

Transcript from morning rehearsal run of Last Shelter, 26 June 2021

Note: contains some strong language

[background conversation]

[pause]

0:03:22.0 Speaker 1: I am standing with my hands on my legs. I am speaking, I am holding my tongue in my mouth. I am hearing what I'm saying. I am Meg, I am me, I am here. I am here, but I was over there before I came here. And I did make that decision to do that, because it was part of my thinking. I am thinking now about what I was doing then, but I am also standing here still with my hands on my legs, and moving my arms sideways and sideways, so that I can feel them and remind myself that I'm here. Knowing that I will go somewhere at some point that won't be here, I am uncomfortable. This is not a comfortable position to be in. I am aware that I can't see. I am aware that I want to see. I am going to see something at some point. Here it comes. I can see. I can see. I can see things. I can hear things. I can speak things. And I am happy about that. I'm always happy. I'm not always happy. I have been happy and I have been sad. And those are not the only two emotions that are in my vocabulary. I just said vocabulary but I stuttered as I said it, so I pronounced the T of but to rectify the fact that I wasn't speaking very clearly. I am registering what's happening. I am here and I am there and I am over there and I was over there and I was going to start something else, but somebody else did something first, so I didn't do that.

[pause]

0:08:26.3 Speaker 2: I'm about to start to talk.

0:08:27.0 Speaker 1: I want this to be a rolling sound and a breath in my face.

0:08:30.6 Speaker 2: I'm about to rinse and touch my, top of my fingers.

0:08:33.1 Speaker 1: I feel the the heat in my forehead.

0:08:34.5 Speaker 2: I'm about to touch the face of this person that is already beside me. I'm about to, I'm here, look at you in the eyes. And I'm here just shifting my placement in relation to my hands.

0:08:36.7 S1: I can see movement too and I can see your eyes in front of my eyes, and to the side of my face is your face. I can see your hands pointing downwards to the floor.

0:08:49.7 S2: I'm here, you're standing, maybe we could just be standing like upside down. I'm here to think about what I could do.

0:08:57.3 S1: And I notice a stress, a panic.

0:08:58.2 S2: I'm about to do something that I'm here think about and imagine.

0:09:04.0 S1: And I can see you climb beneath me under my chin. I can see you coming around...

[overlapping conversation]

0:09:10.4 S2: It looks very beautiful for me, you're very beautiful. I want to say that you are beautiful and I want to say that you are [0:09:11.4] _____

0:09:11.5 S1: I want to smile at that. I want to see your eyes smiling at me.

0:09:19.7 S2: I want to see, I want to be more close to you and [0:09:23.0] _____.

0:09:23.1 S1: And it is your hand on my back and I see your hand holding the mic stand. I can see the mic coming towards my face.

0:09:25.6 S2: I want to be even more and more and more close, and I want to smile with you, can I smile with you?

0:09:34.5 S1: I can see a shift in the space, on the diagonal going down stage, and I notice us coming closer together and looking on the diagonal with them, and I notice myself slowing down and gesturing in the diagonal.

[pause]

0:10:45.0 Speaker 3: I wanna get involved.

0:10:48.6 Speaker 4: I want to go, I want to start, I want that mic to be closer to both of our mouths.

0:10:49.7 Speaker 3: I wanna be...

0:10:49.8 Speaker 4: I want to share the centre, I want to go faster than you. I want you to hold me, I want you to keep going, I want you to keep going. I want the alarm to go off, so that we can all get out of here. I want you to stop covering my mouth. I want you to keep going. I want you to say something. I want you to say something, I want you to say something, I want you to say something. I want you to let go of me.

0:11:09.0 Speaker 3: I want a lot of...

0:11:10.0 Speaker 4: And hold me at the same time, I want to do something which makes you able to get into this.

0:11:15.8 S3: I want...

0:11:16.6 S4: I want to, I want to, I want to, I want to hear your voice.

0:11:21.3 S3: I wanted this to be a solo.

0:11:21.3 S4: I want to do that. I want, [chuckle] I want to acknowledge that I needed you. I want you to...

0:11:28.6 S3: I want to share this space.

0:11:28.7 S4: Know that. I want to speak faster. I want to say that I'm seeing a green light...

0:11:30.1 S3: I want you to know that there are multiple other chairs you could be sitting on.

0:11:30.2 S4: And I want to... I want to feel your legs. I wanted to sit with you. I want this.

0:11:35.2 S3: I wanna laugh.

0:11:35.3 S4: And I want to hold your tongue...

0:11:38.3 S3: I want to...

