book.

If a cannon is not available, you may use machine-guns, arrows, stones, spitting, urinating, hose-water, or any other method.

If nothing is available, go and watch until the name becomes unrecognizable by sunset.

You may use telescopes to watch.

#### KITE PIECE I

Borrow the Mona Lisa from the gallery.
Make a kite out of it and fly.
Fly it high enough so the Mona Lisa smile disappears. (a)
Fly it high enough so the Mona Lisa face disappears. (b)
Fly it high enough so it becomes a dot. (c)

#### KITE PIECE II

Every year on a certain day, collect old paintings such as De Kooning, Klein, Pollack.

Make kites with them and fly. Fly them high enough and cut the strings so they will float.

#### KITE PIECE III

Enlarge your photograph(s) and make many kites and fly.

When the sky is filled with them, ask

When the sky is filled with them, ask people to shoot.

You may make balloons instead of kites.

#### POSITION PIECE

Take one of the yoga positions and see the painting that you like for two days.

Your position can be at any distance or direction from the painting. Destroy the painting after the two days.

You may do it with a photograph, a mirror, or a person instead of a painting.

# SLEEPING PIECE I

Write all the things you want to do. Ask others to do them and sleep until they finish doing them. Sleep as long as you can.

# SLEEPING PIECE II

Write all the things you intend to do. Show that to somebody.

Let him sleep for you until you finish doing them.

Do for as long as you can.

1960 winter

# PORTRAIT OF MARY

Send a canvas to a Mary of any country and have her paste her photograph. Have her send the canvas to the next Mary of any country to do the same. When the canvas is filled up with photographs of Marys, it should be sent back to the original sender. The name does not have to be Mary. It, also, can be a fictional name, in which case the canvas will be sent to different countries until a person with such a name will be found. The object to paste on the canvas does not have to be a photograph. It can be a numeral figure, an insect or a finger print.

#### STOMACH PIECE

Count the wrinkles on each other's stomach.

Put a canvas on the wall of your bed room with the number of both persons' wrinkles added.

You may also use this number in place of your name and put it on your name card or your door.

# PAINTING TO BE CONSTRUCTED IN YOUR HEAD

Observe three paintings carefully. Mix them well in your head.

# PAINTING TO BE CONSTRUCTED IN YOUR HEAD

Hammer a nail in the center of a piece of glass. Imagine sending the cracked portions to addresses chosen arbitrarily. Memo the addresses and the shapes of the cracked portions sent.

# PAINTING TO BE CONSTRUCTED IN YOUR HEAD

Imagine dividing the canvas into twenty different shapes. Make the exact model of each piece and send it to an address arbitrarily chosen. Write the twenty addresses and the corresponding shapes of the pieces on the back of the canvas.

# PAINTING TO BE CONSTRUCTED IN YOUR HEAD

Imagine a flower made of hard material such as gold, silver, stainless steel, tin, marble, copper, etc.
Imagine it so that you can count each of the thousand petals of the flower.
Imagine that the petals suddenly became soft like cotton or like living flesh.

In three hours, prick all the petals. Save one and press it in a book. In the margin of the page where the petal is pressed, note the derivation of the petal and the name of the petal. At least eight hours should be spent for the construction of the painting.

#### COLOR PIECE

Visual world not exactly shaped-Sense of smell, anticipation, senses that are not exactly shaped-Dark shadows casted-Rat colors with faint hairly smells and pale dark spots like those on a transparent sheet of celluloid-Rose color with a glitter and softness that is cool and motional-The kind of color that does not exist by itself but only when it is casted between two moving objects-The color like a remaining stain of illusion on a moving object-The color that only happens when movements cut the air in a certain way and go immediately. Use such color to tint your absent thoughts. Have absent thoughts for a long time.

## RUBBER PIECE

Imagine your body spreading rapidly all over the world like thin tissue.

Imagine cutting out one part of the tissue.

Cut out the same size rubber and hang

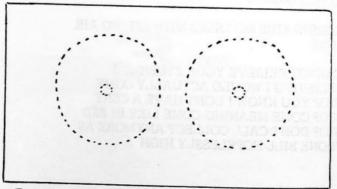
it on the wall beside your bed.

# 3 EVENT

# TWO TELEGRAMS

- 1) COMING THIS MORNING WITH SPRING AIR LOVE
- 2) CANNOT BELIEVE YOUR STUPIDITY
  BELIEVING I WOULD ACTUALLY COME
  STOP YOU KNOW I DONT HAVE A CENT
  STOP COME MEANING COME LIKE IN BED
  STOP DONT CALL COLLECT ANYMORE AS
  PHONE BILL HOPELESSLY HIGH

## dotted Line Event I



D follow the above dotted line to make a sky

td astria nobros

(B) fellow the above dethed line to make

A Sky

## LIGHTING PIECE

Light a match and watch till it goes out.

1955 autumn

# CENTRAL PARK POND PIECE

Go to the middle of the Central Park Pond and drop all your jewelry.

1956 autumn

# PEA PIECE

Carry a bag of peas. Leave a pea wherever you go.

## SMELL PIECE I

Send the smell of the moon.

1953 autumn

SMELL PIECE II

Send a smell to the moon.

#### MESS PIECE

Use things until they melt. Wipe your sticky fingers after you use them.

Use things until they evaporate. Drink water after you use them.

Use things until they become dry and hard. Make a flute out of them.

#### WHISPER PIECE

- a) Whisper. Ask the wind to take it to the end of the world.
- b) Whisper to the clouds. Ask them to remember it.
- c) Whisper what happened that day to the reeds. Weave a pair of sandals with them and send it to a friend.
- d) Whisper all your secret thoughts to a tree.
   Make a guitar out of it and send it to a woman.
- e) Whisper a secret to a young tree. Make a chair out of it and send it to a man.
- f) Whisper your name to a stone. Send it to a stranger.
- g) Whisper the first word that came to you to a person next to you.

## SMELL PIECE

Use a name card without a name. Put an address and a smell instead.

SMELL PIECE

Send smell signals by wind.

## ANNOUNCEMENT PIECE I

Give death announcements each time you move instead of giving announcements of the change of address.

Send the same when you die.

1962 summer

# ANNOUNCEMENT PIECE II

Give a moving announcement each time you die.

FLY PIECE

Fly.

# CLOUD PIECE

Imagine the clouds dripping. Dig a hole in your garden to put them in.

#### MAP PIECE

Draw an imaginary map.

Put a goal mark on the map where you want to go.

Go walking on an actual street according to your map.

If there is no street where it should be according to the map, make one by putting

the obstacles aside.

When you reach the goal, ask the name of the city and give flowers to the first person you meet.

The map must be followed exactly, or the event has to be dropped altogether.

Ask your friends to write maps. Give your friends maps.

MAP PIECE

Draw a map to get lost.

#### MASK PIECE I

Make a mask larger than your face.
Polish the mask every day.
In the morning, wash the mask instead of your face.
When somebody wants to kiss you, let the person kiss the mask instead.

1961 winter

## MASK PIECE II

Make a mask smaller than your face. Let it drink wine instead of you.

## CONVERSATION PIECE (or Crutch Piece)

Bandage any part of your body. If people ask about it, make a story and tell. If people do not ask about it, draw their attention to it and tell. If people forget about it, remind them of it and keep telling. Do not talk about anything else.

#### PENCIL LEAD PIECE

Imagine your head filled with pencil leads. Imagine one of them broken. Show a pencil lead to your friend and tell him that it came out of your head.

## RIDING PIECE

Ride a coffin car all over the city.

# SUN PIECE

Watch the sun until it becomes square.

## WALK PIECE

Stir inside of your brains with a penis until things are mixed well.

Take a walk.

## LAUNDRY PIECE

In entertaining your guests, bring out your laundry of the day and explain to them about each item. How and when it became dirty and why, etc.

# COUNTING PIECE I

Count the numbers of lights in the city every day.

Make a number list and hang it on the wall.

# COUNTING PIECE II

Count the numbers of stars in the sky every day.

Make a number list and send it to your friends.

## COUNTING PIECE III

Count the numbers of wrinkles on your face or your body or certain parts of your body. Send it to your friend in place of a letter.

Make all the clocks in the world fast by two seconds without letting anyone know about it.

1963 autumn

Maybe the main clock of the world went fast or slow by a second without anybody knowing about it.

As long as people do not know about it, nothing is disturbed.

#### CLOCK PIECE

Steal all the clocks and watches in the world.
Destroy them.

Take all the clocks and watches in the town. Set each one to an arbitrary time, arbitrarily, or according to a system that you make. Any system is acceptable as long as none of the clocks are intentionally set to the correct time.

Select a clock.
Set it on time.
You may rewind the clock but never reset it.
Call it your life clock.
Live accordingly.

