Student name: Group:

Art movement.....Performance XX, c.
Timeframe.....1960's – Present time
Topic Focus.....The Body as a Medium of Artistic Expression

Teaching material: The instructor will provide video materials for educational purposes. ~15'

Background Information: Performance art, or "artistic action," can occur anywhere, begin at any moment, and last for any duration. It encompasses any situation involving four basic elements: time, space, the artist's body, and the relationship between the artist and the audience. Emerging in the 1960s in the United States and Europe, performance art aimed to challenge traditional art conventions and dismantle the boundaries between art and everyday life. Early pioneers of performance art included artists such as Yoko Ono, who created *Instruction Paintings* in the 1950s, and Allan Kaprow, known for his *Happenings* in the 1960s. Performance art also developed within the context of the Fluxus avant-garde movement, which advocated for accessible and participatory art. Fluxus artists created works that actively involved the audience, often employing everyday objects and encouraging public engagement. By the 1970s, performance art became more radical and politically charged, with artists exploring themes such as identity, gender, sexuality, and race. This period saw the emergence of influential figures like Marina Abramović, Carolee Schneemann, and Ana Mendieta, whose works pushed the boundaries of traditional artistic expression and redefined the role of the artist and the audience in the creative process.

Discussion Questions: How did performance art challenge traditional art conventions and transform the relationship between the artist, the artwork, and the audience? (10')

Main Activity: The roots of performance art can be traced to avant-garde movements such as Futurism, Dadaism, and the Bauhaus. It also drew inspiration from Action Painting techniques of the 1940s and 1950s, which allowed artists to use space as a canvas for creative expression. Another precursor was Nouveau Réalisme, founded in 1960 by art critic Pierre Restany and French artist Yves Klein. Along with Fluxus and other groups, Nouveau Réalisme was among the many artistic avant-gardes of the decade.

In Japan, the Gutai group also contributed to the beginnings of performance art, incorporating *Happenings* into their artistic proposals.

Key Figures in Early Performance Art:

- Carolee Schneemann (1939–2019)
- Marina Abramović (b. 1946)
- Ana Mendieta (1948–1985)

Class Activity**:** Students will explore the origins of performance art by analyzing the works of these artists in groups. Each group will research and discuss the key contributions and themes present in their practices.

Relevant texts: *The Ritualization of Performance Art* by Erika Fischer-Lichte (1979): This seminal text examines the ritualized nature of performance art, arguing that artists use their bodies as tools to create unique and provocative experiences for their audiences.
Performance: Live Art 1909 to the Present by Roselee Goldberg (1979): A comprehensive chronicle of performance art history, spanning its origins in Futurism to the most prominent contemporary artists. The book includes essays by leading critics and artists, along with an extensive collection of images documenting notable works.

1. Notes of Action Art or PERFORMANCE ART.

3. Keywords, artists and artworks.

2. Notes on the idea or Concept.

4. Summary of the sesión. Conclusions.