

Art Workshop: *The World Is Full of Everything It Needs*



"Artists are not here to destroy or to create. (...) Artists must not create objects, the world is full of everything it needs. (...) The job of an artist is not to destroy but to change the value of things."

– Yoko Ono, *What is the Relationship between the World and the Artist*, 1971

The World Is Full of Everything It Needs is a workshop designed by Karen Elaine Spencer in collaboration with the Fondation Phi's Department of Education and Public Engagement. It is offered in conjunction with the exhibition *Yoko Ono: LIBERTÉ CONQUÉRANTE/ GROWING FREEDOM*, which runs from April 25 to September 15, 2019.

During *The World Is Full of Everything It Needs*, each participant will be entrusted with a grapefruit, which will serve as a tool for collective writing exercises. Honouring a process of rapid-fire brainstorming reminiscent of Yoko Ono's practice, participants will be asked to identify locations, actions, and objects. Some of these elements will then be inscribed onto the skin of the grapefruits with markers, allowing a playful exploration of various feelings and states of mind. The grapefruits will become, in essence, tangible instructions, scores or poems: surfaces on which possibilities might take flight.

The resulting scores from these grapefruit brainstorms can be written onto a postcard, photographed and posted on social media, or placed in the classified section of a newspaper. They can also remain ephemeral and not be documented in any manner. The possibility of making these instructions public through these various strategies echoes Yoko Ono's questioning of the ways in which we come together.

Can you imagine what your score(s) might look like in the world? Can you imagine letting your words go out into the world so a stranger can take possession of them? Can you imagine what the world might become if all your scores could one day be realized? Can you imagine the world differently?

karen elaine spencer

born: year of the silverfish

early childhood: softly sang stories to crumpled-up tissues in the back seat of the family car

adolescence: ran away from home to study the fine art of forgetfulness

at present: creates workshops for artists she admires. infiltrates government offices, train stations, metros, and parks to transmit secret messages. she is a rambler, loiterer, metro rider, dream listener, onion peeler, and sitter. she paints, writes, points, and pirouettes.

Fondation Phi pour l'art contemporain

451 & 465 Saint-Jean Street
Montréal, QC, CA H2Y 2R5

Gallery Hours
Wednesday to Friday from noon to 7 PM
Saturday & Sunday from 11 AM to 6 PM

Education and Public Engagement
Department Hours
Monday to Friday from 9 AM to 5 PM

Contact
education@fondation-phi.org
+1 514 866-6767 (4219)

Information
info@fondation-phi.org
+1 514 849-3742
fondation-phi.org