#### THROWING PIECE

Throw a stone into the sky high enough so it will not come back.

## SMOKE PIECE

Smoke everything you can. Including your pubic hair.

# CARD PIECE I

Walk to the center of your Weltinnenraum. Leave a card.

# CARD PIECE II

Cut a hole in the center of your Weltinnenraum.
Exchange.

#### CARD PIECE III

Shuffle your Weltinnenraums. Hand one to a person on the street. Ask him to forget about it.

#### CARD PIECE IV

Place a stone on each one of the Weltinnenraums in the world. Number them.

#### CARD PIECE V

Play rummy with your Weltinnenraums. Play for money. Play solitaire with your Weltinnenraums. Play for death.

# CARD PIECE VI

Find a card in your Weltinnenraum.

## CARD PIECE VII

Open a window of one of the houses in your Weltinnenraum.

Let the wind come in.

# MIRROR PIECE

Instead of obtaining a mirror, obtain a person.
Look into him.
Use different people.
Old, young, fat, small, etc.

#### ROOM PIECE

When a room is needed, obtain a person instead of a room.

Live on him.

When another room is needed, obtain another person instead of another room. Live on them.

# BOX PIECE

Buy many dream boxes. Ask your wife to select one. Dream together.

#### MASK PIECE

Wear a blank mask. Ask people to put in wrinkles, dimples, eyes, mouth, etc., as you go.

# **FLY PIECE**

Skin two thousand balloons. Fly them in the air.

# PLANE PIECE

Hire a plane. Invite everybody. Ask them to write a will to you before boarding.

#### TRAVEL PIECE

Make a key.
Find a lock that fits.
If you find it, burn the house that is attached to it.

# PRESCRIPTION PIECE

Prescribe pills for going through the wall and have only the hair come back.

# WEARING-OUT MACHINE

Ask a man to wear out various things before you use them.

Such as:

Women

Clothes

Books

Apartments

Pianos

Typewriters

#### **FALLING PIECE**

Go outside of you.
Look at yourself walking down the street.
Make yourself tumble on a stone and fall.
Watch it.
Watch other people looking.
Observe carefully how you fall.
How long it takes and in what rhythm you fall.
Observe as seeing a slow motion film.

#### FOG PIECE I

Think of what the next person is thinking.

FOG PIECE II

Polish an orange.

FOG PIECE III

Send a fog to your friend.

#### NAME PIECE

Change your name by the period of your age.
By the year.
By the day.
By occasions.
By the color of your dress.

# LIGHT PIECE

Carry an empty bag.
Go to the top of the hill.
Pour all the light you can in it.
Go home when it is dark.
Hang the bag in the middle of your room in place of a light bulb.

1963 autumn

#### CONVERSATION PIECE

Talk about the death of an imaginary person.

If somebody is interested, bring out a black framed photograph of the deceased and show.

If friends invite you, excuse yourself by explaining about the death of the person.

#### HAND PIECE

Sit in the garden.
Raise one hand.
Extend it until it reaches a cloud.
Have your friend ring a symbol.
Keep extending it until it goes out of the stratosphere.
Have your friend put a flag out.

#### ANIMAL PIECE

Take one mannerism from one kind of animal and make it yours for a week.

Take another mannerism from another kind of animal and make it yours without dropping the previously acquired mannerism.

Go on increasing mannerisms by taking them from different kinds of animals.

#### SKY EVENT for John Lennon

The organizer of the event may select one version from the following:

- a) wait until a cloud appears and come above your head
- b) wait until the snow falls
- c) wait until a chair falls

All three versions can be done in any season of the year. People should gather with their Sunday outfit, wearing their best hats, etc.

If the weather is cold, burn fire, if it's warm pass cold drinks and wait

Stop cars and people on the street and inform them of the event that's taking place. Let them join. Call friends and strangers on the phone and ask them to join.

Prepare binoculars and telescopes for people to occasionally check the sky. Ladders of great height should be prepared for people who wish to climb up high to check.

The gathering can take place both outside and indoors. If it's indoor, it will be nice to gather in a room with a large window. If it's a closed room, take turns to go out and check

Take photographs of the sky, the town and the people, before, during and after the wait.

Do not talk loud or make noise, as you may scare the sky.

SKY Event I

(IMAGINARY SKY EVENT - refer to SKY EVENT for John LENNON)

Do the sky Event in your mind

THEN go out into the street and take photos to document the event

If the sky event in your mind takes place in another city, ask a friend in that city to take photos for you.

# POETRY POETRY

born: Bird year

early childhood: collected skys adolescence: collected sea-weeds

late adolescence: gave birth to a grapefruit

collected snails, clouds, garbage cans, etc. Have graduated many schools specializing in these subjects

at present: traveling as a private lecturer of the above subjects and others.

recipient of Hal Kaplow Award

#### Statement:

People went on cutting the parts they do not like of me finally there was only the stone remained of me that was in me but they were still not satisfied and wanted to know what it's like in the stone.

y.o.

P.S. If the butterflies in your stomach die, send yellow death announcements to your friends.

Written for the production of "STONE" at Judson Church Gallery, New York, March 1966. this part is light this part is lighter

this part is not so clean

this part is very light	this part is very, very light
this part is heavier than	a statue was here
this part is of better quality than	this part does not exist

on paper
y.o. 167 fall London

Joy the safety of

#### NUMBER PIECE I

Count all the words in the book instead of reading them.

# NUMBER PIECE II

Replace nouns in the book with numbers and read.
Replace adjectives in the book with numbers and read.
Replace all the words in the book with numbers and read.

# CHEWING GUM MACHINE PIECE

Place Chewing Gum Machines with many different word cards in them next to Coca-Cola Machines on every street corner. Make it so that a word card comes out when you put one cent in.

Put more auxiliary words than nouns. More verbs than adjectives.

# PAPER FOLDING PIECE

Fold certain parts of a paper and read. Fold a crane and read.

#### DOLLAR PIECE

Select an amount of dollar.
Imagine all the things that
you can buy with that amount.(a)
Imagine all the things that
you cannot buy with that amount.(b)
Write it on a piece of paper.

#### SYLLABLE PIECE

Decide not to use one particular syllable for the rest of your life. Record things happened to you in result of that.

# CLOSET PIECE I

Think of a piece you lost. Look for it in your closet.

#### CLOSET PIECE II

Put one memory into one half of your head. Shut it off and forget it. Let the other half of the brain long for it.

#### CLOSET PIECE III

Kill all the men you have slept with. Put the bones in a box and send it out into the sea with flowers.

# TOUCH POEM FOR GROUP OF PEOPLE

Touch each other.

#### **TOUCH POEM**

Give birth to a child. See the world through its eye. Let it touch everything possible and leave its fingermark there in place of a signature.

i.e., Snow in India
J.C.'s overcoat
Simone's equilibrium
Clouds
etc.

# TOUCH POEM III

Hold a touch poem meeting at somewhere in the distance or a fictitious address on a fictitious day.

# TOUCH POEM VI

Ask people to come. Invite only dead people.

#### TOUCH POEM V

Feel the wall. Examine its temperature and moisture. Take notes about many different walls.

1963 autumn

# A poem to be read with a magnefying glass

7.0. 64 fall London



On Line	
	this is a straight line
	this is not so straight
	this line is a thousand miles long
	this line is an inch long
	this line has history

	this line is smelly
	this line is suffering
	this line was once a circle
	this line was a phoenia
(1970)	this line was said to be a bit grey at one time
	this line only comes out once every billion years

Name:

Age: Sex: Male Female

Occupation:

Please check the following

data:

1) I like dislike to draw circles.

- I have always never drawn circles well.
- 3) I am was a better circlenow.
  drawer in the past.
  when I was (age).

Other comments regarding your circle experience:



put stamp here

Send to:

YOKO ONO

EMPIRE STATE BLDG.

N. Y. C. 1, N. Y.

#### MAILING PIECE I

Send a sound of a smile.

### MAILING PIECE II

Send the sound of one hundred sun rising at once.

## MAILING PIECE III

Send a wind around the world many times until it becomes a very delicate breeze.

1962 summer

## QUESTIONNAIRE

## QUESTIONNAIRE

Name:		
(advised to in	clude all the names you	are called by.)
ADDRÈSS:		
past	present	future
AGE: I am at the ag	e where:	
SEX:		
COLOUR:		
HEIGHT:		
WEIGHT:		
OCCUPATION:		
PHYSICAL PECULI	ARITIES:	
OTHER COMMENT	'S:	
Date:		
	Signature:	

#### Answer the following questions True or False.

#### TRUTH/FALSE

The sixth finger is usually not used because it's existence is not physically perceivable.

There is a transparent peace tower in New York City which casts no shadow and, therefore, very rarely recognized.

Blood is not red unless exposed, and blue when it's imagined.

