

AU BRANA CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT RESIDENCY

COMPANY/INDIVIDUAL NAME: Timber & Battery

NATIONALITY: French/British and Irish

NUMBER OF PEOPLE INVOLVED (maximum 5) 5

CONTACT DETAILS: rohanneudall@me.com / p.hughespaul@gmail.com

PROJECT TITLE: Plus One

PROPOSED PROJECT (250 words max):

We propose a residency which brings together three independent artists (a playwright, a sound artist and a choreographer), each of whom have contributed significantly to our collaborative practice over its previous five years.

An ongoing meeting between disciplines, residencies are essential for our work. They provide uninterrupted time and space for an accelerated dialogue, critical reflection, and the rapid testing of multiple ideas. They are also a vital opportunity to become sensitive to small and tangential distractions which we might otherwise not give due focus. These invariably become the most vital and enriching for our work, directly generating new artworks or forming the core of larger projects to be developed. Our practice is driven by a sense of playfulness and curiosity; these residencies are filled with relaxation, pleasure, wandering, taking stupid jokes too far and stumbling across new enquiries and materials. Past residencies have spawned sculptural work, durational performance, recurrent gestures, slapstick films, photo projects: the terrain in which we find ourselves deeply influences (and directly features in) whatever work might emerge.

Additionally, our work is triggered by intimate and playful collaborations - brief, productive and joke-y exchanges - in which both we and our collaborators encounter new processes, materials and ideas. We wish to invite previous collaborators into this residency process - not just for the diverse sensibilities with which they might engage with, challenge, and support our new work at an early stage - but in order for these relationships from discrete projects to meet, surprise and experiment with one another.

DESIRED OUTCOME OF THE PROJECT (250 words max)

We have worked together as a duo for the past five years, and are considering how to expand the scale of our practice.

This residency would make it possible to introduce the complexities of working with a larger group in a low-stakes environment. We hope this will reveal to us how our methodology (which strategically responds to the situations it finds itself within through adopting a variety of orientations, avoidances and distractions) might direct a large and multidisciplinary group, for whom we're accountable. How might we have to shift, renegotiate, or (*gulp*) take responsibility? What might be aired or exposed to us when these discrete relationships become conscious of one another?

Alongside the generation of a number of unpredictable and fidget-y artworks (which might include video, performance, photography, sound and text), we hope this residency would support Timber and Battery's long term aims, which include:

- Continuing to develop and present our work across visual arts, dance and theatre platforms. Deeply informed by these contexts, we believe our work has the power to cross-pollinate radical ideas between, and feed back to the diverse communities we participate within.
- Forming peer networks to support ourselves and others. Peer support can help identify common concerns, establish bold new thinking, and organise mutually supporting platforms in which a new generation of artists can present their work.
- Establishing international partnerships, and presenting work outside of the UK. We wish to expand our audiences, while becoming sensitive to international developments which might challenge and reorient our thinking.

DEVELOPMENT/BACKGROUND HISTORY (250 words max)

Having worked with these artists on discrete projects, this residency would be the first time to bring them together:

- **Sam Pardes** is a dance artist whose practice employs the anxieties,

tensions, exposure, discomfort and vulnerability that surround the performance situation, often confronting the very notion of dancing, choreographic practice and presentation. Sam has collaborated with Timber and Battery on multiple projects, including a commission by Third Row Dance Company, *Infinite Tango*, and a site-specific series of performances, *The Posers*.

- **Andy Edwards** is a playwright and dramaturg who has written work for performance, installation and digital spaces. He is a regional editor for The Theatre Times, writes for Exeunt Magazine and leads *Talking Dramaturgy*, researching dramaturgical practices in Scotland through interviewing artists across different artforms. Andy is currently dramaturg on our *Handbook* project, a publication reflecting on our practice to date. He previously collaborated with Paul on a collaborative duet of text and dance, *The ground, the highest point*.
- **Fionn Duffy's** practice centres itself on the convergence of systems of communication and interpretation, and the ways in which cultural narrative shape subjective experience. Navigating the plurality of place, the work questions how we shape and are shaped by our sonic environments. Relating the body to an image/text centred world, Duffy's practice manifests itself across sculpture, video, musical composition and performance; exhibited across the UK and internationally. We have recently been awarded a commission to extend our work with Fionn to research the possibilities of dance presented on/across the radio.

COMPANY/INDIVIDUAL BIOG (250 words max)

Rohanne Udall and Paul Hughes (Timber and Battery) collaboratively make work across multiple disciplines. Rather than committing their research to a single work at any time, their playful practice engages with multiple gestures and possibilities, which simultaneously drive and interrogate a developing enquiry. Their practice foregrounds encounters with possibility, choice, and indifference. This work emerges from a legacy of conceptual practice that engages with what is close to hand, resourcefully rewriting the possibilities of a given circumstance.

Recent performances include; *Infinite Tango*, in collaboration with Sam Pardes and commissioned by Third Row Dance Company (Michaelis Theatre, 2016), *Some Possibilities* (Michaelis Theatre; Chisenhale Dance Space; Coventry University; 2016-17), *Empty Gestures* (Rich Mix; Attenborough Arts Centre;

2016), *Partner Dances For One* (Camden People's Theatre; Battersea Arts Centre; l'Klectik Art Lab; 2015-16) and an exhibition of performance *Floorplan//Here Or Now* (Rich Mix; 2015).

We are committed to developing and contributing to interdisciplinary discourse, and have presented our work at conferences, including The International Conference on Artistic Research (The Hague, 2016) and Yes Conference, (Applied Theatre Institute, Giessen, 2016). We have run our research lab *Open Platform* at Chisenhale Dance Space (Open Lab, London, 2017) and Decoda (Groundwork, Coventry, 2017).

We have recently undertaken residencies with New Wolsey Theatre (Ipswich 2015); Hospitalfield Arts (Arbroath, 2016); and TOP SHED (Norfolk, 2017). In early 2017 we performed for Vlatka Horvat on new work *Minor Planets*, commissioned by HAU, Berlin.

PLEASE ATTACH ANY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION THAT YOU FEEL IS RELEVANT TO THIS APPLICATION