

Author's note

This piece was commissioned by *Live Art Garden Initiative* and performed as part of its meeting on 18th November 2006.

The performer stands between two screens and reads, while the two slide shows, started a few seconds after the reading begins, are shown simultaneously on the screens; but other arrangements are possible.

The reading text is written to fit 20 minutes, but ideally it would be read more slowly and therefore longer. With an hour, perhaps, then I would add more material as well as slowing up the reading. Even so, it is possible to read the text here in twenty minutes in comfort.

There are 60 slides in each slide show and the slides change every 20 seconds.

The shows are looped so that one might choose when to stop after 20 minutes.

In print, the reading text is followed by a second text comprising writing which is displayed, in a different arrangement, on the screens, as part of the slide shows; it enables one to read on after the main text.

In a "perfect" performance one would finish reading exactly as the slide shows finish; but this is not so important that one should let it dominate one's thinking.

In my performance on 18th November 2006, I read the reading text and then read some way into the subsidiary text and stopped as the slide shows looped.

Some of the reading text includes quotations from the writing which led to my essay **writing, interference** on the late Alaric Sumner in the context of the landscape of West Penwith, an essay written for a book edited by David Kennedy which has yet to appear.

The title, an insect on a leaf, comes from **writing, interference**.

Other parts of the reading text come from an interview once due to appear in a new magazine which has itself not appeared.

Much of the reading text was written for the purpose. It adds nothing to one's understanding to know the source of the text.

Many of the images used in the slide show existed before I started to write **an insect on a leaf**, although I have enlarged some, changed their resolution and changed their aspect ratio to suit the new context.

I have included brief notes indicating the origin of each image.