

# A LIFE

from *The Selected Letters of John Cage*

Cage's thinking was expressing increasingly clear ideas  
 Cage's circle of intellectual interests widened  
 Cage proudly reports Cage's first literary engagement  
 Cage's politically prescient work, Cage's only known letter, created a second  
 Cage succeeded on behalf of others, didn't like telling others what to do  
 Cage's mature works did not originate in psychology  
 Cage's various musical pursuits came together, Cage performed  
 Cage suffered two personal losses, created visual art work  
 Cage at his most cheerful is at his most playful  
 Cage wrote to people at length, almost always replied  
 Cage enthusiastically admits to his own inconsistencies  
 Cage's work was also changing, Cage was cleaning house  
 Cage's intellectual life entered a new phase in academic residence  
 Cage developed complex rules for world improvement  
 Cage shared his experiences, provided a few stories for translation  
 Cage conceived Cage's interest in mushrooms, also wrote and published  
 Cage earnestly loved Cage, continued to seek financial assistance  
 Cage made clear his enormous enthusiasm, was emboldened  
 Cage performed elsewhere, gave an explosive percussion concert  
 Cage managed to conduct an exhaustive search, visited Giacometti and Brancusi  
 Cage enjoyed quiet, was dreading time away from home  
 Cage's pursuit of a musical career is mostly mute  
 Cage set a steady if meandering course over some six decades  
 Cage's Diary is a mosaic of escalating unrest and a lot of chess  
 Cage was beginning to understand Cage had begun to deteriorate  
 Cage made clear his enormous enthusiasm for turning away

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