

# Teaching as a Form Performance

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## Yvonne Rainer and “Trio A”: Teaching as a Performance

In the seminar, I aim to portray Yvonne Rainer’s teaching methods that enable her to incorporate film-making into her teaching of performance. When she started teaching performance in the School of Visual Arts under the name of “*Approaches to Performance*”, for film and video course, she also started to experiment with her teaching methods. In this presentation, I elaborate on her perspective on performance and dance and her attitude towards improvisation and minimalism. Especially between 1968 and 1970, she started to unite film and slide projections with her choreographies and presented them at dance festivals. She also researched on movement with her students (under the titles of “*Performance Demonstrations*” and “*Performance Fractions*”). As she states, “*the teaching process itself as a possible form of performance.*” During this research phase, she began to teach performance work “*Trio A*” (1966) which is the focus of my presentation. She designed this piece from everyday movements without music. After she performed the piece for the camera, she taught it to students from all over the world and turned it into a project that remained alive through generations. Overall, I intend to describe her teaching methods by relating her director and teacher identities.

### **About the Author**

My name is Selen Kılınç. I am a master's student at İstanbul Bilgi University, Film, and Television department. I am currently writing my thesis on Yvonne Rainer and how her female subjectivities are embodied on the screen. In that sense, I both research her performance and film work. As a film student, I am also interbedded in dance. Thus my research reflects my current interest in both areas.

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