

Notes on “The Sixth Sick Sheik’s Sixth Sheep (sic)”

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My thanks to Andrew Miranker, professor of bio-chemistry, Yale University for assistance with preparing the score mechanism.

it is inaccurate to call this a “piece” of music

it is a machine for manufacturing a piece of music

it is a set of instructions

it could be played a hundred times without sounding the same twice

it wouldn’t sound the same in terms of melody or rhythm or tempo or harmony

it could, however, be experienced the same in terms of movement

it would always have the same combinatorial shape

it would always begin with all the players working with different source material

it would always end with all the players working with the same source material

it would always end after six frames

it is a matter of what one intends to experience

it is a matter of what one is willing to experience

it is a matter of which parameters are the parameters of music

it may, in fact, not be music

it doesn’t matter

it is something (matter)

isn’t it?