

## *Thoughts on The Woodshed, hosted by The JAM*

To you,

*The JAM*<sup>1</sup> kindly requests your attendance at *The Woodshed*,

The *Woodshed* is kept in a *BLACK BACKSTAGE*; a conversation dedicated to a little intergenerational chaos; **an invitation from Black folks to Black folks**<sup>2</sup>, to keep listening and speaking, maybe at the same time.

***The Woodshed* is no show, but folks still come to play for and with one another. We step in and step out and step back in again, but *The JAM* doesn't end and *The Woodshed* remains. Quiet is a sound and rest is an activity; feel free to find them both, because *The JAM* has you covered.**

There might be some folks who can't be present; maybe they've left the building. That's okay. Bring them back and bring them anyway. **Let the noise be joyful...free that jazz...maybe even bleep a bloop and quake the house, or leave genre at home and bring your tools and your you; making the band makes the record and so many voices can spill over into one slippery sound, for just a moment, before maybe that one sound becomes more sounds made of more voices...or fewer...if that sounds contradictory, consider it contrapuntal and keep it moving and keep listening and speaking.**

*The Woodshed* can't be held or contained, and neither can its participants, *The JAM*. No, in *The JAM* and in *The Woodshed*, we all become conduits for an additive electrified spiriting. Energetic Double Dutch becomes Quadruple Dutch becomes Sexdecuple Dutch, until the room overflows out of bodies, into atmosphere, into the world, grounding more than a 60hz hum ever could.

*Can a day hold a sound?*

*Can a day hold a community?*

*Can a day hold a history?*

*Can a day hold a present?*

*Probably not...So what?*

Come be electric with us. The stage might be closed, but *The Woodshed* is open, just for a minute.

Warmly,

The JAM

1. *The JAM*, via The Art Ensemble of Everywhere, doesn't stand for anything in particular, but if it did, here are a few examples of what it could be:

Join A Mass

Join A Mess

Jokingly Ambiguous Meanings

Justly Ambitious Music

Jointly (AAAAAA) Music

Just A Minute

2. Non-Black folks, we also invite you to participate in *The JAM*. Here, your primary tools for participation in *The JAM* are your eyes and ears; we encourage you check expectation and wish fulfillment at the door so that you might best make use of your tools.