Laurie Anderson/NY School
I-Did-This-I-Did-That Sonnets

Laurie Anderson’s been described as a genius &
after basting your ears in her work via the Spotify playlist O Laurie Anderson: https://open.spotify.com/playlist/1enRiFuGysDTKfbKwfZxC?si=66a59125dc7442af you might want to experiment in serial form by writing at least ten American Sonnets via Wanda Coleman, or taking the easy way out and writing eight sonnets and collaging two of them as in the Berrigan Collage Sonnet technique.

Read more about the New York School here & read more about Laurie here. See the reference to the New York School’s informal technique, sometimes referred to (disparagingly & not) as the “I did this, I did that” school, here: https://www.poetryproject.org/events/piece-of-cake-with-marie-warsh-lewis-warsh

To add a Laurie Anderson-specific I did this, I did that touch to your sonnets, consider lifting lines from Laurie’s songs OR do what SHE does in some of her work. Insert lines you hear every day but don’t necessarily associate with song or poetry. I can’t hear you, you are muted. You have to turn on your mic. Did you put oat milk on the list? Do you think this is the beginning of the bomb cyclone? You are breaking up. When you can get going on a series like this, you can experience serial composition consciousness; to begin to think in terms of an extended piece. For those who have done the Poetry Poscard Fest, these sonnets are about the same length as a postcard. When you do get some ease writing spontaneously, seriality is the next step, then the “saturation job” or “multi-decade research project.” Have at it.

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