

# An Investigation into the Relationship Between the Individual and the Collective in Emerging Performance Ensembles.

## Key Information

### Methodology

Practice as research

The main forms of understanding and knowledge would be found and discovered in my laboratory practice.

Closed Laboratory + Open Laboratory  
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Informed critical reflection and knowledge that has been gained through specific experiences and practice in, both, the closed laboratory and the open laboratory.



- The plurality of the ensemble is evidenced in the *co-appearing* accessed by the shifting focus, away from themselves and towards *each other*.
- The shift of focus away from *self* and towards the *others* of the ensemble, functions to create an ensemble as a single fluid body built from the individual bodies engaged in the *with* and *between*.
- The process of capturing and reframing movements that are derived from the task, allows the ownership to be shared among the ensemble.
- The ownership becomes plural, continually moving between 'I' and 'We'.
- The task or action becomes self-evident in its very existence, manifesting in the occurrence of the task and movement.

## Objectives

- Investigating the movement and the state of flux between **Individuals** and **Collective** identities focusing on the creation of performance ensembles.
- Working within a framework of **task-based** contemporary performance.
- The research is driven by a close reading of Jean-Luc Nancy's theories foregrounding the methodologies of the **Singular Plural**

**Closed Laboratory:** Working in a closed practice environment it removes the pressure to create a final product. I have been able to formulate an environment that places ritual and liminal space at its core, resulting in an environment in which there are limitless possibilities placing the process at the core and removing the pressure of a final event.

**Open Laboratory:** Explored the interactions between the pre-established ensemble and guests, as well as, the guests' interactions with the tasks. I could explore the impact of positioning the work in a wider context, as well as, the impact on the existing ensemble, requires the performers to share their work whilst also sharing their understanding of the work, blurring the lines between 'yours' and 'mine'.

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