Proposal for Greg Stuart CCCP residency, September, 2022

-John Eagle

My proposed piece is a duo for two humans and a water system (I would perform with Greg).

This diagram illustrates the overhead performance layout:

Diagram

Description automatically generated

This diagram shows two performers sitting with water vessels (size/material TBD) that are connected to each other and a standalone water vessel with flexible vinyl tubing (1/4” or 1/2"). The tubing is hung or supported in a way to create a siphon so that the water will flow in/out of each vessel depending on the height of the water level in relation to the other vessels. In advance of the performance, we would collect stones, sticks, and other materials located near natural waterways to use to fill each vessel. The performance actions would consist of each performer adding/subtracting materials to raise/lower the water level within their individual vessel and thus determine the flow of water.

An electronic system would be used to sound in response to the change in water within each vessel. I am considering two such systems:

1. Feedback created between a transducer placed on the vessel and a contact mic/hydrophone on or inside the water vessel. The sound will pass more freely through the water so as the water level increases to cover the transducer’s contact point, the feedback will increase. Here is a demonstration of this system on a small scale: <https://johnpeagle.files.wordpress.com/2022/06/img_2619.mp4>
2. A harmonic reduction of the water’s resonance inside the vessel, created by a hydrophone or contact mic attached to the vessel and processed through software to filter the sound down to a dominant harmony from the spectrum of the resonance. This resonance (and the harmony by extension) will change as the water level/volume changes. This is demonstrated in this video piece, as well as the basic siphon system: <https://johneaglemusic.com/portfolio/harmonic-differentials/>