

Performing the Void as Relational Gravity

In a time of social polarization and mass disconnection, this research reimagines the void not as absence but as a gravitational field of relation. *Performing the Void* investigates how performance can cultivate shared gravity—perceptual and spatial dimensions where attention, weight, and proximity become materials for reconfiguring social cohesion. Existing performance discourses often treat the void metaphorically or spiritually; this study instead explores it as a tangible, relational force. Through a series of artistic research laboratories integrating choreographic improvisation, spatial composition, and somatic experimentation, performers investigate how bodies extend beyond their physical boundaries in perceptual and affective ways. Drawing on Karen Barad’s notion of intra-action and Julia Kristeva’s reflections on abjection, the project examines how collapse, uncertainty, and openness generate new modes of being-with. Emerging insights suggest that engaging gravitational dynamics cultivates collective sensitivity and adaptive presence. The paper proposes an artistic methodology of relational gravity that reclaims performance as a civic act—an imaginative counterforce to commodified separation.

Keywords: void as material condition, embodied spatial dynamics, gravitational choreography, intra-action

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