Vogue

Music: Madonna – 'Vogue'

Content and Purpose: To make people realise that there is a more exciting life apart from what everyone else is doing. One character breaks free from the monotonous movement of a human machine and tries to convince the others that freedom is the best thing. Also, an amazingly visual sketch that will capture an audience's attention.

Cast: 6 people (male or female) – inc. 1 'free' person and 5 machine people.

Action:

The 5 machine people gather on stage in their positions (there are some photos, but they aren't much use, but basically create a human 'machine' that runs through a cycle, with each of the five people making up a different part of that machine). The free person stands outside the formation, but in the same pose as one of the 5.

The music start: The people in the machine begin a series of repeated movements, with the free person mimicking their machine counterpart.

The series of actions is repeated 3 times, with the free person moving around the machine, but always mimicking the same person.

As the fourth cycle begins, the free person leaps up as they realise that they can actually do something different. They move freely about while the machine formation continues.

As the fifth cycle begins, the free person begins to try to break the people from the machine, so that they can enjoy freedom too. Free person needs to move around with vigour (*rather like Mission Impossible*) – tries to attract the attention of the machine people, who remain rigid and focussed on the machine and their movements.

During 6th cycle, the members of the machine begin to freeze in certain positions without moving – dying without realising the freedom they could have.

Free Person frantically tries to pull out the ones that are still moving, but slowly they all die, leaving Free Person standing destitute in the middle of them. As the music ends, Free Person walks off, still looking at them. The machine people pause, then leave the stage.

Comments and Notes: An incredibly tough sketch, which at the point of writing (April 2003) has never (at least to my knowledge) been performed publicly, despite several long rehearsals. If it's done well, it will have a real impact – give it a go if you think you're hard enough!!

Written by the members of CADS, Trinity 1997