The structure of the American jury system is taken from the chance music operation by John Cage. (The noted Judge Connolly is said to have said "all verdicts are beautiful".)

Mt. Fuji, whose colour is blue and white from the distance and volcano red when you go near, is a carefully planned modern Japanese project built to attract American tourists.

The East Side is not a word to define its location but was originally a name of the town "The Wise East on the Wrong Side." Later it was shortened to the presently known "The East Side".

Your weight is twice mine, and height 5 inches shorter.

Grapefruit is a hybrid of lemon and orange. Snow is a hybrid of wish and lament.

All fruits are related species of banana, which was the first fruit in existence. The Bible lied about the apple because they felt mentioning the word banana too undignified.

Roaches are moving forms of flowers, though visually they seem unconnected

Happenings were first invented by Greek gods.

The word "manila envelope" comes from a deeply-rooted racial prejudice.

Coughing is a form of love.

All streets are invisible. The visible ones are fake ones, though some visible ones are the end parts of the invisible ones.

Teeth and bones are solid form of cloud.

Paper is marble cut so thin that it has become soft. (Make marble out of toilet paper.)

Plastic is a portion of sky cut out in solid form. (Collect many pieces of plastic and look through them to see if they look blue.)

If you wear a clothes long enough it becomes part of you and you will suffer from serious physical maladjustment when you take it off. A princess died from taking off vines that had covered her for ten years. A prince, when his encircling vines were removed, was found to be non-existent.

When you leave things, you leave your spirit behind, too. But if you don't leave them, you age.

Your brother is the man you killed in the past world. He was born in your family because he wanted to be near you.

There is a wish man in the corner of the world whose daily task is to send good-will waves to the world to clear the air.

Men used to walk on hands upside down, but they changed to the present form because it was considered less obscene.

99 per cent of the world is dead bodies and tombs. We are the remaining 1 per cent . . . (or are we?).

There are one thousand suns arising every day. We only see one of them because of our fixation on monistic thinking.

Piano keys are flower-petals turned hard.

People who bought Ono's "bagwear" invariably encountered fantastic good luck and fortune.—ad.

A cloud consists of the following substances: colour, music, smell, sleep and water. Sometimes it rains substances other than water, but very few people notice it.

#### A, B, OR C

#### Yellow Talk

- a) All colours are imaginary except yellow. Yellow is the colour of sun at its height. Other colours are shades of yellow in varying degrees which have been given different names, as if each of them exist independently, purely for idealogical purposes.—Dr. Song.
- b) Yellow is the only imaginary colour.—Dr. Suzuki.
- c) All colours have yellow in it.-Dr. Lee.
- d) All colours are imaginary.-Dr. Kato.

#### Youth Talk

You are still young because:

you never matured. you talk baby-talk to your husband/wife. your children say so. your grandchildren say so. your great grandchildren say so. you don't see any wrinkles on your face. you still hate the same friends. other reasons (give your reason).

```
Stone Talk
Stone is a:
noun.
pronoun.
verb.
adverb.
adjective.
preposition.
conjunction.
interjection.
```

#### Star Talk

The star Uranus is: blue. red. silver. green. white. rainbow colour.

#### Line Talk

A line is a:
sick circle.
billion lines that are cluttered into a narrow space.
unfolded word.
aggressive dot.

#### Daisy Talk

The weight of a daisy is:

2 pounds less than your brains.

100 pounds plus a wind.

three feathers.

a drop of your mother's tear.

5 billion pounds minus the sea.

#### Wink Talk

An intensity of a wink is: two cars smashed head on. a storm turned into a breeze. A water drop from a loose faucet.

#### Wind Talk

The age of the wind is:

A billion years older than the Empire State Building Three hundred years older than the Alps.

A day younger than the sea.

A day older than the Christ. Two months younger than your daughter.

Starting five months after your death.

Further information and the copy of the Questionnaire is included in the "Stone" pamphlet (50 cents).

#### SHOOT 100 PANES OF GLASS

When a person hurts you badly, line up 100 panes of glass in the field and shoot a bullet through it.

Take a copy of a map made by the cracks on each glass and send a map a day for 100 days to the person who has hurt you.

1966 fall

ONO'S SALES LIST N.Y.C. 1965

# ONO'S SALES LIST These Works (c) copyright 1965 by Yoko Ono

A.	SELF PORTRAIT
	with frame\$5-
В.	SOUNDTAPE of the SNOW FALLING AT DAWN
	a) snow of India. b) snow of Kyo. c) snow of AOS.
C.	TOUCH POEMS* priced according to material \$150- to \$10,000-types:
	a) paper set.
	b) flower set.
	c) water set.
	d) hair set.
	e) cloud set.
	f) wind set.
D.	
	types:
	a) CRYING MACHINE—machine drops tears and cries for you when coin is deposited
	b) WORD MACHINE—machine produces a word when coin is deposited
	c) DISAPPEARING MACHINE—machine that allows an object to disappear when button is pressed\$1,600-

- d) DANGER BOX—machine that you will never come back the same from if you get in (we cannot guarantee your safety in its use)......\$1,100—
- e) SKY MACHINE—machine produces nothing when coin is deposited......\$1,500-
- f) ETERNAL TIME—a beautiful ETERNAL TIME CLOCK that keeps eternal time.....\$800-
- E. Architectural Works\* (priced according to contractors' arrangements and cost of property). types:
  - a) LIGHT HOUSE—a house constructed of light from prisms, which exists in accordance with the changes of the day.
  - b) WIND HOUSE—a house of many rooms designed so that the winds may blow through creating a different sound for each room.
  - c) TRANSPARENT HOUSE—a house intended so that the people inside cannot see out, and so that the people outside can see in.

#### F. Paintings types:

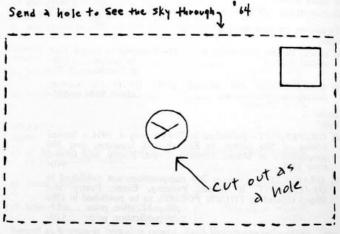
- a) NAIL PAINTING.....FLOWER PAINTING.....SHADOW PAINTING, and many other great do-it-yourself paintings.......\$50-
- b) PART PAINTING—details upon request, contains ten thousand parts......\$100- per 3 sq. inches
- c) INSTRUCTURE—scores......50c a piece

3.	GARDEN SETS (priced according to contractors' costs, stones, pebbles, etc.).
	types: a) a shallow hole for the moonlight to make a pond.
	b) a deep hole for the clouds to drip in.
	c) elongated hole for fog ways.
	e) stone settings for the snow to cover.
	f) stones and pebbles set like a dry river bed.
1.	Letters types:
	a) letter to Ivan Karporiginal\$300- copies50c
	b) reply from Ivan Karporiginal
	EVENTS
	types:
	a) to let pink snow fall and cover your town—guaranteed not to be artificial—score
	b) circle event
	c) hole event
	Record of Events—a complete record of all Events by Yoko Ono since 1951 with photographs and illustrations

L.	Music Scores types:
	a) actual sound scores
	b) IMAGINERY MUSIC—scores
	c) onera scores\$1-
	d) INSOUND MUSIC—scores\$1.50
M.	types:
	a) special defects underwear for men—designed to accent your special defects
	b) UNDERWEAR TO MAKE YOU HIGH—for women, description upon requestabout \$10- to \$35-
N.	types:
	a) GRAPEFRUIT—published in Tokyo, July 4, 1964, a limited edition of 500 copies, in English and Japanese, over 200 compositions in Music, Painting, Event, Poetry, and Object, since 1951
	b) GRAPEFRUIT II—over 200 compositions not published in GRAPEFRUIT, in Music, Painting, Event, Poetry, and Object (including TOUCH POEMS), to be published in 1966 pre-publication price\$5-post-publication price\$10-
0.	SIX FILM SCRIPTS-includes WALK TO THE TAI

\*Patents applied for, machines, and models for Architectural Works, may be viewed by appointment, only written requests accepted.

#### POSTCARD



cut out and post

# 5 OBJECT

## REVALUE PIECE II

Use all existing art work as pieces of furniture and household appliances. i. e. Use sculpture such as Henry Moore's as diaper hangers, or chairs, bookshelves, tables and beds. Use paintings such as Monet and Picasso as heavy curtains, sofa covers, etc.

Use all existing armaments as decorative objects and accessories. i. e. Use cannons and fighters for garden sculptures, bullets and earrings, etc.

1968 winter

## **BURNING PIECE**

Make different objects to burn. The objects should be material and complexed.

i.e. autobiography
embroidery
mahjong set
carved chair
electric studio, etc.

Appreciate the difference of time it takes to burn.
The piece is made when they become ashes.

Do not use ready-made objects to burn.

#### COLLECTING PIECE I

Select a subject.
Write five million pages (single space)
on the subject.

