

Shane Farrell

The Catholic Church Condemns...

My final project will be a performance piece that intends to point out some of the absurdities of the Catholic religion. I have compiled a list of things that the Catholic Church has, at one time or another, publicly condemned or disapproved of. I plan to enact this performance in Manning Chapel during hours when the chapel is not in use. I plan to promote the performance using religious terminology. I will distribute flyers declaring “come join us for a very special mass” with the time and place of the performance. I will also promote the event in other ways. For the performance itself I will arrive in formal clothing and enter in a ceremonial manner to mirror the pomp and circumstance surrounding every Catholic mass. A religious garment will be wrapped around my head as a blindfold, operating as a symbol for indoctrination. I will then proceed to recite the list of condemnations while standing at the altar, providing a bit of background information on each item. The performance ends when I remove the blindfold. I hope that the performance will cause people to rethink certain aspects of their religious convictions. It is my hope that the performance will not be seen as an attack on religion, but rather a springboard for thoughtful consideration of some of religion’s absurdities. The performance will be documented on video and in photographs.



Other work on blog: <http://camp-er.net/teaching/sp09/foundations/author/shane/>