

Dance4

East Midlands in focus: Sunday Supplement

Are you available the following dates: (please tick for yes, leave blank for no)

~~20–23 March 2018~~

Sunday 25 March 2018

Please describe your proposed idea / work / discussion. (Max 300 words) *

Due to the nature of the sharing we can only support works with low technical requirements.

Please let us know of any technical requirements for your work and if necessary how you would adapt to suit presenting in a space with a quick turnaround between sharings.

We wish to present a work-in-progress performance of 'This', prior to our week of development time at Dance4 (w/ 26th March):

Exploring the gestures of sensation, discovery and thought, two idiots introduce and explore a pair of collapsible tables. Lost somewhere between the rigours of scientific exploration and a childish recklessness, they point, tap and gesture - gradually escalating towards the wild extremes of clattering, shaking and shouting. Body and furniture contort around one another; the minimal script, restricted to the unstable demonstratives 'this' and 'that', shifts from detail to whole, gesture to pose, position to architecture; and eventually to the emergent and feeling relations between performer and viewer.

Exhausting the possibilities of body, object, gesture and space, 'This' is the latest major performance by Timber & Battery. Giddily playful, vibrant and accessible, the work draws together the restless and rebellious bodies of slapstick with contemporary choreographic and sculptural thought, in order to interrogate the slippery gestures of identification, demarcation and demonstration.

Our presentation would be 15 minutes long. It requires no set-up: the performers begin the piece by each carrying on a collapsible table, and finish the work by clearing the space. There are no sound or lighting requirements.

Please tell us about your practice. (Max 300 words). *

Timber & Battery's playful work considers meaning and meaninglessness through oblique gestures. The collaborative practice of Rohanne Udall (b. 1990) and Paul Hughes (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 contexts it finds itself within.

Our practice works primarily across visual arts and dance. We work with whatever materials are close to hand - performance, sculpture, video, sound, publication - seeking to frustrate the demands of any given context, and open possibilities of practice and thought. Recent credits include Chisenhale Dance Space, Rich Mix, Bethnal Green Working Men's Club (all London), Attenborough Arts Centre (Leicester), DISKURS (Gießen, Germany), VeNe (Venice, Italy), ICW (Blackpool) and Radiophrenia (Glasgow), with residencies at Summer Lodge (Nottingham) and Hospitalfield Arts (Arbroath).

Alongside presenting 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), we consistently organise projects for peer-support: including residencies ('Plus One', University of Roehampton, July 2017), interdisciplinary crits ('*Fragment, (consider revising)*', Eastbourne House Arts, August 2017), publications ('Footnotes', forthcoming) and pop-up radio station ('*Radio Play*', Nottingham Trent University, July 2017 and February-November 2018).

Please tell us why you would like to present your work / idea as part of Dance4's Sunday Supplement programme? * (Max 300 words).

The development of this work will be the subject of our week's work at Dance4 (already confirmed), leading towards performances of the finished piece in May/June. To commence the week with a short sharing with a live audience would be invaluable; the work is improvised, and deeply responsive to the audience's spectating. This opportunity would allow us to undertake our work with a vibrant clarity of knowing how this practice might relate to its audience.

In addition, since Paul moved to Nottingham in autumn 2016, we have sought to present our work across the East Midlands. However, we have found ourselves caught in a catch-22, with repeated reply to our attempt to enter institutional platforms of support suggesting that we have not showed our work within the region extensively enough. This opportunity would be a great help in representing our work to institutions and artists across the Midlands - to insist on our presence within the interdisciplinary gap, and to open up further possibilities of support for our work.

Finally - we feel like Paul's growing relationship with the organisation is a little odd, feeling like you/they've never had a chance to see what we actually do. It would be very nice to be able to show our work to the Dance4 team.

You may provide a link to examples of your work.

<https://vimeo.com/245938607>

If you have provided a link to your work. Is it the proposed work or previous work?

No

I/we give permission for Dance4 to document our work if successful in application *

Yes

Any additional information you would like to share with us? (Max 150 words).