David Lamelas Time

1970

Instructions for performance

This work can be activated for a maximum of three times during the 24 hours of each day.

In an exhibition context it should be treated as a permanent event for the entire duration of the show.

The work can be activated indoors or outdoors.

A line has to be laid on the floor; using self-adhesive tape or chalk string. The length of the line will depend on the space, with a minimum of 8 metres (for approx. 20 persons); it can be parallel to the wall or diagonal in the space. The photograph of the original presentation can be displayed in the space. A notice should indicate when the work will be reactivated.

A number of visitors are invited to participate in the piece. The participants stand on the line, shoulder to shoulder, facing the same direction.

The meaning and functioning of the work are explained to them.

The person designated as first in line gives the start time at the minute to the next person in line.

That person receives the time, keeps it for 60 seconds and then passes it on to the next participant. And so on until it reaches the last person in line, who after 60 seconds announces the end time to the world.

All participants should stay on the line for the entire duration of the event. The time can be announced in whatever language the participant prefers.

Artist's statement:

It is about social issues. We may come from different cultures, be of different color or religion, but we all share the one single time of the present.