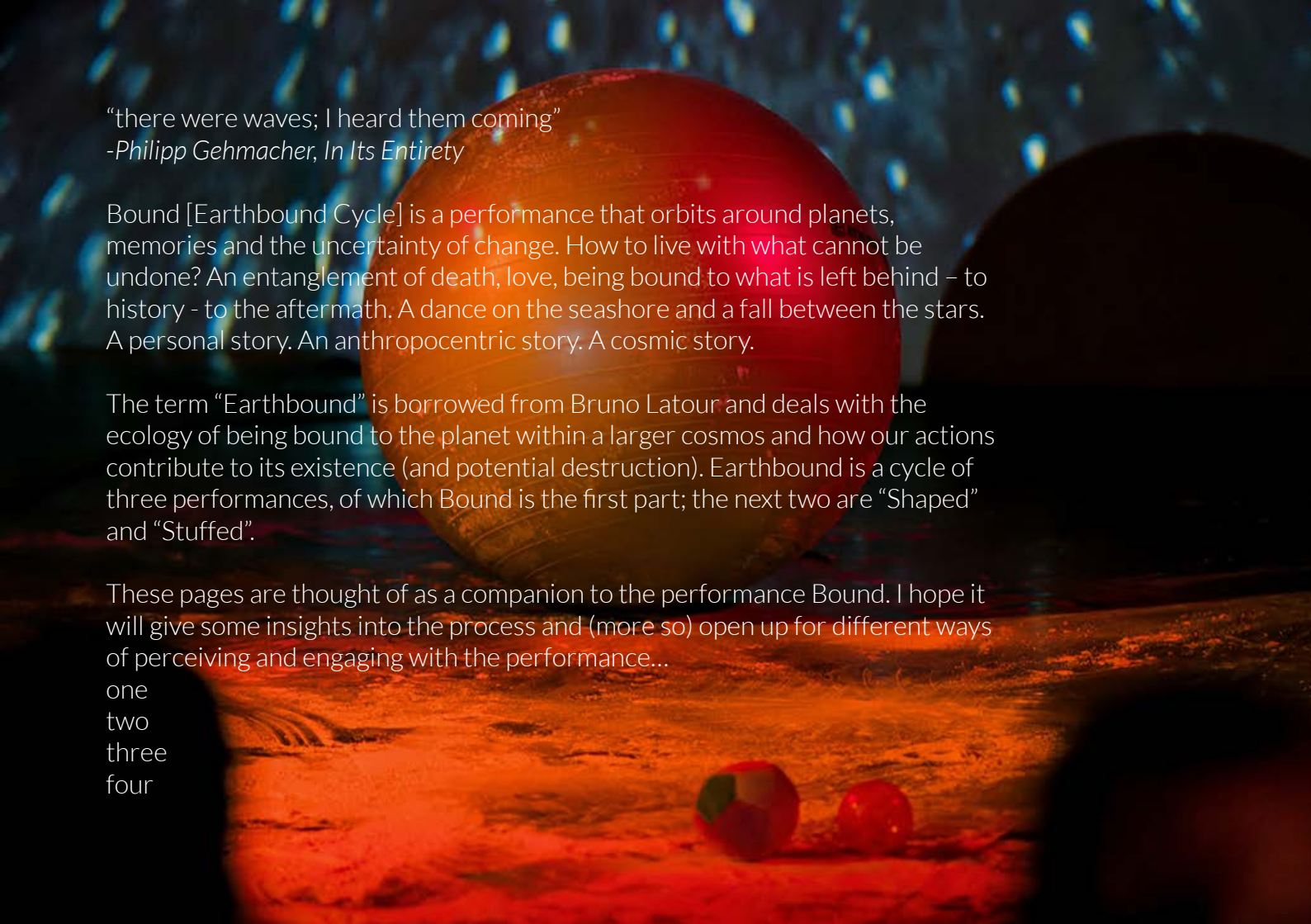


BOUND

[Earthbound Cycle]

Performance Companion

Mads Floor Andersen



“there were waves; I heard them coming”

-Philipp Gehmacher, *In Its Entirety*

Bound [Earthbound Cycle] is a performance that orbits around planets, memories and the uncertainty of change. How to live with what cannot be undone? An entanglement of death, love, being bound to what is left behind – to history - to the aftermath. A dance on the seashore and a fall between the stars. A personal story. An anthropocentric story. A cosmic story.

The term “Earthbound” is borrowed from Bruno Latour and deals with the ecology of being bound to the planet within a larger cosmos and how our actions contribute to its existence (and potential destruction). Earthbound is a cycle of three performances, of which Bound is the first part; the next two are “Shaped” and “Stuffed”.

