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Panel 24 Art, Performance, and Writing

Beyond the Intermedial Space of Lecture Performance: Performing Lecture Performance/ Lecturing Performance Lecture

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Lecture performance, as an intermedial art form of creative writing and visual art performance, exemplifies the dynamic interplay between diverse artistic disciplines, transcending aesthetic and cultural boundaries to create innovative modes of expression since Robert Morris's seminal work, 21.3 (1964). This hybrid practice merges the intellectual rigor of lectures with the embodied immediacy of performance, offering a fertile ground for experimentation and dialogue. Artists such as William Kentridge have demonstrated the transformative potential of this form by integrating dance, drawing, and spoken narrative, creating a multisensory experience that challenges conventional categorizations of art. Similarly, Morgan Wong's exploration of time through mathematical equations, personal anecdotes, and textual interventions underscores the conceptual elasticity of lecture performance, where abstract ideas are rendered tangible through his performative gestures. Ho Rui An's interweaving of archival materials with new video footage further extends the intermedial nature of this practice as he constructs layered narratives that interrogate history, memory, and representation. In one of his latest works, Spinning Time (2024), the interconnection was not only delivered from within, but with another performer. The term "lecture performance" itself embodies duality, with the precedence of "lecture" or "performance" contingent on the artist's intent, highlighting the fluidity of this form. Beyond its hybridity, lecture performance introduces a sense of newness by fostering unexpected connections between disciplines, audiences, and contexts, pushing the boundaries of traditional art forms. This paper seeks to explore how lecture performance serves as a site of intermedial innovation, where the convergence of disparate elements generates fresh aesthetic and cultural insights, by examining its capacity to bridge gaps and create new dialogues to illuminate the transformative potential of lecture performance in contemporary art practice.

Biography

Morgan Wong Wing Fat is an artist and Senior Lecturer at Hong Kong Metropolitan University. His research and practice focus on temporality through performance and visual arts. Wong was awarded the Asian Cultural Council New York Fellowship in 2019 and the Award for Young Artist (Media Arts) at the 15th Hong Kong Arts Development Awards. Wong has also given conference presentations at institutions including Zurich University of the Arts. His latest lecture performance was presented at "Avant-Garde Now: Sensing Time", Asian Avant-Garde Film Festival at M+ in 2025.