DUST DEVIL DRILL

VIRGINIA LEE MONTGOMERY


>> My name is Virginia Lee Montgomery and I'm an artist from Texas in the United States. Where I come from we often see minerals come alive either is rocks rotating and water whirlpools or as dust devils crossing the skies. This is my performance, Dust Devil Drill. I will drill forth the mineral spirit for you to see and roll rocks for you to know. So that you may see, and so that you may know, that it is through movement that minerals speak to show us they're secretly alive.

>> Let us begin.

>> Chalk. This is Chalk. Chalk is an organic mineral. Chalk is made from the ancient bodies of small creatures that lived long ago. They lived in the ocean. Overtime their bodies broke down. This made chalk. Chalk is calcium carbonate. Calcium carbonate is the same mineral that makes up the bodies of you and me. This is what it looks like when many bodies become one. Chalk. Dust. When you touch chalk you actively touch the body of time.

>> Drill. This is my Dewalt drill. I use it to drill into time. My drill spins in a circular motion with a circular hole-saw bit. My hole-saw allows me to drill circles. I can take core samples of time. When you drill into something, something always comes out. Time is a hole from which things come out. When I drill into this bucket of dust a dust devil will come out. It will be small, but that's okay. Small is where the soul is.

>> Rocks. These are rocks. These are my friends. They're each individuals like you and me. These specific rocks are called glacial grindstones. And like you and me they were born of holes. They each came about long ago during the melting of the great ice sheets. These forces carved up the great American landscape. Strong waters bore holes into the bedrock below. And these stones fell inside those holes. And for thousands and thousands of years they rotated around and around and around until they each become polished, round and smooth. These stones are not perfect. They're individuals like me and you. And when they roll it is unpredictable how they move. When they roll they speak. They speak to me and you.

>> Video. Behind me is a video. This video is circulating with images of rotating dust devils, tornados, and whirling water whirlpools. This video is made of images. These images were captured with a camera. The camera had a lens shaped like a circle made of glass. And glass is made of sand. Minerals make us see.

>> Performance. This is my performance. The object of this performance is to drill forth the dust devil and roll each of these rocks around the chalk bin. Together we will watch the minerals move. And together we will listen to the minerals speak. As these rocks roll, I will engage them in a series of friendly questions. They'll give their answers back. What moves them will move me.

>> Let us begin.

>> This is the core address:

>> Form forms you a subject.
   As subjects we all speak.
   We live together on a rock moving spatially.
Form forms you a subject.
They're many forms to be.
One day we will know all forms as we learn to speak.

>> How old are you?

>> How are you feeling?

>> What is your name?

>> How did it feel in the glacial flow?

>> What did you think of our time together in the great hurricane?

>> Have you ever been in love?

>> How many times have we been around the Sun?

>> What do you feel when you look at the Moon?

>> When you were small what did you want to be? What's the earliest thing you can remember?

>> Form forms you a subject.
As subjects we all speak.
We live together on a rock moving spatially.
Form forms you a subject.
They're many forms to be.
One day we will know all forms as we learn to speak.

>> Three rocks have rotated around me in the dust. And now it's time to rest so I can rest and the rocks can rest too.

>> My name is Virginia Lee Montgomery and I'm an artist from Texas in the United States. Where I come from we can often see minerals come alive either as rocks rotating in whirlpools or as dust devils crossing the skies. Through movement we can see the unseen. Through movement we can speak.

>> Chalk. This is chalk. This is what it looks like when many bodies become one. Chalk. Dust. When you touch chalk you actively touch the body of time.

>> Drill. This is my Dewalt drill. I use it to drill into time. I can take core samples of time. Time is a hole from which things come out. Rocks. These are rocks these are my friends. They're each individuals like you and me. They were each born of holes. Each hole is unique. And each rock is unique too. And when each rock rolls you can hear it move.

>> Video. Behind me is a video. It is made of images. It is made of images of dust devils, tornadoes and whirling water whirlpools. You can see it now.

>> Now. Now is made of many nows. And we take the truth of that and perceive it. The object is the same as the movement. The act of perceiving is the object. The object sees you and the object is speaking.

>> Thank you. Thank you for perceiving this. Thank you for seeing me. Thank you for perceiving this and making this form with me.