

journal 12.16-5.17

Dream - play, I have part, but unclear role. Not clear who is in it. Dylan somewhere. man gives me note in verse about my role. I am to meet woman writer, maybe former lover of Dylan. It is dark. Black people outside on sidewalk. White woman may be writer. No scripts. Producers are unknown. Everything can be improvised.

This wasn't an election - it was a hostile takeover.

If you've got "technique to burn", let's burn it.

Lennon - "God is a concept by which we measure our pain."

I'm not irresponsible - just unnecessary. Like in music. Essential but unnecessary. Responsible but unnecessary.

Everyone wants to know if I write music. If I wrote it, would you listen to it? What exactly is wrong with the music that other people wrote?

Maybe the institutions are in pieces because the people are in pieces.

Some affection for the players is in order. Think, "under the greenwood tree".

Doing nothing is an art.

Like a judge, don't show favor to the rich.

They huddled family around them like a blanket.

Wanting to get life out of the way - for what?

Naturalness, like a child. Taoist innocence. All teaching is wrong.

Greatness might be a fascist idea.

Slander, calumny, libel, defamation, insinuation. "meant to destroy reputations or friendships"

A philosopher is a professional thinker. I am an amateur, and not particularly devoted to it. There are places where I just shouldn't go, where better training and experience would be helpful.

My thoughts are not always my friends.

Some things don't need to be fixed.

whole industries based on ignorance and misinformation.

concerto as lonely ego

A new thought, like a pebble in a pond.

It gets cleaner, almost like physics. You feel into the music, and then it is simple and elegant, uncomplicated by external considerations.

barking and laughing

I'm sad because we are going to die.

How many philosophers do you need?

how to do nothing, peacefully.

wouldn't it be interesting if this bad feeling were just - nothing.

In music, time goes forwards and backwards. AND backwards. because memory restructures the understanding of what is past and to come, memory revisits the past and makes it present. Memory changes the perception and meaning of the past.

Evil is a nothing sandwich.

A chord is just a complex note.

Don't fix anybody. friendliness, not neediness. comfort yourself. meditate. reduce ego efforts. enjoy success.

I could just enjoy my own increased comprehension of things. It's like discovering that you understand the language of the birds.

Duos with BT - it's like going mountain climbing together.

In times of expansion one worries about being blindsided because of lack of attention. the dangers of relaxing vigilance. When good things happen one worries about them being taken away.

Spinoza's idea that our thoughts are part of our bodies. They are symptomatic as well as creative.

I am the little tailor.

What a privilege to learn from BT.

Beth Seltzer dancing as model for colla parte.

Feynman on force - what is a force? Not entirely defined by Newton's law.

Sayings of David Lund:

"Fame is a sequin on a woman's dress that is as big as the world."

"We're the thing that gives consciousness shape."

[The art world is] "like a prison, a narcissistic reflecting box, cloistered and self-congratulatory."

[Whereas art is] "like a dark range of unnamed mountains, always there."

Melody is the memory of what came before.

Music is the abstraction of sound from meaning.

Practise counterpoint.

In between things meditation helps.

Things to forget:

minor slights and offenses

bad rock songs

musician misbehaviors

humiliations and faux pas

I want my music to be like looking at the stars.

Sound is my mother.

Music should be like myth, immeasurably deep and as clear as possible.

What could be more primitive or mythic than making music? No wonder it is so tightly regulated. I have been working on my escape for many years.

Doing nothing is a skill, an art. Not running from thoughts or toward accomplishments.

The landscape is illusory - all old colors, color-coded rancid thoughts and mechanical feelings attached. A forgettery, like a phone zapper - you don't want to hear that number ring any more? Zap it with the remote and it's dead, like swatting a fly.

I'm looking for a new mythology, just like the old one only different.

If you don't notice how adrift you are already...

I am being constantly serenaded.

We've been taught that accenting an off beat is not polite.

There is no such thing as "technique". It took the computer to teach me that.

Scales and arpeggios, broken chords, whole chords - wow, we were taught exactly how to play them, which fingers, how to pass the thumb under. Emphasized and not emphasized notes.

Meaning of the arts in time of oppressive and irrational government. How to support a sense of empowerment and civic responsibility at the grass roots level in difficult times.

Ways to counter despair and discouragement and feelings of helplessness and defeat.

What can art contribute to hope and values and empowerment. How to support community through art and music. How can arts contribute to community at the basic level. How can life be good in age of trump.

maybe abuse is a way of transmitting racial memories.

accompanying does not mean that you know what is coming next - you just respond to it, whatever it is.

how sexism hits women artists: they have no ancestors, can't see male artists as like them.

The squirrels have given me a gift - must be they like the music.

Endurance and getting through it is the wrong stance for this phase of my life.