

DEPARTURE LOUNGE CHECK-IN FESTIVAL 2017

Work: RP

Company: Tempura Batter

Description of the work

In *RP*, two performers simultaneously attempt to repeat a radio broadcast of the day's news as they hear it delivered through their headphones. Within the gallery these contemporary town criers perform a seemingly simple task, yet their delivery is deceptively complex in its laborious and live mediation through the body. Repurposed as an aesthetic material, the text is elevated to an ephemeral artwork. Conversely, the gallery (the white cube space abstracting the arts from the outside world) is indirectly witness to external realities.

The performers become visibly strained by the demand for continuous close attention and speech. The duration of the work exposes the materiality of information as it is processed and passed through the body. Moments of distraction or misunderstanding, and attempts to catch breath, ambiguously intermingle with the rhythm of the original broadcasters' speech. Slips of the tongue and hesitation make the viewer uncertain of the reliability of speech in its recirculation (and inevitable transformation). This regular news broadcast is revealed as an impossibly dense period of information. The desire to keep aware, informed and educated becomes a strategic and accidental process of filtering - as much as we must listen to the noise of the world, we will inevitably misunderstand, and exclude parts of it too.

Rehearsal documentation: <https://vimeo.com/195188746>

This piece is applied alongside *A House Made of Cardboard and Tape*, with its distinct application. We would happy to present both or just one of these works, depending on your availability and interest.

Artist CV/Biog

Tempura Batter's 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 fidgeting, shifting, distraction and emulation.

We work with what is close to hand, and across diverse media. Our writing projects host collisions and confusions between participants, and unfold out towards the reader through instruction and suggestion. These uncertain encounters take place on the stage through a spectator/performer relationship that moves between the empathizable and the distant. Exploring cliché gestures of sensation and thought, we manipulate the space between internal sensation and a viewing audience. In questioning the performance of the 'neutral'

body, our work unsettles and engrosses both the fleeting spectator and a more sustained encounter.

Recent work includes Empty Gestures (Rich Mix; Attenborough Arts Centre; 2016) and Partner Dances For One (Camden People's Theatre; Battersea Arts Centre; l'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/>

Vimeo: <https://vimeo.com/user22040742>

Space Required

Gallery

Duration and stage of creation on date of performance (finished, work-in-progress etc)

30 minutes. A finished piece that is part of an on-going research towards a stage performance. This would be the work's second showing (previously shown to an invited audience at Hospitalfield Arts).

Audience capacity (if limited/ideal)

Durational performance for audience to come and go. No maximum capacity apart from size of gallery.

Contact details (Including location)

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