Walter Dandervill: Notes on Nothing (in particular)

This project page is part of my (please don't say process) process (work) of making a dance for the Nothing Festival. The Nothing Festival, curated by Tere O'Connor, takes place at DTW April 18-21 and 25-28, 2007.

Love is Retarded

DEUS EX MACHINA!
CHINOISERIE CANNOT SAVE YOU

RUN

An interview between Inner Self and Icky Self

I.S. starts
I.S. in...nothing human,
what are you going to do with that?
I.S. That's your question?
No wonder we couldn't write an essay.
I.S. Well...
I.S. I don't know. I'm starting with nothing,
which is what I do anyway except this time:
I'm thinking about starting with nothing.
I.S. Wow.

,long pause

I.S. Ok, ask me something else.
I.S. What are you wearing?
I.S. You know what I'm wearing! Plus, don't do that sexual
innuendo thing with me. It makes me uncomfortable...
even if you're joking.
I.S. Maybe that's where you should start.
I.S. Yeah, you would say that.
But then I'd be starting with something.
I.S. I think you're talking this nothing thing a little
too literally. It's not like you have to embody nothingness,
Isn't the nothing about creating a space where the work can
reveal itself as it goes along rather than your feeling
obligated to fill the lines of some concept you've drawn to your head
a concept you may very well reject to the end anyway... or at least move every
fresh, expand, transform, etc? In other words isn't the nothing simply about
finding freedom from overt thought structures and exploratory justification?
I.S. Yeah. Thanks, genius. That's what I said to you yesterday. Yeah, I think it's about
discovering content and meaning (assuming there is any) through the making of the work
rather than falling into the trap of illustrating ideas. That way you may bypass having to
later dismantle a conceptual structure that was formulated outside the experience of
actual constructing in the first place. You know? But you're right. The nothing doesn't
have to be so literal. It's not like you start with no ideas whatsoever. It's just that you
don't have to get attached. You don't have to justify the work with preconceived ideas.
You know?

Also I wanted to point out that when
I asked you what you were wearing
it was a genuine question. I wasn't being sexual. Ok.

F**k off Walter!