

News

The idea of a project to celebrate John Cage's 100th birthday (1912-2012) began in summer 2011. The first person we contacted, with the purpose of releasing a special issue of the magazine *in-order-to-do-something* for Cage, was the poet and musicologist Michele Porzio, who immediately agreed to collaborate.

The meeting with Porzio in Milan enabled us to define the structure of the 100 contributions by personalities of the Italian arts and culture and to give birth to the *pun-title* ("A 1000 and one note for John Cage"), which basically means: max 1001 characters, spaces included, for each one of the 100 contributions (although there are some graphical works) and a note which is Michele Porzio's poem "Oltre" ("Beyond"), dedicated to John Cage and featured in the volume "Oltre il Silenzio", by Porzio himself.

Among the many plausible possibilities, we opted for the most personal, intimate we would like to say, inviting the contributors to answer approximately (the only constraint remained was the number of characters in fact) the question: "What are you left with and what do you miss from John Cage?"

Surely celebration itself does not belong to the Cagean universe, although Cage actively joined some events paying homage to him, but we think that our purpose is neither celebrative nor hagiographical: we tried to play the game of searching for these 1001 characters without asking ourselves about judgment or importance, in respect to the involved names. We were also expecting some negative or critical contributions. Well, there weren't any, almost (perhaps some bad replies, but actually very few), but this does not mean that we are standing before a sterile celebration of a great experimenter of the twentieth century.

Without any ambition to be exhaustive, we Cageanly embraced an almost random method of rebounds and acquaintances in the quest for the participants. And if we had a nice start thanks to the suggestion of Renato Marengo, who put us in touch with Erik Alfred Tisocco of Cramps Records (the producer of the project), the rest arrived by means of daily attempts, made for over five months. We are pleased to present you the enthusiasm of those who wanted to say something about Cage.

