

12 Duets for the Hammer

For the Hammer Parallel at the Hammer Museum in Los Angeles. Each duet is notated for two people, 1 and 2, visiting the museum together. Overlapping, simultaneous, or coinciding performances are encouraged!

Adam Fong, February 2010

For Vito Acconci

1: Follow as precisely as possible the footsteps of another visitor, always 5 to 10 steps behind, as if you were retracing their steps in the sand.

2: Follow in the footsteps of 1, 5-10 steps behind.

Junk Art

1: In the course of a visit to the museum, while viewing the exhibitions or during any other activity, drop a small slip of paper, such as a receipt or a tag, to the floor (absentmindedly). Repeat as desired. (If a patron or staff member draws your attention to the paper you've dropped, explain that it does not belong to you.)

2: Accompanying 1 throughout the visit as normal, at times close but never too far, pick up any papers dropped by 1.

Periphery

1: Visit every exhibition room of the museum without looking directly at a displayed work of art.

2: Look closely at every displayed work of art in a given room without entering that room. Use binoculars if necessary.

For a Sunny Day

1: Wear sunglasses inside the museum while enjoying the exhibitions. After at least twenty minutes, stand staring at something (not necessarily an artwork) and remove your glasses over a duration of 60 seconds, placing them on top of your head (no extra motion). Exit the museum immediately.

2: Wait outside for 1 with sunglasses on top of your head. Put them on when you see 1 exit the museum.

Consumers

1: Eat an imaginary snack throughout your visit. Real containers OK.

2: Don't eat anything the day of your visit until after you've left the museum.

Standard Deviation

1: Throughout your visit walk only in straight lines and turn only 90 degrees counterclockwise at a time.

2: Do not, ever, place one foot in front of the other.

In Memoriam, Adam Fong (2010)

- 1: For each work you view, say out loud the name of the piece, its creator, and the year of creation.
- 2: For each work you view (not necessarily all the same as 1), write down the name of the piece, its creator, and the year of creation. Sometime after you've left the museum (any amount of time later) read back your list to 1.

Monolith

- 1: Pick up some literature at the front of the museum and wander through the museum while reading (silently) every word. When you are finished, exit immediately.
- 2: Quickly find the largest work on display and stare at it until 1 is ready to leave. Pick up some literature on your way out.

Documentation

- 1: Throughout your visit (and without breaking museum rules'), take a photo at least every 30 seconds, without aiming at anything in particular.
- 2: Same as above. Afterwards, collect both sets of photos and send your three favorites to Adam Overton, a@plus1plus1plus.org.

'Visitors of the Hammer Museum may only take photographs in the permanent collection rooms (updated June 2010).

Elitism

- 1: Never visit the Hammer Museum.
- 2: Go to the exterior of the Hammer Museum, but never go inside.

Rush

- 1: Each time you enter a new room, take off or put on a sweater, jacket, scarf, gloves, knit cap, shawl, ear muffs, or shirt.
- 2: Stay ahead of 1 so that she or he must constantly catch up with you.

Normal Force

- 1: Touch every wall once.
- 2: Staying within one room of 1, in each room proceed immediately to the center, and look at the artwork from that spot (in all directions). If the center is occupied by an art object, skip that room. (In preparation, a brief review of how to find the centroid of a polygon may be helpful.)