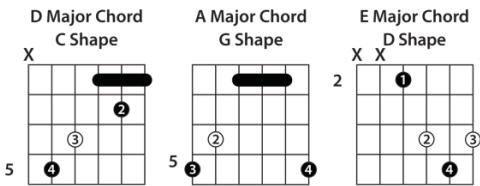


Song is the Power

By Dan Scott



VERSE ONE

Do you write songs?
Are you curious about the song as a possible form of contemporary art practice?
Are you interested in developing song ideas outside of conventional singer-songwriter settings?
Would you like to expand, extend and what a song could be?
Or is the song enough?

The perfect form.
To stand up and sing is enough.
(BV: You've been alive forever and you wrote the very first song x 2).

Dan Scott invites you to a session exploring song-writing and the figure of the singer-songwriter.
He hopes you are one, or want to be one.
We might write and sing together.

BRIDGE

(I thought that if you had an acoustic guitar.)

Why do you write, how do you write. What makes your song.
Conventions, voices, words, melody, structure, texture, poetry, noise.

Could your song become an object? An image? A gesture? A building?
A person? An instrument? A manifesto?
We wonder...

CHORUS

(Stand up and sing and say I love you x 4)

The lone figure of the singer-songwriter,
the vertical line of the body bisected by the horizontal line of the guitar,
timber body against flesh body,
fingers on the neck, microphone against mouth,
speaker into receiver.
Breath and touch made electric.

What is it to stand up and what it is to sing your song.
All songs are love songs.
All songs are sad songs.

It might be a guitar, or a laptop, or an Ableton controller, it might just be you and your body and your singing voice. But it will always be a song.

VERSE TWO

(Too many protest singers, not enough protest songs.)

Songs about things, songs that embody, songs that comment, songs that abstract.
A song exists to sing about itself.
Do you write about things? Why? Why not? Every song is a complaint.

Who are you when you sing?
Are you male or female or neither or both, whose voice are you singing?
Are you feeling yourself or are you someone else?

BRIDGE

(I've been alive forever and I wrote the very first song)

Troubadour, melodist, cryer, wailer,
songsmith, tunesmith, bard,
gleeman, harper, jongleur,
player, balladeer, minstrel,
minnesinger, nightingale, singer,

CHORUS

Come join us.

The queen wants to show
That she's so amorous.

(from Al'entrada del temps clar , written in C12th, Occitane)

OUTRO

I'm an artist working with sound, listening and participation. During my teens and early twenties I worked as a songwriter and musician, with a publishing contract, performing in bands singing the songs I wrote. I have continued to write and record songs, alongside working as an artist and academic, but the songs often languish on CDRs, hard drives and long fallow Myspace accounts. Song Is The Power is partly an artistic research project, partly a communal celebration of song, and, for my own selfish reasons, partly an excuse to stand up and sing again.