

Droner

Will Owen

microplay

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Introductory Information

Concept: *Droner* is a microplay that is also an experiment in -- let's call it -- theatrical robotics. That is, this play's two figures can be visually played by drones (or some other sort of robot or puppet or mechanical prop or kite-like thing) while being vocally played by two players, who can take advantage of the range of effects in current sound processing software to modulate their voices to match the -- no pre-set/clearly identifiable gender, age, etc. -- of the drone character-contraptions. The drone pilots/prop operators, like the voicing players can be onstage...or not. The visual, inanimate drones/prop actuators -- darting, feinting, attacking, retreating, etc. - - allusively mime the voiced dialogue. This play's two agonists -- indicated in the script as AY and AX -- are roles made to be -- in all characteristics and particulars (except the words they say) -- devised collaboratively by the robotics-theater artist-engineers who stage and play them. In college and university performing arts programs in particular, there might be an interest in theater-making collaboration with robotics engineering colleagues.

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Droner

AY

I'm here as you

AX

that's great, I'm so

AY

I dunno..

AX

oh no, don't worry it's alright..you know

AY

well I

AX

relax, you always can

AY

but no..

no, please no..

AX

trust me..and you can always go

AY

you're touching me and

AX

just to make me feel --

besides like where've you got

AY

like to go back

to now

AX

with all your problems

AY

for real

AX

why I can help, like all you

AY

like shut down..
and close my eyes and

AX

let me, I'll

AY

no..no

AX

you have to now we're here

AY

but not for this

AX

you got no choice, you

AY

no!

AX

oh, so what's you know..
to be ashamed of..like that's just the way it is --
so be good, shut up and take

AY

but after that..

AX

trust me, for you I'll make it worth a lot.

AY

So now

AX

oh you can go now, there's no need

AY

I thought that you

AX

I mean I did but now

AY

what?

AX

stop it!

AY

it's not like..um..I agreed

AX

of course you did..anyway now I'm busy -- got to go

AY

what happened, wasn't it like

AX

nothing, no!

what happened..like it didn't..if you know

AY

what's

AX

I didn't mean it like a threat

AY

no

AX

like it's our secret, doesn't have to go

AY

out of this room?

AX

where..it's okay..we can

AY

know what you did to me

AX

it's nobody else's

AY

guilty

AX

no! I'm completely in my rights I am!

AY

and my rights?

AX

look -- keep quiet, don't rat, be selfless

AY

so easy

AX

you're not a victim, you consented

AY

what choice I have way you..your power's implemented?

AX

You're not the only one

AY

so why 'm I

AX

the sobbing story's useless we all know that

AY

I keep and keep -- can't help it -- cry and cry

AX

so what..cause no one hears you..that's a fact

AY

so I

AX

just shut it up and let it go
that's all that you

AY

but if it just won't let

AX

c'mon, we all get over everything you know

AY

I'm always feeling choked

AX

it's over -- forgive, forget

AY

like you've..entitled..for yourself've done --
absolved like you're

AX

I've never been a guilty..
like of..like whatever

AY

like it was like by no one --
why how I feel 'bout what's been done to me?

AX

forget it, I said you're not the only one

AY

who's longing..
crying for redress and knowing of my wronging?

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