

Writing Art in Digital Space

We propose a digital writing performance for the duration of the two-day conference, taking place as a publicly visible 'google document' online. Undertaken in shifts by a group of distant performers and active throughout each day, this performance experiments with our own use of collaborative writing in our practice. This performance would be introduced and contextualised in a 10 minute presentation as part of the strand 'Writing Art in Digital Space'.

Writing can often be seen as an individual and solipsistic act. Collaborative academic writing can be seen to reinforce this tendency - presenting a cohesive voice and singular presence on the page. We aim to interrupt this understanding of writing that implies a clear transmission of knowledge from one party to another, and of collaborative writers as a unified identity, exploring instead a model of writing and reading as frictive, confused, self-interrupting. Performatively hijacking this production of knowledge, we are curious as to how subjectivity and knowledge are formed, or denied, through this potentially riotous or fragmented act. We move from the a *mobilisation*, a collectivising, to discover an as-yet unknown *mobile*, or motive. What notions of rigour might be salvaged, or emerge? How can we understand citation and distinction of different voices when processes of individualisation or ownership might collapse?

Each shift of writer/performers arrives at a populated and fragile terrain. The google document is not a non-editable 'pdf' nor another saved copy of a 'word' document, but a place in which content is vulnerable to edits, accidents, deletion. What will be communicated by individual voices, and what is exposed by the gaps and collisions between these writers? Writing, seen here as an active process, moves from a means of communicating ideas to a material: a chessboard on which to willfully move, shift, introduce, take away, cheat.

Paul Hughes (MA Dance Studies 2016, University of Roehampton) and Rohanne Udall (MA Fine Art 2014, University of Edinburgh)

Tempo Rubato

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