

More examples of minimalism

Steve Reich (b. 1936), *Clapping Music* (1972)
Drumming, part I (1970-1)

Frederic Rzewski (b. 1938), *Coming Together* (1971)

Excerpt of a letter from Sam Melville (1934-71) on May 16, 1970, prisoner at Attica Prison (New York)

I think the combination of age and the greater coming together is responsible for the speed of the passing time. it's six months now and i can tell you truthfully few periods in my life have passed so quickly. i am in excellent physical and emotional health. there are doubtless subtle surprises ahead but i feel secure and ready.

As lovers will contrast their emotions in times of crisis, so am i dealing with my environment. in the indifferent brutality, incessant noise, the experimental chemistry of food, the ravings of lost hysterical men, i can act with clarity and meaning. i am deliberate—sometimes even calculating—seldom employing histrionics except as a test of the reactions of others. i read much, exercise, talk to guards and inmates, feeling for the inevitable direction of my life.

Interview with Meredith Monk (b. 1942)

Homework

Reading: None!

Writing: All 6 of your pieces for the magazine are due via email by 11:59pm on January 21, 2018

We'll be spending all of our class time on January 22 and January 24 preparing the class magazine: deciding what order the pieces will appear in, where photos will go, what fonts and colors to use, what the cover will look like...

We'll also be writing two pieces together to include in the magazine that help tie all the articles together by reinforcing the theme of the magazine. Together in class, we'll discuss, draft, and revise these pieces as well as anything else you want to include in the magazine:

- 1) "Dear readers" – a letter welcoming anyone who is reading the magazine and giving them a sense of what to expect in the magazine.
- 2) One piece of reflective content that you together imagine, create, and revise. This could be a presentation of your evolving ideas about what America is or what America sounds like from the first day of class through the semester, or it could be anything else you think of that shows what you've learned together.

If necessary, we will also edit or polish your individual pieces during class time.