

Now&After'18

**Title**

It's Out of Our Hands

**Artist name**

Timber & Battery

**Video length**

1min 29 secs

**Year**

2017

**Link to performance/live art**

<https://vimeo.com/217874112>

**Description**

With childish idleness, a figure drops a series of objects throughout a domestic space.

A simple choreography unfolds into complexity - while each shot reproduces an identical situation, the different objects evoke diverse narratives through associative leaps.

Foregrounding physical gesture over psychology, the work tests the physical proposition of letting go - from the negligible, the fragile, to the potentially violent. Invoking a history of slapstick, object and body become confused - what cannot be so easily sustained, or released?

Each shot is interrupted before the object hits the ground, preserving the irresponsibility of an absent-minded (and literally headless) body. Neatly poetic, the work plays at rhythm and duration to eschew a viewer's need to predict or control.

**Relevant previous experience**

Timber & Battery's playful work considers meaning and meaninglessness through oblique gestures. The collaborative practice of Rohanne Udall (London, b. 1990) and Paul Hughes (Nottingham, b. 1991), it takes place across choreographic, performance and visual arts contexts. Trained in fine art and philosophy, our practice is a meeting point between disciplines; a persistent and fidgeting enquiry that continually questions itself and the environments it finds itself within.

Recent credits include Chisenhale Dance Space, Rich Mix, Bethnal Green Working Men's Club (all London), Attenborough Arts Centre (Leicester), DISKURS (Gießen), ICW (Blackpool) and Radiophrenia (Glasgow), with residencies at Summer Lodge (Nottingham) and Hospitalfield Arts (Arbroath). We regularly present our work at conferences and symposia (University of Roehampton, May 2016; ATW Institut Giessen, February 2016; Society for Artistic Research, The Hague April 2016; and Coventry University, June 2017), and have been awarded residencies at Summer Lodge (Nottingham Trent University, July 2017) and Hospitalfield Arts (Arbroath, November 2016).