

MONDAY, February 5th

6-7:30 p.m.

AGENDA FOR AILESHA'S CLASS (peer-review workshop: podcasting)

What is important in giving feedback?

In receiving?

Most important ingredients:

How prepared are the guests? Hosts?

Is the agenda clear?

Elements of Good Writing/Pod Casting

Voice: are you writing/speaking in a voice that is your own? Or are you floundering about in a sea of other voices? How do you figure out what voice is yours?

Details/Content: pay close attention to specifics; they are what so often make a journey real and compelling. What research have you done on your content?

Plot/Where are you going with this podcast? You should be able to state the bare bones of what and where you are going, what you intend to do when you get there, and why we should follow along; in writing we call this the need for a beginning, middle, and end.

Dialogue exchange: where does it work? Where is it stilted? How does it help the flow of the journey?

Pacing: does the story/podcast flow in a good rhythm? Can you enter into it and be carried along or do you stop and falter? Is the piece too long or too short? Does it try to fit in too much or too little? (note sentence and paragraph length and layout). Remember: strong, clean **language** makes 'helper' words unnecessary.

Gut reaction to the piece - despite problems you may encounter, does the theme/journey work on some level?

Your mantra from Martha Graham (a dancer on dancing):

There is a vitality, a life force, a quickening
that is translated through you into action,
and because there is only one of you in all time,
this expression is unique.

If you block it,
it will never exist through any other medium
and be lost.
The world will not have it.
It is not yours to determine how good it is;
nor how it compares with other expressions.
It is your business to keep the channel open.

You do not even have to believe in yourself or your work.
You have to keep open and aware directly
to the urges that motivate you.

Keep the channel open.
No artist is ever pleased.
There is no satisfaction whatever at any time.
There is only a queer divine dissatisfaction;
a blessed unrest that keeps us marching
and makes us more alive than the others.