Enter a short description of what you propose:

Performed by two dancers, the work moves through a choreography of signs and gestures borrowed from multiple 'everyday' sources (such as sign language, codified religious movements, or casual unconscious motion in conversation), performed as an act of citation and virtuosic memory. Operating as a quiet poetry and fragile intimate encounter, the performance draws from a history of abstract dance but uses curiously everyday and 'meaningful' movement material.

Whilst recognizable and rehearsed the gestures are ambiguous and decontextualized - the only certainty being the intense commitment of the performers to learn and reproduce them. In this way, the work is concerned not only with the gestures themselves, devoid of their original meaning, but the question of what significant gestures are available to a performer with regards to their audience - and the 'reality' of this labour. Inspired by Tim Crouch's description of theatre "as a place where a group of people gather together", we aim to interrogate the relationship between performer and spectator - what can each offer the other; and what kind of commitment, to communication, interpretation or understanding, is demanded or expected from either side?

Duration: 20 (suggested maximum for Scratch performances)

Genre: Dance

What are your future plans for this work?
We aim to develop the work into a longer dance work, exploring possibilities through multiple iterations to negotiate the breadth of content we're looking at. Our work is interdisciplinary - we hope to develop this performance for dance, theatre and visual arts audiences.

How will performing in PULSE further the development of the work?: Performing this work at Pulse festival will give us the chance to understand the piece's possibilities within a rich and informed interdisciplinary performance scene. Currently we know our interest and understanding of this 'Empty Gestures' - but we hope to find new ways of looking at the material, new questions around how it might exist in the world and how audiences might engage with it. Additionally, we hope to begin conversations with producers, promoters and other artists around the life of this work.

Technical requirements (i.e. sound, projection facility etc.): Stage lights only, basic wash.

Does your show have to take place in a specific space? (Provide details): An end-on stage space.

Is this a new show?:

Yes

This work has grown out of a short period of recent unfunded development and has had no public showings to date. This would most likely be the work's first public showing.

If YES please explain what stage this production will be at for PULSE:

Please indicate any days between 28th May and 6th June that you are unavailable?:

We are only available during the 5th and 6th June.

ACCESSIBILITY

Do you consider your show to be accessible to Deaf and disabled people? *

If YES, please provide details below

Yes, the work has no speech, music or recorded audio.

In what way do you consider your show to be accessible, if at all?

Highly visual work. Unsuitable for visually impaired audiences.

Do you or any member of your team consider yourselves to be Deaf or disabled?
(If Yes please provide details)

No.

SELLING YOUR SHOW

Please provide up to 120 words (60 words if your application is for Scratch or Suitcase) that describe your show for the brochure, online platforms and other media: *

Two dancers establish and exhaust systems of meaning, moving from ambiguous citation to devoted and fruitless acts of labour. This choreography of everyday signs and gestures creates an intimate and quiet poetry. Tempo Rubato, a collaboration between Rohanne Udall and Paul Hughes, make work exploring suggestion, possibility and playfulness.

Please provide a 10 word description of your show that can be in press listings, festival print and other media: *

An intimate and playful choreography of everyday signs and gestures.

Age guidance and why? (please be specific) *

Suitable for all ages.

Are there any warnings re: content? If so, please provide details: *

No

SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL

Script

N.a.

YouTube footage

Video works and documentation of previous work can be found on our vimeo account:
https://vimeo.com/user22040742

Press Reviews

n.a.

Finally, is there anything else you wish to note in support of your application? *

n.a