

Pearsall Josiah

Encounter Becoming: Performing with Objects to Challenge Identity

performance lecture

This presentation, which comprises a performance and exploratory lecture, offers a performative challenge to essentialist notions of identity and existence. Initially approaching animation of everyday objects as a form of partnership, the resulting moments demonstrate how interaction engenders subjects and transient identities. By demonstrating the ontological shift from beings or things toward the space and movement between, this presentation enacts the untenability of identity politics. In addition to blurring the line between human and object, and by extension, 'us' and 'them', this work suggests a new way of experiencing being together.

Bio:

Josiah Pearsall, actor, educator, musician, dancer, and puppeteer, has performed for most of his life and on three continents. Born and raised in Virginia, USA, he studied comparative literature and dance at Princeton University. Additionally, he trained at the Dell'Arte School of Physical Theatre and with Double Edge Theatre. Most recently, he combined his experience of physical theatre and puppetry in a practice-as-research Master's at the University of Exeter.

