

## 9. CHOREOGRAPHIC INTERVENTIONS: LISTENING WITH/IN NONHUMAN PUBLICS

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### ANCESTRAL SUMMONS SCORE<sup>2</sup>

Touch things  
(e.g., dirt, wind, wall-  
paper, carpet) with various  
parts of your body,  
not just but including the hands.

Find a space to stand, sit, or lie down  
and close your eyes. Send your conscious-  
ness to a particular part of your body and let it  
wander throughout the limbs and through your core, allowing  
movement and sound gestures to emerge in response.  
Imagine those who came before you mineral, animal, human, for ex-  
ample, those you know about and those you don't know about, dead and  
alive, and sense their presences.

Gently allow your eyes to flutter open and see/imagine who came before and  
what it took to get here. Expand your attention and vision a bit further and  
explore the space, moving through it using three options: 1) slow walk  
2) run 3) circling at any speed. If you are executing the summons with  
others, at this point you have the option of moving together.

Bring the movement to a still in a sitting or lying down  
situation and practice listening, trying first to hear all  
sounds at the same intensity and then trying to  
train your hearing to amplify some sounds  
and annex others to the background. Feel  
free to vocalize any sounds or sound  
attempts that form and want to  
emerge, in an experimental  
manner.

Use sounds to propel your body gently into motion toward standing, without creating any linear pathways. What if every line or linear trajectory dissolves into a circle or cyclical form? Listen to the spirits that your performance has activated or engaged and feel their resonances.

Free-write for five minutes.

ancestors as more-than-human echoes  
OF with-ness

OVER » Leave your traces on the card in the form of musings, words, drawings, questions, folds, tears, etc. and return the card to the station located near the registration desk, where you can select another score, and/or pass the card to another conference-goer for their participation.

In Brazil, fires have increased nearly 80% from 2018 and are occurring along transportation routes, which exposes the interests of cattle and soybean farmers (as well as politicians and others) in clearing land for economic growth.

Deforestation of the Amazon rainforest has reached historic levels in 2019 following a period of decline.

1 in 10 of all known species live in the Amazon and 305 Indigenous groups depend on it for food and shelter.

## RAINFOREST SCORE 2.0

Breathe and let your attention drift to focus on your breath. What does the air taste like, feel like, smell like? Where does it enter and leave your body and how? Give the air a colour, if you wish, to help make its presence and actions more palpable.

Play with allowing your breathing to become audible and experimenting with adding sound to your breathing by shaping your mouth. Notice how vocalizing the act of breathing changes the relationship between your diaphragm, pelvic floor, and throat.

Let the sounds dissolve. Notice if any fears have arisen and surrender these into the earth by letting them fall down into your feet and become part of the texture of the floor. Go on.

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OVER »

Let your feet become roots that extend into the earth or whatever material they come into contact with, without becoming stuck or fixed to one spot.

Switch the roles of the limbs.

Notice other tree spirit-bodies in the room, without losing track of your root systems.

Notice tension in your jaw and occipital point (joint between the skull and top vertebrae of the spine) and let your head become lighter.

Let your arms and fingers become branches.

TREE

—

HUMAN

## INTERCONNECTIVITIES SCORE

Forests from Virginia to the Arctic Circle and down to the Amazon in South America are interconnected. Tree systems and human circulatory and bone systems have parallel structures; organized around a multitude of roots or bones at the extremities (think feet, hands) and a long stable trunk connecting these and sending resources between them. Our circulatory system follows a similar fractal pattern, as arteries branch out from the lungs, which pump blood to the entire body.

“If the Amazon is the lungs of the earth,  
the boreal is its circulation system.”<sup>3</sup>

“The lovely puzzles, the enchanting beauty, and the excruciating complexity and intractability of actual organisms in real places.”<sup>4</sup>

OVER »

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