

BE FESTIVAL 2017

Title of the piece Meaningless Dance 13 (Empty Gestures)

Company Name Tempura Batter

Country of the company UK

Your email p.hughespaul@gmail.com

Telephone 07809421749

Name of contact Paul Hughes

Role in the piece Co-author and performer

Duration of the piece in minutes (longer pieces must be shortened to max. 30 minutes but there is no minimum length) 20 mins

Original length, if different N/A

Language(s) of the piece N/A

Nationalities of people working on the piece French/UK and Irish/UK

Synopsis of the piece. We may use this in our programme if your piece is selected (max. 100 words)

Two dancers move through a series of signs and gestures borrowed from everyday sources, performed as an act of citation and virtuosic memory. To the precise beat of a metronome, the simplicity of the movements amplifies the hesitations and minor differences between the fiercely concentrating dancers. A deceptively simple premise produces a quietly poetic and intimate encounter, that interrogates the relationship between performer and spectator. What can each offer the other? And what kind of commitment, to communication, interpretation or understanding, is demanded or expected from either side?

Development / tour history of the piece (max. 100 words)

Originally performed at University of Roehampton; March 2016

Also performed at:

US&THEM 6, hosted by Tetrad Collective, Attenborough Arts Centre, Leicester; May 2015

EXHIBI[5]TIONS, hosted by mingbeast, Rich Mix, London; June 2015

Empty Gestures grows in length with each performance as the chain of gestures to be learnt increases.

How does the piece relate to BE FESTIVAL's ethos: to cross borders (linguistic, cultural or artistic) and inspire audiences of all nationalities

(max. 80 words)

Meaningless Dance 13 (Empty Gestures) is composed of gestures sourced from around the world - of widely familiar signals, historic reference and secret codes. The work is an indifferent taxonomy, which divides audience in what is legible, abstract, comedic and significant. As an idiotic and poetic gesture, it questions how language can be grasped and represented. Abstracted from their environments, we ask how these movements might be reused to produce temporary new meanings.

People travelling to Birmingham (maximum: number of performers + 1)

2

Company biography (max. 100 words)

Tempura Batter's playful and critical 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. The work is born out of, and speaks to, a culture that is saturated in content and subject to endless streams of reference and possibility; we are attracted to forms of sidestepping such as fidgeting, shifting, distraction and emulation. Tempura Batter is UK based, working in London and Nottingham.

Significant previous work/Awards

Recent work includes Empty Gestures (Rich Mix; Attenborough Arts Centre; 2016) and Partner Dances For One (Camden People's Theatre; Battersea Arts Centre; I'Klectik Art Lab; 2015-16); an exhibition of performance Floorplan//Here Or Now (Rich Mix; 2015); and collaborative writing projects Imaginary Festivals Project (Forest Fringe; 2014) and Digital Writing Group (International Conference on Artistic Research; 2016). We have recently undertaken an Interdisciplinary Residency at Hospitalfield, Arbroath. In January 2017 they will be performing in Vlatka Horvat's premiere of Minor Planets at HAU, Berlin.

Website

<https://tempurabatter.wordpress.com>

What kind of space does your piece ideally require? BE FESTIVAL can offer a range of performance spaces. For more information, please download 'spaces at BE.pdf') If site-specific or others, please specify
End-on studio stage. The Door space would be ideal.

You will be sharing the space with other companies so the time for get-ins

will be limited. Technical plans should be simple and flexible. Do you have any special technical requirements?

No

Have you applied to BE FESTIVAL before? If so, in which year and with which piece?

No

How did you learn about BE FESTIVAL? (Please be specific. eg. if you learnt about us from the internet, which website?)

Artsadmin E-digest

The most important part of this application is your video. So please send us the best quality footage you can. We don't consider trailers as it is impossible to assess the work properly. However we do programme pieces still in development so we are very happy to consider video of rehearsals.

Include here the link to your video

<https://vimeo.com/177359138>

Include any password to view it, if required

IMPORTANT: videos must be available for viewing until March 2017. If you are sending your video via wetransfer, please attach the link above.