These pages are thought of as a companion to the performance Bound. I hope it will give some insights into the process and (more so) open up for different ways of perceiving and engaging with the performance...

one

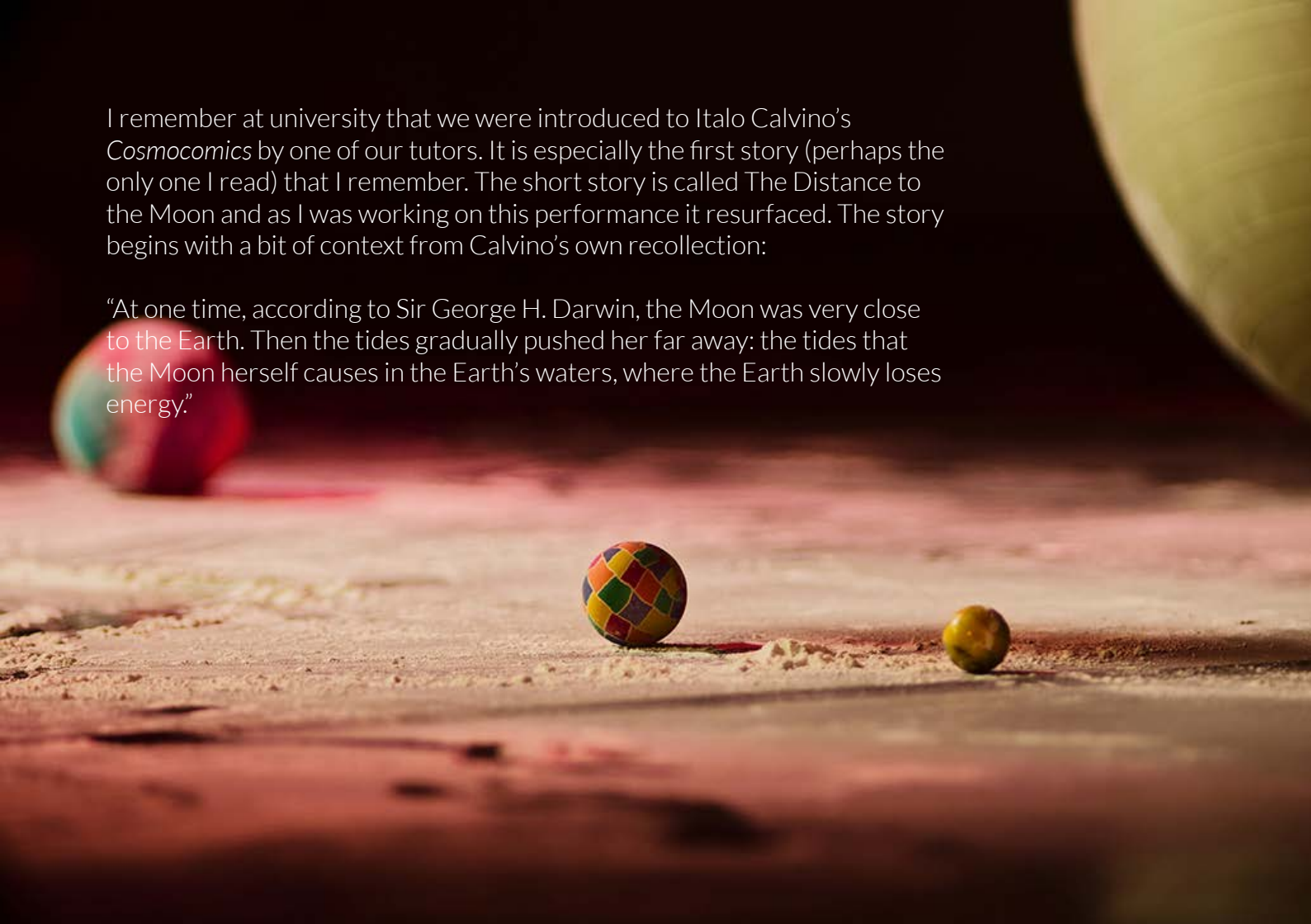
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three

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I remember at university that we were introduced to Italo Calvino's *Cosmocomics* by one of our tutors. It is especially the first story (perhaps the only one I read) that I remember. The short story is called *The Distance to the Moon* and as I was working on this performance it resurfaced. The story begins with a bit of context from Calvino's own recollection:

"At one time, according to Sir George H. Darwin, the Moon was very close to the Earth. Then the tides gradually pushed her far away: the tides that the Moon herself causes in the Earth's waters, where the Earth slowly loses energy."



Etymology of Bound

Noun:

- A sizeable jump, great leap.
The deer crossed the stream in a single bound.
- A spring from one foot to the other in dancing.
- A boundary, the border which one must cross.

Verb:

- simple past tense and past participle of bind:
I bound the splint to my leg.
I had bound the splint with tape.
- To leap, move by jumping.
- To surround a territory or other geographical entity.

