

Bodies reacting with each other

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‘The way things go’ (dt. Der Lauf der Dinge) is the title of a 16 mm colour film by the Swiss media artists Peter Fischli and David Weiss from 1987 with a running time of 29:45 min. Over a length of approx. 30 metres, materials of various kinds are strung together in such a way that a chain reaction takes place triggered by an initial impulse. These are based on chemical and physical laws. Some of the individual processes take several minutes, other reactions take place surprisingly quickly, so that a changing dynamic is created through effective surprises and expanding processes. This can be experienced as an inner movement through the various movement processes such as spinning, swinging, whipping, gliding, oscillating, creeping, stuttering, etc.

Have a look: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SXrTlo1ytE0>

Suggestions for a practical approach

- Let the movement processes of the materials inspire you to movement explorations
- Notice how the movements of the other movers influence you and how you influence the movement impulses of the others.
- Stop your movement and wait until an impulse from the group "hits" you and sets you in motion again.
- Improvise with chain reactions in the group. Remember that a very slow movement can trigger a fast impulse and vice versa, so that the resonance can have a completely different dynamic than the trigger.
- Compose an exciting sequence of movement impulses alone, in pairs or in a group.
- Do you know a piece of music that has a similar dynamic to the film according to the principle of irregular rhythms?
- Select a section between 30 seconds and 1 minute from the video and transfer the timing to a musical improvisation.
- Observe resonances to impulses (from technology, nature, interaction) in your environment, note them down and transfer them to a musical or dance composition.
- Have a look to Yvonne Rainer, *The Mind is a Muscle, Part I* (1966):
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0cOAO4w0h_M How do you connect this choreography to the idea of resonance?



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