

## 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday Event for Jackson Mac Low

Light 80 candles before a seated, microphoned ensemble. The candles are on something – a table, perhaps. The ensemble members begin orchestrating their breath. They might form duets and trios and they take solos. They listen to each other. There should be silences. Each breather has a character but there are no obtuse exaggerations and the tone and pitch of the various breaths are balanced in tone and pitch with those of the entire ensemble. The volume of their inhales and exhales should be heard by the audience without effort but should not at all overwhelm the space. The breathers gently begin, at first unsuccessfully, to blow out the candles. Slowly the directed breaths begin to extinguish the candles. The pace is medium. The event is complete when all candles are silent.

Michael Basinski