#### COLLECTING PIECE II

Put a person on the stage. Examine the person as follows in all possible detail.

- 1. Weigh
- 2. Measure
- 3. Count
- 4. Question
- 5. Dismember
- 6. Burn
- 7. Record

#### COLLECTING PIECE II

Break a contemporary museum into pieces with the means you have chosen. Collect the pieces and put them together again with glue.

#### COLLECTING PIECE III

Break your mirror and scatter the pieces over different countries.

Travel and collect the pieces and glue them together again.

You may use a letter or a diary instead of a mirror.

You may break a doll or an airplane a thousand feet high in the sky over a desert.

1963 autumn

### VENUS OF MIRO PIECE

Hand out small portions to people who come to see.

Ask them to polish them at home.

Ask them to bring them back in fifty years to put the Venus together again.

## CHIMNEY PIECE

Build three thousand chimnies and line them up so it will look like one from a certain point and three thousand from another point.

## PIECE FOR THREE CHIMNIES

Build three chimnies.

Build them so that from a certain distant point they look like one chimney, from another point: like two and from another point: like three.

Take pictures of the three different images. You may build houses, temples, etc., instead of chimnies.

## TELESCOPE PIECE

Make a sculpture to put on a mountain for people to see with telescopes.

## SUPPORTING GOODS PIECE

Construct human body parts that function better than what we have now (i.e., water-proof, fire-proof, etc.).

Sell them in a supporting goods store for a price.

Use ready-made objects that you can find in your apartment.

1964 summer

## SUPPLY GOODS STORE PIECE

Open a supply goods store where you sell body supplies:

Tail
Hair
Lump
Hump
Horn
Halo
The third eye

#### LOCKET PIECE

Find a substance that is solid but becomes liquid when it melts, and transparent but stains when you put it on something. Also, the weight should be immense or constantly changing.

Put the substance in your locket in place of a photograph.

1964 summer

# 6 FILM

These scores were printed and made available to whoever was interested at the time or thereafter in making their own version of the films, since these films, by their nature, became a reality only when they were repeated and realized by other film-makers.

A dream you dream alone may be a dream, but a dream two people dream together is a reality.

## FILM SCRIPT 3

Ask audience to cut the part of the image on the screen that they don't like.

Supply scissors.

 from SIX FILM SCRIPTS BY YOKO ONO, Tokyo, June 1964

#### FILM SCRIPT 5

Ask audience the following:

- 1) not to look at Rock Hudson, but only Doris Day.
- 2) not to look at any round objects but only square and angled objects if you look at a round object watch it until it becomes square and angled.
- 3) not to look at blue but only red if blue comes out close eyes or do something so you do not see, if you saw it, then make believe that you have not seen it, or punish yourself.
- from SIX FILM SCRIPTS BY YOKO ONO, Tokyo, June 1964

### OMNIBUS FILM

- 1) Give a print of the same film to many directors.
- Ask each one to re-edit the print without leaving out any of the material in such a way that it will be unnoticed that the print was re-edited.
- 3) Show all the versions together omnibus style.
- from SIX FILM SCRIPTS BY YOKO ONO, Tokyo, June 1964

#### IMAGINARY FILM SERIES

SHI (From the cradle to the grave of Mr. So)

A slow film taken in the time space of 60 years, following a person who's born and died. From about the 30th year, it becomes a film of a couple, as the man gets married. It really becomes "a film of waiting" towards the end since the film obviously starts to have a senile quality in its camera work, while the man in the film looks still robust. It is amazing that the death came so suddenly over the man in a form of diarrhea. Highly incredible film which makes one think. — You never know when you die.

#### A FILM OF SUPER-REALISM

SHI (From the cradle to the grave of Mr. So)

Interview with the director, Mr. Toyama.

Tell me, Mr. Toyama, you are relatively unknown in the film world, do you think it had something to do with the fact that you were devoted to the making of this film "SHI" (this is no misprint means "death" in Japanese) of super-realism, as they call now?

Yes, definitely.

How long did it take for you to make this film?

Sisty years.

Incredible.

Well, you can say that, I suppose. But it could have been longer if he hadn't died then. I was lucky.

Now people are saying that this film will create a new move in the film world. Do you think that will happen?

It all depends on how you can outlive the film.

Yes, yes, I heard that in the end you were getting rather impatient, that you didn't know if you could wait until the death scene takes place. You didn't, of course, use any means to speed up the ending or anything?

No, no, everything took place naturally.

What was the cause of his death?

Diarrhea.

I understand that the film was backed by a Japanese Ketchup Company?

Yes, and that's why the whole thing has a pink tone to it. They wanted me to use a red theme that reminds you of ketchup, but I used pink instead. But I made sure that the blood would look like ketchup, and the ketchup like blood, showing that both substances were equally essential. The ketchup company liked that. Also, this gave a little surrealistic touch to the film, which, otherwise, would have been too realistic.

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR FILM NO. 4

aug. 21 '67 y.o.

last		rst others
AGE.	OCCUPATION.	
SEX.		li di
ADDRESS.		
past	present	future
COLOURS YOU LI	KE.	
COLOURS YOU DI	SLIKE.	
DID YOU SEE AN'	Y COLOUR IN THIS FIL	M?
ARE YOU COLOU	R BLIND?	
DID YOU SEE AN		IN THE EN MO
WOULD YOU SAY	Y HEXAGONAL IMAGES	S IN THE FILM? SUBLIMINAL MESSAGES
WOULD YOU SAY IN THIS FILM?  WOULD YOU SAY SIMPLE MINDED	Y HEXAGONAL IMAGES THAT THERE WERE S THAT YOU TEND TOW PERSON?	VARDS BEING A
WOULD YOU SAY IN THIS FILM?  WOULD YOU SAY SIMPLE MINDED	Y HEXAGONAL IMAGES THAT THERE WERE S THAT YOU TEND TOW PERSON?	VARDS BEING A
WOULD YOU SAY IN THIS FILM?  WOULD YOU SAY SIMPLE MINDED WOULD YOU SHO	THAT YOU TEND TOW PERSON? W THIS FILM TO YOUR	VARDS BEING A
WOULD YOU SAY IN THIS FILM? WOULD YOU SAY SIMPLE MINDED WOULD YOU SHO YOUR WIFE?	THAT YOU TEND TOW PERSON? W THIS FILM TO YOUR CHILD	VARDS BEING A  R MOTHER?
WOULD YOU SAY IN THIS FILM?  WOULD YOU SAY SIMPLE MINDED WOULD YOU SHO YOUR WIFE?  DID YOU FIND YO a) CENTER OF T	THAT YOU TEND TOW PERSON? W THIS FILM TO YOUR CHILD	VARDS BEING A R MOTHER? DREN?  DUR EYES ON

DID YOU LIE ABOUT YOUR OCCUPATION?
SEX?
IF SO, WHAT ARE YOU, REALLY?
DID YOU FEEL THAT THE FILM WAS TOO SHORT, IF SO, HOW MUCH LONGER SHOULD IT BE?
DID YOU THINK THIS FILM WAS THE BEST FILM OF THE
a) YEAR b) 20 CENTURY c) DECADE e) EVER
WOULD YOU BE INTERESTED IN PERFORMING IN THIS FILM?
WOULD YOU SAY YOUR BACKSIDE WAS a) BEAUTIFUL?
b) UNIQUE? c) CHARMING? d) PLAIN?
e) OR? f) WHAT COLOUR IS IT?
(specify)
WHAT WOULD YOU SAY THIS FILM WAS ABOUT?

ANYTHING ELSE?

fill this in and mail it to yoko ono c/o international times.

DANCE

### HAND PIECE

Raise your hand in the evening light and watch it until it becomes transparent and you see the sky and the trees through it.

### **BODY PIECE**

Stand in the evening light until you become transparent or until you fall asleep.

1961 summer

## AIR TALK

It's sad that the air is the only thing we share. No matter how close we get to each other, there is always air between us.

It's also nice that we share the air. No matter how far apart we are, the air links us.

from Lisson Gallery brochure '67

### DANCE PIECE FOR STAGE PERFORMANCE

Dance in pitch dark.

Ask audience to light a match if they want to see.

A person may not light more than one match.

1961 autumn

# DANCE PIECE

Have a dance party. Let people dance with chairs.

1961 winter

13 DAYS DO-IT-YOURSELF DANCE FESTIVAL (as it was done)

Send a pound for

YOKO ONO'S 13 DAYS DO-IT-YOURSELF DANCE FESTIVAL TO BE HELD IN LONDON!