0:11:38.4 S4: In my hands, and I want your arms to just cross over my whole front and press it.

0:11:46.6 S3: I wanna scream.

[music]

0:12:53.0 S5: I'm going from zero to a 100. I am sweating. I am waking. I am aware. I am digesting. I am going to be eating later. I am wondering where my coffee went. I am wondering how many cigarettes is too many. And I know the answer. I am going to call her later. I am going to be in my own body. I'm gonna fall asleep. I'm gonna exercise more. I'm gonna eat better. I'm gonna practice my guitar. I'm gonna play video games. I will later do something rhythmical.

[music]

0:13:58.9 S5: I'm staying in this house because I, actually, I like it. And I like being surrounded by chairs. I am surrounded by chairs, and I like that it doesn't move. And I am resting my back against this high back because the back that I usually am working with is quite low strategically, because I don't want things to get in my way. But, I don't lie back as much as I'm lying back on this right now, which is nice.

[music]

0:22:37.0 S1: I notice that I'm bored. I notice that I'm stuck. I notice I'm moving and I'm talking and I notice Mika is purple and I am black, and not black, I'm also blue. I notice my feet. I notice that I compress. I notice that I can't see. I notice that I'm changing direction and that I'm changing the things that I wanna change. I notice that I'm free to do what I want. I notice that I can also be here and be there and be somewhere else. I notice you and I wanna put my hand there to notice that that's something that I have the choice to do and that I have choices in this environment. I'm in an environment. I notice that I'm here and I can change it. If I change it, it's something different. I notice I'm doing this, which is helping. I notice I'm out of breath. I notice I want to touch that and I wanna touch that and I wanna touch that and I wanna give this to you. I notice I don't actually wanna do that. I wanna be somewhere else. I wanna move, I wanna move better. I notice I wanna move better and I wanna speak better as well. I notice I wanna build something together. I notice I wanna be together. I notice I wanna put my hand up your nose. I notice I wanna hold your eyebrow, eye ball, eyebrow. Both of them at the same time.

0:23:46.6 S1: I notice I wanna keep going. I notice that I want you to be here with me and to brush your teeth for you. I wanna do it from here to there. I wanna reach. I wanna have long enough arms to reach your teeth. I wanna hold your hand. I wanna hold your hand while I look at your hair. I wanna brush your hair. I wanna brush my own hair. I wanna have different hair. I wanna dye my hair. I wanna cut it. I wanna cut, cut, cut it. I wanna cut it all off. I wanna say that...

[vocalization]

0:24:10.2 S1: I wanna get it out. I wanna say it as fast as I can and as precisely as I can. I wanna put it precisely in there and I wanna put it in, in you. I wanna put my words in you. [chuckle] And I want you to understand them, and I wanna stop, and I wanna laugh at myself, and I wanna give this to someone else.

[pause]

[music]

0:31:01.0 S6: It was heavy. An unbearable weight that would crush anything beneath it, but allowed seeds to grow from the cracks that it bulged on the floor. It was heavy enough to hold, heavy enough to fool, heavy enough to make you feel like you could no longer pick yourself up. But from the debris you'd rise like a phoenix from ashes or rubble, you would rise. You rose with glorious colors, oranges and golds, wings that spread far, far from our backs and into the space around us. They allowed us to soar in the sky that wasn't yet a sky, just a colorless gray, mocking, depressing soot that lowered itself, but through this, so much glory would be found, so much color would emerge, so much hope was born from the struggles of weight, from pushing in opposition and raising up from this great weight. This great waiting to unfold,

to let it be known that as you unfold, you will grow. You are being born in colors and whispers, whispers of sounds and movement. This wait, it's nearly over and it was already over before you were even waiting for it. You just had to allow your eyes to adjust to this gray, see clearly. It was never gray. It was just your vision.

[music]

0:34:44.5 S7: I am confused, 'cause I am... I'm busy in the labor, giving labor. I am paralyzed at a very high level, and I am willing to put my skeleton in places that it won't go. I am a comedian. I will be a ballerina. I will be a scholar. I will provide opportunities and then take them away. I am projecting.

[music]

0:35:56.9 S7: I am a goal-oriented love maker.

[music]

0:37:41.6 S7: I am nervous about how that might have come across. I am unapologetic. I'm treading water with like dumb bells attached to me. I wanna stop wiping my face when I'm sweating because I think it's just an unhelpful respite. Fuck! What do I do now? What do I do? What do I do? You don't know.

[music]

0:39:53.4 S7: I am not in a thing that needs to be developed. I'm not able to walk away from this situation.