

MAKING MATTERS WORSE

BY KRISTIAN DE LEON

Making Matters Worse is inspired directly by Siglio Press's compilation and republication of John Cage's diaries, *John Cage: Diary: How to Improve the World (You Will Only Make Matters Worse)* edited by Richard Kraft and Joe Biel. Kraft and Biel collected and republished these diaries using the I-Ching to determine aspects including font color and preparation, accentuating the aleatoric nature of the original text.

This piece illustrates the abstraction of conscious thoughts that occurred while reading this republication.

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INSTRUMENTATION:

For 2-5 players:

- Solo Speaker/Narrator
- Piano
- (optional) Additional speakers or instrumentalists of any kind. Instrumentalists may also speak.

The entire ensemble should not exceed 5 members.

PERFORMANCE:

All performers begin simultaneously.

Instrumentalists begin at the first measure of the graphic score and improvise according to the score and outlined instructions. Speakers/narrators improvise according to outlined instructions, and may walk around the stage or performance space during the performance.

Voices should be heard slightly more than the instrumental improvisation for most of the performance.

Amplification and sound manipulation (reverb, delay, pitch modulation, etc.) may be utilized in any part, if desired. Electronic synthesizers or samplers may also be used.

Duration: Total duration of the performance will vary and may be decided beforehand.

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Piano Score

2 3 4

Piano

Pedals

5 6 7 8

Pedals

9 10 11 12

pp

Pedals

13 14 15 16

Pedals