

Have At Thee
by Scott Pfitzinger
for any number of pairs of people

Preparation: Plenty of space is needed for each pair of participants. Every pair needs a matching set of two longish items to use as "swords."

Directions: One pair comes in from opposite sides of the stage and begins dueling or "swordfighting," then every 5-10 seconds one pair after another begins (preferably coming from opposite sides, too) until everyone is fighting, roughly in a line with one side on the audience's left and the other on the right. The goal is not to hit the other person but to connect with their "sword" to make rhythmic sounds. After a couple of minutes, pairs begin working their way toward any exits, continuing their swordfighting until out of sight from the audience.

Suggestions:

- "Swords" should be chosen to provide variety in pitch and sound color. Some suggestions include (but are by no means limited to): wrapping paper tubes, balloons, boomwhackers, sticks, metal rods or tubes, or anything that resonates or gives a distinct pitch.
- Experimenting with tempos and rhythmic patterns can result in different groups or the entire ensemble "locking into" a groove with each other.
- Unless the "swords" are similar, pairs should not break up and start swordfighting other people.
- Lining up as instructed will make this be a visual as well as aural performance.

Duration: Approximately 3-4 minutes