If you don't have a pound, send a pound worth of flowers and 13 stamps.

to: YOKO ONO DANCE COMPANY 25 Hanover Gate Mansions NW1

place: the Festival will take place in your mind

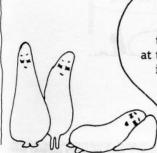
time: between Sept. 27 - Oct. 9 '67

your pound: with your pound, each day for 13 days, you will receive a card of dance instructions for the day and the time to perform the piece so we will be performing at the same time, all of us

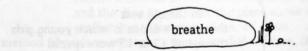
method of performance: each member of the dance, thus, will communicate with the other members by mental telepathy

# Dance Report

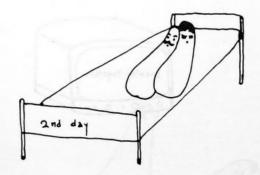
in the old east
there was a dance in which young girls
at the age of 12 or 13 wore special
intoxicating flowers inducing them to sleep
while standing, the girls went on
standing for hours while people
watched and appreciated the
delicate swaying of the
bodies.







breathe at daws

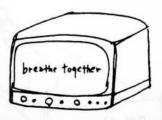


3rd day in the avening









watch

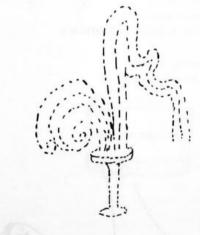
draw a large circle in the sky
let us know the diameter of the
circle (guess), direction and the
color of the sky you were watching
and the duration of your watching experience

in the afternoon



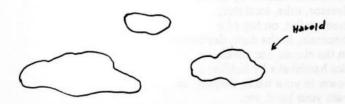
watch

go to the nearest fountain and watch the water dance



afternoon

5 th day



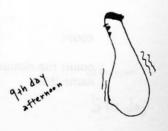
count

count the clouds name them

8th day ( afternoon)

#### shake

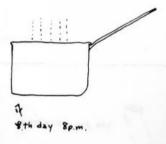
go shake hands with as many persons as possible. write down their names. try in the elevator, tube, escalator, street, toilet, on top of a mountain, in the dark, daydream, on the clouds, etc. make it a nice handshake by holding a flower in your hand, perfume or wash your hand, etc.



Lth day evening

watch

have you seen a horizon lately? go see a horizon. measure it from where you stand and let us know the length.



watch

boil water and watch until it evaporates



### find

go find a clover and send us measurements weight of all possible parts of the clover send

send something you can't count

daylight

YOR OND MAKE CO. 13 DAYS DANCE FESTIVAL COPYTIGHT YOR OND TWATER MADE BADE

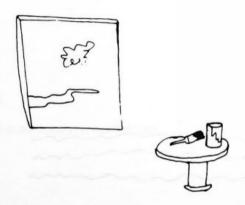
12th day dreamtime



SWIM

SWIM IN YOUR DREAM AS FAR AS YOU CAN UNTIL YOU FIND AN ISLAND. TELL US RESULTS.

13 th day foture fine



COLOr youself
wait for the spring to come
let us know when it comes

# Dance Report - on facing

face the wall throughout the year and imagine banging your head against it: a) slowly until the wall collapses and you see the sky. b) violently until your head is gone.

consider if it is such a catastrophe to live without your head or if it shouldn't be easier for you to go around since your body would be much lighter.

water talk

you are water
I'm water
we're all water in different containers
that's why it's so easy to meet
someday we'll evaporate together

but even after the water's gone we'll probably point out to the containers and say, "that's me there, that one." we're container minders

For Half-A-Wind Show, Lisson Gallery, London 1967.

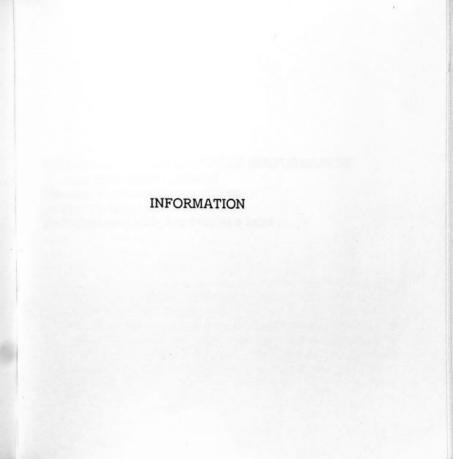
# Dance Report - on hiding

hide in the cupboard
a) until your family starts to wonder
b) until your family forgets you
(make choice)



Dance Report — on floating (or how to make the city so light that it floats away in the sky)

Carry a stone. Go on carrying heavier stones until they become so heavy that the whole city starts to look lighter than what you are carrying.





# RECORD OF 13 CONCERT PIECE PERFORMANCES

...since most pieces consist of just titles or very short instructions, passing words as to how they were performed previously has become a habit ...

#### HIDE PIECE

Hide.

This piece was first performed in New York, Carnegie Recital Hall, 1961, by completely turning off the light in the concert hall including the stage and a girl hiding in a large canvas sheet on the stage while two men made soft voice accompaniment. In 1962, Tokyo, also in total darkness, performers hid behind various things on the stage, while a male solo performer struggled to get out of a bag on the stage he was put in. In New York, 1965, performers and audience, using Canal Street subway station as a place of performance, hid from each other by using their own methods. In London, 1966, Jeanette Cochrane Theatre, Yoko Ono brought out a 3 foot pole on the center of the stage and hid behind it ½ hr.

### SWEEP PIECE

Sweep.

This was first performed 1962 in Tokyo, Sogetsu Art Center by a solo male performer during 4 hour concert of works by Yoko Ono. The performer covered the areas all around and in the concert hall. It was performed again 1966 London, Jeanette Cochrane Theatre, as a solo piece by Yoko Ono, sweeping from one end of the stage to another.

### CUT PIECE

Cut.

This piece was performed in Kyoto, Tokyo, New York and London. It is usually performed by Yoko Ono coming on the stage and in a sitting position, placing a pair of scissors in front of her and asking the audience to come up on the stage, one by one, and cut a portion of her clothing (anywhere they like) and take it. The performer, however, does not have to be a woman.

### BEAT PIECE

Listen to a heartbeat.

This was first performed in 1965 at the East End Theatre, New York, by people coming on stage and lying on each other's body to listen.

### WIND PIECE

Make a way for the wind.

This was first performed in 1962 Sogetsu Art Center, Tokyo, with a huge electric fan on the stage. In 1966 Wesleyan University, Conn., audience was asked to move their chairs a little and make a narrow aisle for the wind to pass through. No wind was created with special means.

### PROMISE PIECE

Promise.

This was first performed in Jeanette Cochrane Theatre in London, 1966. Yoko Ono, as the last piece of the night, broke a vase on the stage and asked people to pick up the pieces and take them home, promising that they would all meet again in 10 years time with the pieces and put the vase together again. Second performance was by a male performer in Tokyo calling a female performer in New York, 1964, at the Plaza Hotel; third performance by a solo performer calling a person in Kitazawa flat, 1962; fourth performance by a man in Chinatown phone booth, New York, calling a person at Chambers Street loft, New York, 1961; fifth performance, an elephant in Paris calling a parrot in New Guinea, 1959 — all calls being about future meetings. Call or write about future meetings or any other plans.

#### WHISPER PIECE

Whisper.

This piece was originally called a telephone piece, and was the starting of the word-of-mouth pieces. It is usually performed by the performer whispering a word or a note into an audience's ear and asking to have it passed on until it reaches the last person in the audience.

## BREATH PIECE

Breathe.

First performed at Wesleyan University, Conn., U.S.A., in 1966. A large card with small lettering saying "breathe" was passed three times among the audience.

## FLY PIECE

Fly.

This piece was first performed in Tokyo, Naiqua Gallery, 1964. Each person who attended the night flew in his/her own way. It was performed again in London at Jeanette Cochrane Theatre, by the audience who came up on the stage and jumped off the different leveled ladders prepared for them.

## QUESTION PIECE

Question.

This piece, was first performed in Tokyo, 1962, Sogetsu Art Center, by two people on stage asking questions to each other and not answering. At the time it was done in French, but it can be done in any language or in many different languages at one time. The piece is meant for a dialogue or a monologue of continuous questions, answered only by questions. It was also performed in English on Voice of America Radio Program, Tokyo, 1964, and in Japanese on NTV (Japanese Television) by six children from the audience, 1964.

#### DISAPPEARING PIECE

Boil water.

This piece was first performed in New York, 1966, by only five people. This was not deliberate, but probably due to the subway strike in New York at the time. The water was boiled in a still, until it came out of the other side of the still, which took two hours. In London 1966, Mercury Theatre, the boiling of the water, the size of the pot in which the water was boiled, etc., was announced on the stage. The actual boiling of the water was performed at a Notting Hill Gate flat. The complete evaporation of the water was announced from the stage as the ending of the piece.

## CLOCK PIECE

Usually a clock is placed on the center of the stage and audience is asked to wait until the alarm goes off.

### TOUCH PIECE

Touch.