Adjective:

- Ready to start or go (to); moving in the direction (of).
Which way are you bound?
Is that message bound for me?
- Very likely (to), certain to:
They were bound to come into conflict eventually.
- (with infinitive) Obligated (to).
You are not legally bound to reply.
- (mathematics, logic, of a variable)
- (dated) Constipated; costive.
- (dated) Constipated; costive.
- Confined or restricted to a certain place; e.g. railbound.
- Unable to move in certain conditions, e.g. snowbound

A person's feet are visible at the top of the frame, walking on a dark, reflective surface. The scene is illuminated with a strong red light, creating a dramatic and somewhat somber atmosphere. The reflection of the feet and the surrounding environment is visible on the surface.

"Everything we see in the sky belongs to the past"

-Timothy Ferris, *Seeing in the Dark*

When I think of Bound the images that orbit in my mind are of Pina Bauch stumbling blindly around *Café Müller*, thoughts of Latour, Haraway and Tsing, and Samuel Beckett's *End Game* and especially *Krapp's Last Tape*. Caitlin DeSilvey inspired me a lot and was able to formulate, what I couldn't:

"What to do when the world begins to fall apart around you?"

I have tapped into my own memories and how I am bound to the past. Thoughts of Macedonia, long walks, a crumbling house and moving away from the mountains. On my journey I have read *One Line One Circle* by Ingeborg Blom Andersskog (in fact a present from her – thank you....if you can hear me), *No Small Matter: Mushroom Clouds, Ecologies of Nothingness, And the strange Topologies of Spacetime mattering* by Karen Barad, *Quicksilver* by Neal Stephenson, *Drive Your Plow Over the Bones of the Dead* by Olga Tokarczuk, and the words of Virginia Woolf.... All these worlds seep into the body of this work.

I also took inspiration from San Verghese's youtube video *Journey to the Edge of the Universe*. He kindly let me use it, but in the end it didn't make it to this final version. Yet its ghost lingers in the texture of the work. Many hours have been spent moving towards the edge of a growing cosmos.

This performance has been very different to make, than other works I have done. It demanded another language, mood and sensitivity. I used music a lot. It somehow helped me to find the atmosphere and quality I felt the performance required.

The irony is that there's no music in the performance. There's a playlist attached to the piece which will also be available to listen to (link below). I've been listening to that playlist a lot and it has helped me get into the mood somehow.

Some of the songs are very personal to my history and recollection. Many of them really fit the theme and the mood of the performance. Others are pop songs, particularly from 30, 40, 50 years ago, which we all have a relation to and all have some sort of history with. I hope that the music can add another element to the performance - and perhaps these tracks add to this idea that there are many, many tunes and many soundtracks in the world and in the cosmos, playing at the same time.

Find the playlist:

The Bound performance, imagetanz 2024
on Spotify.

Playlist

American Pie – Don McLean
Breathe (in The Air) – Pink Floyd
Contact – Daft Punk
Day is Done – Nick Drake
Don't Stop Me Now – Queen
Don't Stop The Dance – Bryan Ferry
Dream A Little Dream About me – The Mamas & The Papas
Enola Gay – Orchestral Manoeuvres In The Dark
Everybody's Gotta Live - Love
Feeling Good – Nina Simone
Fine Anyway – Rogér Fakhr
It's Over – Electric Light Orchestra
Knee 5 – Philip Glass Ensemble
Let Your Fingers do The Walking – Sort Sol
Let's Dance – David Bowie
Life on Mars? – David Bowie
Life's Gone Down Low – The Lijadu Sisters
Little Wing – Jimi Hendrix
Love Will Tear Us Apart – Joy Division
Major Tom (Coming Home) – Peter Schilling
Maniac – Michael Sembello
Moonlight Shadow – Mike Oldfield
Move Your Feet – Junior Senior





Mr. Tambourine Man – Bob Dylan
Napula Canta E More – Donatella Viggiano
Rocket Brothers – Kashmir
Rocket Man (I Think It's Going To Be A Long, Long Time) – Elton John
Satellite of Love – Lou Reed
Seabird – Alessi Brothers
September – Earth, Wind & Fire
Shooting Star – Bob Dylan
(Sitting' On) the Dock of the Bay - Otis Redding
Smalltown Boy – Bronski Beat
Space Oddity – David Bowie
Stairway to Heaven – Led Zeppelin
Stayin Alive – Bee Gees
Take My Breath Away – Berlin
Teardrops – Womack & Womack
There Is a Light That Never Goes Out – The Smiths
The End – The Doors
The Sun – Myd
Time Moves Slow – BADBADNOTGOOD
Tomorrow Is My Turn – Nina Simone
Vienna – Ultravox
Walk On By – Dionne Warwick
Where do We Go From Here – Charles Bradley, Menahan Street Band
Wish You Were Here – Pink Floyd

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