

happenings

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Fluxus Music show opens at Bob Rauschenberg Gallery

Florida SouthWestern State College announces the opening of FluZUsic/Fluxus Music at the Bob Rauschenberg Gallery.

An interactive and immersive installation with newly commissioned works by Yoko Ono, Geoffrey Hendricks, Alison Knowles and Philip Corner (who also provided the exhibition's playful title), FluZUsic/Fluxus Music provides both an in-depth historical examination into this seminal art movement and a hands-on/participatory and sonic experience for visitors.

Most heavily inspired by the ideas of John Cage, Fluxus art often relied on chance to shape the outcome and actively involved the viewer. Fluxus compositions or scores for performances and events involved simple actions, ideas and objects from everyday life. Incorporating concrete poetry, visual art and writing, Fluxus performances were the embodiment of Dick Higgins' idea of "intermedia"—a dialogue between two or more media to create a third, entirely new art form. Yet, as many of the Fluxus artists had formal training in music, musical composition and performance (frequently involving the alteration, mis-



use or abuse of traditional instruments), this activity became a central focus.

Beginning with a series of festivals featuring concerts of experimental music and other avant-garde performance, Fluxus artists reacted against the commodification of art, its commercialization in the gallery system, and its static presentation in museums.

While Bob Rauschenberg famously stated his interest in working "in the gap between art and life," the primary

goal of most Fluxus artists was to destroy any boundary between the two. Founder George Maciunas stated that Fluxus was "anti-art," to underscore the revolutionary mode of thinking about the practice and process of art while using humor to mock the elitist world of "high art" and to bring art to the widest possible audience.

The exhibit runs Aug. 25 through Nov. 11.

The Bob Rauschenberg Gallery is located at Florida SouthWestern State College, 8099 College Parkway, Fort Myers. For additional information, call 239-489-9313 or visit online at www.RauschenbergGallery.com