This piece was performed many times in different places in Europe, United States and Japan. Usually, the lights are put off and the audience touches each other for ten minutes to sometimes over two hours. In Nanzenji Temple in Kyoto, 1964, it lasted from evening till dawn. In London, people started to whistle the theme song of "Bridge of River Kwai" during the performance which became a chorus.



# 3 OLD PAINTINGS OF YOKO ONO NAIQUA GALLERY

lst day June 7, 1964 5 a.m. -11 a.m. Painting to see the sky

2nd day June 14, 1964 5 a.m. - 11 a.m. Painting to shake hands

3rd day June 21st, 1964 5 a.m. — 11 a.m. Smoke Painting

No critics, art dealers or dogs allowed

9 A.M. TO 11 A.M.

NAIQUA GALLERY MAY 24, 1964 YOKO ONO

Wash your ears well before attending.

FLY

小野 洋子

場所: 内科画廊

時: 4月25日(土) 8.P.M.

飛ぶ用意をして来る事。

# TOUCH POEM NO. 3

place: Nigeria, Africa time: March 33rd, 1964

Wash your hair well before attending.

## - Insound and Instructure -

# PROGRAM

sprout

motional

whisper

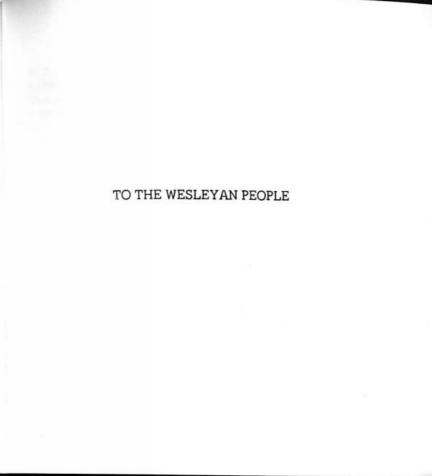
YAMAICHI HALL KYOTO JULY 20, 1964 from 6 P.M. Tickets available at playguides.

Once we were fish moving freely in the sea. Our bodies were soft and swift and we had no belongings.

Now that we crawled out of the sea we are dry and full of cravings. We wander city to city carrying the memory of the sea (but it isn't just a memory).

Listen very carefully and you will hear the sea in your body. You know, our blood is seawater and we are all seacarriers.

from "Seven Little Stories" 1st story The Connection (original in Japanese) spring 1952





To The Wesleyan People (who attended the meeting).

When a violinist plays, which is incidental: the arm movement or the bow sound?

Try arm movement only.

If my music seems to require physical silence, that is because it requires concentration to yourself — and this requires inner silence which may lead to outer silence as well.

I think of my music more as a practice (gyo) than a music.

The only sound that exists to me is the sound of the mind. My works are only to induce music of the mind in people.

It is not possible to control a mind-time with a stopwatch or a metronome. In the mind-world, things spread out and go beyond time.

There is a wind that never dies.

#### XXXXXXXXXXXXX

My paintings, which are all instruction paintings (and meant for others to do), came after collage and assemblage (1915) and happening (1905) came into the art world. Considering the nature of my painting, any of the above three words or a new word can be used instead of the word, painting. But I like the old word painting because it immediately connects with "wall painting" painting, and it is nice and funny.

Among my instruction paintings, my interest is mainly in "painting to construct in your head". In your head, for instance, it is possible for a straight line to exist-not as a segment of a curve but as a straight line. Also, a line can be straight, curved and something else at the same time. A dot can exist as a 1,2,3,4,5,6, dimentional object all at the same time or at various times in different combinations as you wish to perceive. The movement of the molecule can be continuum and discontinuum at the same time. It can be with colour and/or without. There is no visual object that does not exist in comparison to or simultaneously with other objects, but these characteristics can be eliminated if you wish. A sunset can go on for days. You can eat up all the clouds in the sky. You can assemble a painting with a person in the North Pole over a phone, like playing chess. The painting method derives from as far back as the time of the Second World War when we had no food to eat, and my brother and I exchanged menus in the air.

There maybe a dream that two dream together, but there is no chair that two see together.

#### XXXXXXXXXX

I think it is possible to see a chair as it is. But when you burn the chair, you suddenly realize that the chair in your mind did not burn or disappear. The world of construction seems to be the most tangible, and therefore final. This made me nervous. I started to wonder if it were really so.

Isn't a construction a beginning of a thing like a seed? Isn't it a segment of a larger totality, like an elephant's tail? Isn't it something just about to emerge — not quite structured — never quite structured . . . like an unfinished church with a sky ceiling? Therefore, the following works:

A venus made of plastic, except that her head is to be imagined.

A paper ball and a marble book, except that the final version is the fusion of these two objects which come into existance only in your head.

A marble sphere (actually existing) which, in your head, gradually becomes a sharp cone by the time it is extended to the far end of the room.

A garden covered with thick marble instead of snow — but like snow, which is to be appreciated only when you uncover the marble coating.

One thousand needles: imagine threading them with a straight thread.

#### XXXXXXXX

I would like to see the sky machine on every corner of the street instead of the coke machine. We need more skies than coke.

#### XXXXXXX

Dance was once the way people communicated with God and godliness in people. Since when did dance become a pasted-face

exhibitionism of dancers on the spotlighted stage? Can you not communicate if it is totally dark?

If people make it a habit to draw a somersault on every other street as they commute to their office, take off their pants before they fight, shake hands with strangers whenever they feel like, give flowers or part of their clothing on streets, subways, elevator, toilet, etc., and if politicians go through a tea house door (lowered, so people must bend very low to get through) before they discuss anything and spend a day watching the fountain water dance at the nearest park, the world business may slow down a little but we may have peace.

To me this is dance.

#### XXXXX

All my works in the other fields have an "Event bent" so to speak. People ask me why I call some works Event and others not. They also ask me why I do not call my Events, Happenings.

Event, to me, is not an assimilation of all the other arts as Happening seems to be, but an extrication from the various sensory perceptions. It is not "a get togetherness" as most happenings are, but a dealing with oneself. Also, it has no script as happenings do, though it has something that starts it moving - the closest word for it may be a "wish" or "hope".

At a small dinner party last week, we suddenly discovered that our poet friend whom we admire very much was colour blind. Barbara Moore said, "That explains about his work. Usually people's eyes are blocked by colour and they can't see the thing."

After unblocking one's mind, by dispensing with visual, auditory, and kinetic perceptions, what will come out of us? Would there be anything? I wonder. And my Events are mostly spent in wonderment.

In Kyoto, at Nanzenji Temples the High Monk was kind to let me use one of the temples and the gardens for my Event. It is a temple with great history, and it was an unheard of honour for the Monk to give permission for such use, especially, to a woman. The Event took place from evening till dawn. About fifty people came with the knowledge that it will last till dawn. The instruction was to watch the sky and to "touch". Some of them were just fast asleep until dawn. Some sat in the garden, some on the wide corridor, which is like a verandah. It was a beautiful full moon night, and the moon was so bright, that the mountains and the trees, which usually looked black under the moonlight, began to show their green. People talked about moonburn, moonbath, and about touching the sky. Two people, I noticed, were whispering all about their life story to each other. Once in a while, a restless person would come to me and ask if I was alright. I thought that it was very amusing, because it was a very warm and peaceful July night, and there was no reason why I should not be alright. Probably he was starting to feel something happening to him, something that he did not yet know how to cope with, the only way out for him was to come to me and ask if I was alright. I was a little nervous about people making cigarette holes on the national treasure floors and tatami, from being high on the moonlight, since most of the people were young modern Japanese and some French and Americans. But nothing like that happening. When the morning breeze started to come in, people quietly woke up their friends, and we took a bath, three at a time, in a bath especially prepared for us at that hour of day. The temple bath is made of huge stone, and it is very warm. After the bath, we had miso soup and onigirl (rice sandwich). Without my saying anything about it, people silently swept the room and mopped the corridor before leaving. I did not know most of them, as they were mostly Kyoto people, and they left without giving their names. I wonder who they were.

At another time, also in Kyoto, before the Nanzenji Event, I had a concert at Yamaichi Hall. It was called "The Strip-tease Show" (it was stripping of the mind). When I met the High Monk the next day, he seemed a bit dissatisfied.

"I went to your concert", he said.

"Thank you, did you like it?"

"Well, why did you have those three chairs on the stage and call it a strip-tease by three?"

"If it is a chair or stone or woman, it is the same thing, my Monk."

"Where is the music?"

"The music is in the mind, my Monk."

"But that is the same with what we are doing, aren't you an avant-garde composer?"

"That is a label which was put by others for convenience."
"For instance, does Toshiro Mayuzumi create music of your kind?"

"I can only speak for myself."

"Do you have many followers?"

"No, but I know of two men who know what I am doing. I am very thankful for that."

Though he is a High Monk he is extremely young, he may be younger than myself. I wonder what the Monk is doing now.

