Project Description: “The Bower” Exploring the Absence of Meaning in Movement

Rituals, rites, and ceremonies serve as integral cultural markers, shaping societies and subgroups across the globe. While often deeply rooted in tradition and symbolism, the essence of movement within these practices raises intriguing questions about the nature of purpose and meaning. In this project, I embark on a journey to investigate the possibility of movement devoid of inherent significance, aiming to challenge conventional notions surrounding ritualistic behavior.

My research delves into the universal presence of rituals and ceremonies, transcending boundaries of culture and religion. I seek to unravel the communal purpose underlying these practices and explore the ways in which movement shapes our collective identity. By examining the mating dances of birds and drawing parallels with human rituals, I aim to shed light on the fundamental essence of movement, stripped of cultural context and symbolism.

Central to this exploration is the creation of a rite void of explicit purpose—a choreographic endeavor aimed at celebrating movement for movement's sake. Through meticulous study and analysis of avian mating rituals and human ceremonial practices, I seek to transcribe the innate movements of birds onto the human form. This process involves decoding the recurring pathways and shapes inherent in both natural and man-made rituals, drawing inspiration from the seamless integration of movement and instinct observed in the animal kingdom.

By juxtaposing the purposeful movements of animals with the spectacle of human performance, I aim to provoke thought and challenge preconceived notions about the significance of ritualistic behavior. Through this interdisciplinary exploration, I seek to engage with broader questions surrounding the nature of meaning, identity, and expression in both human and non-human realms.