

Connectivity & Performance (PCA313A)

Spring 2013

C.Pepiton

## **YOU ARE NOW HERE**

**100 pts**

### **The Performance (70 pts)**

You will work in groups of 4 to devise a 10-15 minute site specific performance piece. The goal is for the particular site itself to dictate the unity of form (dramatic structure, scenic elements, costume choices, pacing, etc) and content (story, ritual, poetry, music, idea, etc). We, as the audience, should easily intuit that your chosen performance site is an indispensable part of the experience. The site should be both the source and focus of your creation.

Please allow the readings about ritual and semiotics to inform your creative process. Your audience must not be passive consumers. Get them involved. Remember, all rituals are embodied. Involve as many of the audience's senses as possible. Take the audience on a ride. Give them an experience of being in a certain space in a certain time. Give them a view of the site from your group's particular perspective.

What sort of performance can be held at your site? What type of movement is called for? What stories fit? How does the site inspire you? What rituals or ritualizations are necessary? What sort of change does your performance seek to affect?

Each member of the ensemble must have a relatively equal role in the public performance.

You will be evaluated on your use of space, theatricality (ala Barthes' "density of signs" definition of the term), progression and structure, clarity and execution of intentions, and creativity & entertainment value.

### **Semiotic Analysis (30pts)**

Please write a 1-page narrative summary of your performance, detailing the group's overall intention and concept. Additionally, the group is responsible for cataloguing the intended use of signs in the performance. Please see Kowzan's sign system in practice, table 6.2 on page 107 of the Aston & Savona article for the format of your group's catalogue. Attach this catalogue to the back of your summary. Strive to leave no sign unaccounted for, and keep in mind that Kowzan's classification lacks several sign systems pertinent to performance (aroma, taste, audience participation, color, etc). The goal is to express your concept in a concise manner while cataloguing your density of signs as completely as possible. You will be evaluated on clarity of the concept statement, completeness of the catalogue, and grammar & mechanics.