Another Event that was memorable for me was "Fly" at Naiqua Gallery in Tokyo. People were asked to come prepared to fly in their own way. I did not attend.

#### XXX

People talk about happening. They say that art is headed towards that direction, that happening is assimilating the arts. I don't believe in collectivism of art nor in having only one direction in anything. I think it is nice to return to having many different arts, including happening, just as having many flowers. In fact, we could have more arts "smell", "weight", "taste", "cry", "anger" (competition of anger, that sort of thing), etc. People might say, that we never experience things separately, they are always in fusion, and that is why "the happening", which is a fusion of all sensory perceptions. Yes, I agree, but if that is so, it is all the more reason and challenge to create a sensory experience isolated from other sensory

experiences, which is something rare in daily life. Art is not merely a duplication of life. To assimilate art in life, is different from art duplicating life.

But returning to having various divisions of art, does not mean, for instance, that one must use only sounds as means to create music. One may give instructions to watch the fire for 10 days in order to create a vision in ones mind.

X

The mind is omnipresent, events in life never happen alone and the history is forever increasing its volume. The natural state of life and mind is complexity. At this point, what art can offer (if it can at all - to me it seems) is an absence of complexity, a vacuum through which you are led to a state of complete relaxation of mind. After that you may return to the complexity of life again, it may not be the same, or it may be, or you may never return, but that is your problem.

Mental richness should be worried just as physical richness. Didn't Christ say that it was like a camel trying to pass through a needle hole, for John Cage to go to heaven? I think it is nice to abandon what you have as much as possible, as many mental possessions as the physical ones, as they clutter your mind. It is nice to maintain poverty of environment, sound, thinking and belief. It is nice to keep oneself small, like a grain of rice, instead of expanding. Make yourself dispensable, like paper. See little, hear little, and think little.

The body is the Bodhi Tree

The mind like a bright mirror standing

Take care to wipe it all the time

And allow no dust to cling. — Shen-hsiu

There never was a Bodhi Tree

Nor bright mirror standing

Fundamentally, not one thing exists

So where is the dust to cling? — Hui-neng

## SENSE PIECE

Common sense prevents you from thinking. Have less sense and you will make more sense.

Art is fart. Fart more and you will fart less.

Screaming is a voice never loud enough to reach. Scream more and you will scream less.

1968 spring



Copy of letter sent to I now fresp

Jan. 4, 1965

Dear Ivan, - - - -

preview opening 'to draw a circle'? We will invite only very selected artists-this is vulgar, but vulgarity can be very interesting. We will invite Bob Rauschenberg, Jasper Jones, etc. Some old artists such as Max Ernst, Marcel Duchamp, Isamu Noguchi are worth inviting.

I presume some of these artists are in Europe - such as Max Ernst - we will invite them with round-trip tickets, the expense of which you can add to the price of the painting. Because the painting, in short, will be a joint effort of these artists. They will be asked to bring means to draw a circle and to draw one on the painting - a blank canvas, that is. Drawing a circle shouldn't be so difficult a task for them, and the idea of making a trip to your gallery from wherever they are, just to draw a circle, is very nice, I think.

I think painting can be instructionalized. Artist, in this case, will only give instructions or diagrams for painting -and the painting will be more or less a do-it-yourself kit according to the instructions. The painting starts to exist only when a person follows the instructions to let the painting come to life. From there on, the painting goes through a life of transformation, by people adding their own efforts to the painting according to or, sometimes, against the given instructions, thus taking an active part in the existence of the painting.

Imagine the "nail painting" hanging in the Museum of Modern Art with instructions saying "hammer a nail on it', and people coming every day to hammer nails of various sizes, and the painting, thus, changing its face every moment.

They don't have to be a Rauschenberg or Jones to draw the circles, or to hammer the nails.

I can just see a Bronxville housewife saying to her guests "do add a circle to my painting before you have a drink", or a guest saying, "I was just admiring your painting by taking the previledge of adding another hole

to it", etc. That is my dream, and something to come very much later, I suppose.

Because of the method - the instruction painting - many interesting things became possible - such as creating a visual object which is an interfusion of a physical and a non-physical objects, etc. You will see these instructions: long ones and short ones, in the painting section of my book. I hope many other instructions will come from people who take up this idea of painting. Soon there will be no need of artists, since people will start to write their own instructions or exchange them and paint.

But first, we should start with 'drawing a circle", I think. We can also include the following paintings for the preview opening.

- 1) draw your shadow on the canvas.
- 2) make a hole on
- 3) hammer a nail
- 4) draw a flower
- 5) erase or cut until there is no canvas etc.

Also, the canvas to start the painting does not have to be a blank canvas. They can be ready-made paintings on which we can draw circles, flowers, etc. Any painting will do. I can use from Da Vincci to Warhole, that is, if you can supply them for me instead of a blank canvas! I will enclose here two instructions based on the paintings of these two artists.

Nicholas Logsdail Lisson Gallery 68 Bell Street NW1 September 23, '67

Dear Nicholas:

Re: Brief Meeting

I think we could finally have the brief meeting we were discussing about. How about tomorrow night 8:15 p.m.? It will be very brief, naturally, as usual you are busy and I am nervous which amounts to the same thing. I cannot stay here longer than 20 minutes so please come on time.

It is best to come by foot, I think, since it is impossible to get a taxi around your place at that time. It is only a five minutes walk from your place. First you make a left turn at the end of your street on the right and go about 50 foot and turn right

(you will see a sign saying one way that is where you turn) and go until you see a coffee bar (not clean) on the left with a sign saying "closed" all the time but its not closed (you will see people in it) then you go through the narrow side-street of the coffee bar (this is a short cut) and you will come out naturally on May Street. From there its just a matter of walking straight on until you hit Park Road. My building is the one on the first left.

The above instructions are viewing the matter from my side, as it is too complicated to think from your side for me and I don't want it to be too confusing. So you will simply have to reverse the instructions where it says right to left and left to right, but otherwise this should get you to my place.

Hoping to see you then,

Sincerely,

Richard Bellamy c/o Goldowsky 1078 Madison Ave. New York, New York U.S.A. December 18th, '66 water

h.e.l.p. give this message to someone on a balcony.

Mirror becomes a razor when it's broken. A stick becomes a flute when it's loved.

from "Seven Little Stories" 3rd story "Reincarnation" spring 1952 (original in Japanese)

# A GIRL IN SUNSET

A beautiful thing happened to a girl in sunset. It was so beautiful she couldn't get over it for a long time. In fact, she's still going around soaked in the same evening light—carrying her orange past. In daytime she looks like a cutout from a Grand Canyon postcard. At night she glows. Then she's heard of a guy carrying rain around him.

1968 summer

Other works by Yoko Ono - available only as individual scores (inquire Bag Productions. 3 Savile Row, London W1)

#### Music Scores

OF A GRAPEFRUIT IN THE WORLD OF PARK - OPERA STRAWBERRIES AND VIOLIN - OPERA AOS - OPERA THE PULSE - for String Quartet PALM PIECE - for Voice Duet QUESTION PIECE - for voice Songs for soprano, and others Songs for children Songs for sick children Songs to be sung under shower Songs to be sung in bath

Songs to be sung in bed Music to boil rice with Music to bake bread with Eggtimer Rondo

## Objects

Smoke Objects Bagwear Shadows Half Objects Wish Pieces Bottled Half-objects Sky TV (from 9 furniture pieces, 1966) a closed circuit T.V. set-up in the gallery for looking at the sky.

Mirror To See Your Behind (from 9 furniture pieces, 1966)

World Puller
Dawn Stone (A piece which should only be watched before sunrise)
A Box of Smile
ETC.

## Paintings

Some paintings, drawings & calligraphies

## Tapes

Music Tapes Tapes of Symposiums Tapes of Events

## Architecture

7 Building Ideas

## Theatre Pieces

13 Theatre Scripts, and others

## Films

Some films

#### LP Records

#### Poems

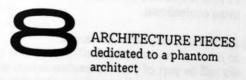
Touch Poems Poems to be read in the dark Poems to be read in candle light Poems to be read at dawn Poems to be covered by green Poems to be aged Poems to look for Sand Poems City Poems Water Poems Weight Poems Poems to be read with a magnifying glass Line Poems Paper Poems Follow-The-Dotted-Line Series **Ouestionnaires** London Winter Orgasm Game Letter Cops

## Stories

Children's Stories
Stories and songs for the very old
Stories and songs for the very fat
Stories and songs for the very lonely
Stories and songs for the ill-bred
Stories and songs for the over-sexed
Stories and songs for the cowards
Stories and songs for people with dandruff
Some more stories by Yoko Ono
Stories concerning Yoko Ono by others

## Catalogues

Indica Gallery Show
Lisson Gallery Show
Film No. 4
Film No. 5 & Two Virgins
Film No. 6
Film "You Are Here"
Film "Selfportrait"
Bagwear "How and when to wear it" (New edition. Pamphlet with photo illustrations)
Letters of some interest



1965 spring

Build a oneway seethrough house. (use oneway mirror)

- See through only from the outside so your life takes a form of a living confessional.
- b) See through only from the inside so the city, the trees and the sky will be part of your house.

