

13 FALSE STARTS

TEXT BY JULI BRANDANO

1.

A false start is when a runner moves before being signaled, ruining it for the rest. They fire the gun twice and everyone goes back to start. The human brain cannot hear and process the start sound in under .10 seconds.

2.

I've never seen the full length of "If you couldn't see me" (1994) by Trisha Brown but I think about it all the time.

3.

I've been watching the Red Sox all week. 9 dancers. My father and I text "wahoo" each time a run is scored. Sometimes the pitcher gets ready to throw the ball, does his preparatory ritual, nearly winds up, and then he steps off the mound for a timeout. It's too much, he needs a moment. In an away game, the audience will flip, boo, how dare you waste our time. We were ready, and for what.

4.

Duets are ripe with relationship metaphors, they can't help it. Lovers, sisters. You hold me, now I am you, we deserve each other, now we're alone. Tommy's on the sound. I am always in relationship to you and you me, even when you're out of sight.

5.

A false start is when the offense moves past the line of scrimmage or moves abruptly pre-snap. Everyone usually points or jumps excitedly when this happens, ha ha ha.

6.

In an interview recently, I spoke about dance without performance. I said something like this virus era has forced us to think about dance without the big show. I said it with urgency, with not-false passion. The venues, the meager budgets to fight over: when that's gone, we still meet up in the park, the studio, Sharleen's new place. It's all about showing up, our favorite thing to do.

7.

David Salle was married to Karole Armitage, the Merce Cunningham dancer. This, perhaps obviously, is my favorite False Start (32). She was run out of town by bad reviews, Salle says. He also says he thought dancers made painters look "solid, like rocks in a stream." "Her life was much more urgent and alive and crisis oriented." At the time that this was quoted, the two were separated.

8.

When a swimmer takes off before the starter gun, that is a false start. All swimmers have to get back on the ledge of the pool and start again. This, to me, is the worst kind of false start because they are wet.

9.

Amelia and I look a lot alike when we move. Not so much when we're still. I met her in a workshop with Chris Aiken. It was a MELT, maybe 2017.

10.

When I finally get around to thinking, it's clumsy, a bunch of stops and starts. But it's one thing after another. One of the false starts is an ending, that's just the way it goes.

11.

In hockey, a face-off violation is a false start. I think then they sub in some other player to take that spot.

12.

As a very superstitious woman, I feel it is important I tell you that I hate the number 13.

13.

1. **A** solo [exit]
2. **A** solo v. **II** [exit]
3. **J** solo v. **II** [peters to exit]
4. **A + J** duet of solo v. **II**. [exit]
5. **A** slide [exit]
6. **A + J** walk (with hold) [**A** exit]
7. **J** solo [exit]
8. **A** slides (with hold) [exit]
9. **A + J** walk (no hold) [lights]
10. **A + J** windmill to circle machine to slow bro [exit]
11. **A + J** The fall snuggle [exit]
12. **J** enters and does combo solo + no ground covered
13. **A + J** no ground covered [J exit, A peter]
[lights]