

Us and Them - Guest Artist Proposal Form

Name of company/artist: Tempura Batter

Email: p.hughespaul@gmail.com

Location based in: Nottingham/London

No. of performers: 2

Title of work: RP

Length of work (between 5-30mins max): 15-25 mins

Artist statement/Bio (50 words max. for programme notes):

Tempura Batter's playful work considers meaning and meaninglessness through oblique gestures. The collaborative practice of Rohanne Udall and Paul Hughes, it takes place across choreographic, performance and visual arts contexts; and speaks to a culture that is saturated in content and subject to endless streams of reference and possibility.

Provide us with a brief description of your proposed work (200 max):

We would like to share a new work we are developing for theatres and galleries called *RP*. This work stages two performers simultaneously repeating a news broadcast, delivered to them via headphones. A formally simple proposition, the results are complex in how the text is mediation through the performers bodies, and in the production of mental and physical fatigue. As the two performers phase in and out of synchronicity, the original rhythms of the broadcaster's speech become muddled in inevitable misunderstandings and translations; the news broadcast is revealed to be an overwhelmingly dense period of information. Within a culture of 'fake news', the work opens questions into the labour involved in becoming 'informed', and the instability and uncertainty of language and information.

RP emerges from our research into performing in states of inattention, distraction and hesitation. This choreography of fidgeting and fluctuating concentration produces a minor poetry, and a quietly intimate encounter with the viewer. The performers, caught up in a clear formal game of childish repetition, become exposed in the process; while the stark reproduction of the found text raises questions for the audience of how they encounter and carry this information on a daily basis.

Outline why and how you think this opportunity would benefit you (200 max):

Performing *RP* at Us and Them would provide a supportive environment for us to share this work for the first time in a theatre setting. Our work is deeply concerned with the viewer's gaze encounters and transforms it, and early showings are vital for our understanding of seemingly minor shifts in frame and focus; changes which deliver a hugely different experience and access to the work.

Having presented work at Us and Them in the past, we trust the the generosity, good humour and rigor the audience and fellow artists performing come with - and in particular their attentiveness to interdisciplinary work. We're really keen to work with Tetrad again - having had a brilliant experience last year. We felt Us and Them created a rarely found atmosphere of not only warmth and support, but also one deeply conducive to a collaborative and playful exchange of ideas.

Now based in part in the East Midlands, it feels important and exciting to develop our audience within this scene - both in sharing our work, and continuing to forge links with artists, venues and organisations.

Technical specifications (please note there will be limited technical support):

No specific needs, although generic theatre lighting (warm front wash) is preferred.

How would you like the Audience to view your work? (i.e. 1-1, seated, standing, gallery viewing):

Seated theatre audience

Copy/Blurb for programme (70 words max)

The latest national and international events, followed by the weather.

A new performance by Tempura Batter, RP destabilizes a culture of (mis)information with a minor poetry of accidents, synchronicity and misunderstandings.

What questions do you have for the audience?

How did your attention and thinking shift during the piece?

What did the work make possible?

What did the work prohibit?

Link to a website/blog: <https://tempurabatter.wordpress.com/>

Link to short clip of performance (if possible): <https://vimeo.com/195188746>

In addition, please attach a profile photo and performance photo for promotion with appropriate credits.

For more information go to: www.tetradcollective.co.uk

<https://www.facebook.com/tetradcollective> @tetradcollect