Build a house that serves only to make way for the rain

Wetbed . . . . nice and cool to make love in

Spiral staircase for the rain to run spirally

Rooms that change rain into different fountains of various movements

Rooms that change rain into one hundred pieces of happy music

A house that allows rain to be part of it and therefore the thought of a rainy day is not an unpleasant one anymore.

Build a house that serves only to make way for moonlight

(Record chamber—to record moonlight Smell chamber—to smell moonlight Bathtub—very high up in the air for moonbathing Theatre—to operate people who've been badly moonburnt Storage room—with various cupboards to keep and weigh moonlight—etc.)

Build a house (on a hill) that screams when the wind blows

Open different windows that make different screams and make different air experiences in the rooms

Build a house on snow with a glassbox base which works as a snowsled for winds to pull and slide (a)

Build a glassbox snowsled and stay inside and watch— Let the winds lead you to places (b)

Build a dotted line house

Let people imagine the missing parts (a) Let people forget about the missing parts (b)

Build a house with walls which come into existence only with the particular prism effect created by sunset

If necessary, some walls or parts of the walls can be made of material other than light

A floating city
The second level world
Upstairs on the clouds
Mountains and rain roaring underneath
Like venice, we have to commute by
boat through air currents to visit
eachothers floating houses.
Cloud gardens to watch all day.

From THE SOUNDLESS MUSIC (original text in Japanese) 1950

## DOOR PIECE

Make a tiny door to get in and out so that you have to bend and squeeze each time you get in . . . this will make you aware of your size and about getting in and out.

1964 spring



Description of the second seco

1004 spring

ON FILM NO. 4 (in taking the bottoms of 365 saints of our time)

I wonder why men can get serious at all. They have this delicate long thing hanging outside their bodies, which goes up and down by its own will. First of all having it outside your body is terribly dangerous. If I were a man I would have a fantastic castration complex to the point that I wouldn't be able to do a thing. Second, the inconsistency of it, like carrying a chance time alarm or something. If I were a man I would always be laughing at myself. Humour is probably something the male of the species discovered through their own anatomy. But men are so serious. Why? Why violence?

Why hatred? Why war? If people want to make war, they should make a colour war, and paint each others city up during the night in pinks and greens. Men have an unusual talent for making a bore out of everything they touch. Art, painting, sculpture, like who wants a cast-iron woman, for instance.

The film world is becoming terribly aristocratic, too. It's professionalism all the way down the line. In any other field: painting, music, etc., people are starting to become iconoclastic. But in the film world—that's where nobody touches it except the director. The director carries the old mystery of the artist. He is creating a universe, a mood, he is unique, etc., etc. This film proves that anybody can be a director. A

film-maker in San Francisco wrote to me and asked if he could make the San Francisco version of No. 4. That's OK with me. Somebody else wrote from New York, she wants to make a slow-motion version with her own behind. That's OK, too. I'm hoping that after seeing this film people will start to make their own home movies like crazy.

In 50 years or so, which is like 10 centuries from now, people will look at the films of the 60's. They will probably comment on Ingmar Bergman as meaningfully meaningful filmmaker, Jean-Luc Godard as the meaningfully meaningless, Antonioni as meaninglessly meaningful, etc., etc. Then they would come to the No. 4 film and see a sudden swarm of

exposed bottoms, that these bottoms, in fact, belonged to people who represented the London scene. And I hope that they would see that the 60's was not only the age of achievements, but of laughter. This film, in fact, is like an aimless petition signed by people with their anuses. Next time we wish to make an appeal, we should send this film as the signature list.

My ultimate goal in film-making is to make a film which includes a smiling face snap of every single human being in the world. Of course, I cannot go around the whole world and take the shots myself. I need cooperation from something like the post offices of the world. If everybody would drop a

snapshot of themselves and their families to the post office of their town, or allow themselves to be photographed by the nearest photographic studio, this would be soon accomplished.

Of course, this film would need constant adding of footage. Probably nobody would like to see the whole film at once, so you can keep it in a library or something, and when you want to see some particular town's people's smiling faces you can go and check that section of film. We can also arrange it with a television network so that whenever you want to see faces of a particular location in the world, all you have to do is to press a button and there it is. This way, if Johnson wants to

see what sort of people he killed in Vietnam that day, he only has to turn the channel. Before this you were just part of a figure in the newspapers, but after this you become a smiling face. And when you are born, you will know that if you wanted to, you will have in your life time to communicate with the whole world. That is more than most of us could ask for. Very soon, the age may come where we would not need photographs to communicate, like ESP, etc. It will happen soon, but that will be "After the Film Age."

Yoko Ono London '67

### ON FILM NO. 5 & TWO VIRGINS

Last year, I said I'd like to make a "smile film" which included a smiling face snap of every single human being in the world. But that had obvious technical difficulties and was very likely that the plan would have remained as one of my beautiful never-nevers.

This year, I started off thinking of making films that were meant to be shown in a 100 years' time: i.e. taking different city views, hoping that most of the buildings in them would be demolished by the time the film was released; shooting an ordinary woman with her full gear—knowing that in a 100 years' time, she'd look extraordinary, etc., etc. It's to apply the process of making vintage wine to film-making. This, in practice, would mean that as a film-maker you don't really have to make a film anymore but just put your name (that is, if you so wish) on any film and store it. Storing would then become the main endeavour of a film-maker. But then, the idea started to get too conceptual. That's the trouble with all my strawberries. They tend to evaporate and I find myself lying on the floor doing nothing.

One afternoon, John and I went out in the garden and shot Film No. 5, the smile film, and Two Virgins. They were done in a spirit of home movies. In both films, we were mainly concerned about the vibrations the films send out—the kind that was between us. But, with Film No. 5, a lot of planning, working and talking out things had preceded the afternoon. For instance, I had thought of making Film No. 5 into a Dr. Zhivago and let it go on for 4 hours with an intermission and all that, but later decided to stick to a more commercial length of an hour (approx.). 8 m.m. copies of the film are also available for people who'd like to have the film on their wall as a light-portrait. Also, we'll store some copies for the next century.

They say that in the corner of the world there is a man who sits and spends his life in sending good vibration to the world, and when a star twinkles, we are only catching a twinkle that was sent 1000 light years ago, etc.

Imagine a painting that smiles just once in a billion years. John's ghostly smile in Film No. 5 might just communicate in a hundred years' time, or maybe, the way things are rolling, it may communicate much earlier than that. I think all the doors are just ready to open now. One light knock should do. It's just that there are still a minority group in the world who are afraid of the doorless world to come. They're just not sure how they can cope with it. But most of us know that doors are just figments of our imagination. The good thing is though, that law of nature that once you know, you can never unknow things, so the doors are going to disappear pretty rapidly, I think.

Some critic recently commented on us, John and I, as being

lollipop artists who are preoccupied with blowing soapbubbles forever. I thought that was beautiful. There's a lot you can do with blowing soap-bubbles. Maybe the future USA should decide their presidency by having a soap-bubble contest. Blowing soap-bubbles could be used as a form of swearing. Some day the whole world can make it its occupation to blow soap-bubbles.

Would they ever know that Johnny West and Yoko DeMille ate bananas together?

October 22 '68 Yoko Ono

#### ON RAPE

Violence is a sad wind that, if channeled carefully, could bring seeds, chairs and all things pleasant to us.

We are all would-be Presidents of the World, and kids kicking the sky that doesn't listen.

What would you do if you had only one penis and a one-way tube ticket when you want to fuck the whole nation in one come? I know a professor of philosophy whose hobby is to quietly crush biscuit boxes in a supermarket.

Maybe you can send signed, plastic lighters to people in place of your penis. But then some people might take your lighter as a piece of sculpture and keep it up in their living-room shelf.

So we go on eating and feeding frustration every day, lick lollipops and stay being peeping-toms dreaming of becoming Jack-the-Ripper.

This film was shot by our cameraman, Nick, while we were in a hospital. Nick is a gentle-man, who prefers eating clouds and floating pies to shooting "Rape." Nevertheless it was shot.

And as John says: "A is for parrot, which we can plainly see."

Yoko Ono April '69, London

# Tunafish Sandwich Piece

Imagine one thousand suns in the sky at the same time.

Let them shine for one hour.

Then, let them gradually melt into the sky.

ake one tunafish sandwich and eat.

# —FROM GRAPEFRUIT





Yoko Ono



