

ROBERT HUOT -- WAR STATEMENT

[On a late October evening in 1962 Robert Morris, some friends and I were riding to an opening. We fell into a discussion of violence in the city and presented theories of its origins and possible cures. I was promoting a jousting tournament as a festive outlet for some of this energy.

42 [Morris and I began talking about making suits of armor. Soon we were working out the basic ideas for the performance. The armor and weapons were made in secret; we agreed to make them breakable and harmless. We psyched ourselves up with voodoo dolls and taunts.

[We never rehearsed, but checked out the Judson gym and worked out our cues. Lamonte Young agreed to make music for War and we worked out our cues with him.

[War began in darkness with Lamonte playing a large gong for three minutes. Suddenly light flooded the space. Morris and I were at the far end of the gym. We hesitated for a few seconds, turned and charged at each other. We collided and at the moment of impact released a pair of white doves. We battled as the doves flapped overhead. When we ran out of weapons we battled hand to hand, rolling toward the audience. As we reached them, the lights went out and Lamonte played again for three minutes in darkness.

81 [Robert Huot
October 1981

*I - mentioned in house /
Spelled his name / Huot -
I think in John's*