

Calm Down, Dear 2015



Application form

Please complete this form and send as a single word attachment to Anna O'Dell (anna@cptheatre.co.uk). Unfortunately we cannot accept scripts, CVs or any other documents outside of this application form.

Contact information

Name of artist / company	Tempo Rubato (Rohanne Udall and Paul Hughes)
Lead contact	Paul Hughes
Address	
Website (if applicable)	www.rohanneudall.com / www.paulpaschal.tumblr.com
Email	p.hughespaul@gmail.com
Mobile	07809421749

Project information

Name of project	Partner Dances For One
One-line summary	Step. Twist. Turn. Shake. Rinse. Clean. Repeat. A step to the side with clown and dancer Rohanne Udall.

Other

How did you hear about this opportunity?	Artsadmin e-digest
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Please describe your proposed project (400 words)

Partner Dances For One is a performance project in its early stages by Rohanne Udall and Paul Hughes. Exploring the history of a variety of partner dances as a prescribed social and gendered act, we propose a work-in-progress solo-performance for Calm Down, Dear 2015. As Rohanne attempts to reconfigure these dances (usually physically dependent on a 'leading' partner) on stage as a solo and female body, we will question the feminist tactic of attempting to reclaiming spaces and practices associated with male control.

Throughout the work, the performer will search for pleasure or resolution in their

independent position - searching for, or in mimicry of, an absent partner, forging new partners out of space, objects or a divided self. The piece considers the social weight of isolation, loneliness, inclusion, control and empowerment - both in terms of who is dependant on whom in a partner dance: or any other relationship (including the roles of performer, director and audience).

Continuing our long-term research aims, we are curious about the attraction to participate within social structures that we can simultaneously critique: for example, the paradox of the liberatory possibilities of dance, grounded in rigorous training of prescribed movement. We're interested in control, power, freedom, choice, anxiety, pleasure, and possibility. Our inspiration for this project includes Delia Smith, Adrienne Rich, Wendy Houston, Foucault, Jerome Bel, Anna Torkkel, *Strictly Come Dancing*, *Come Dine With Me*.

We would like to propose this performance as an in-development performance (20-25 min) for a mixed-bill 'scratch' night. The project is currently undergoing initial research and development - into the historical emergence of these dances, alongside tuition into the dance practices themselves. In the late Summer we will undertake a period of rehearsals (working with improvisation and devising techniques) to develop the performance at CPT. Depending on the outcome of this research and first performance, we hope to explore the development of this project into both a full-length dance-theatre work and also a durational piece for a gallery context.

Background info on artist/company - what you've done, where, who with, what you're about (max 400 words)

Rohanne Udall and Paul Hughes collaboratively make work exploring labour, control, and performance of disruption and order. Often occupying strict spatial, temporal or formal boundaries, their performances and installations exhaust systems of meaning. *Tempo Rubato* is an umbrella title for a number of works exploring these ideas.

In the past Paul and Rohanne have devised and performed clown shows as *Jamboree*; created a durational installation *Office Simulation Space* in a disused JobCentrePlus; written a series of instructional performances for Edinburgh scratch night *Shorts & Bloomers*, the *Fresh Cream* exhibition and the London performance evening *The Shag*. In 2014 they created the *Imaginary Festivals Project* with the Forest Fringe. *Partner Dances For One* is their most recent project since undertaking a period of research & development with the New Wolsey Theatre in Ipswich.

Our work is playful and abstract, driven by conceptual concerns but rooted in a bodily and material space. We work with improvisation, and a performance technique that is grounded in clown, dance and task-based performance. We move in and out of meaning, nonsense, pleasure and labour, and play with the distance between internal sensations and a viewing audience.

Additionally, our work is influenced by our individual art practices:

Rohanne Udall (performer) is an artist, performer and theatre maker, her work explores the distance and observability of internal and external reactions, both in performer and audience. Her work utilises instructions and automated systems, whilst reveling in rebellions and failed programming. Her work has most recently been displayed at the Six Foot Gallery, Glasgow, the Old Ambulance Depot, Edinburgh and An Tobar, Mull. Working as Good Punch, with Fiona Anderson, she has performed at SmashLab XIV, Kelburn Garden Party and The Arches in Glasgow. She graduated from a MA in Fine Art at The University of Edinburgh in 2014 and was awarded the Helen A Rose Bequest for Distinguished Work.

Paul Hughes (director) is a performer, director and artist whose work is concerned with the improvising body as a site of politics, labour and expression. His work is often responsive to the means and site of its production or performance, and is informed by anarchist and ecological theory. He has made work with the Forest Fringe, Summerhall, Artsadmin, Battersea Arts Centre, The Yard Theatre, SPILL festival and The Edinburgh Festival Fringe. He is currently a member of performance ensemble Ponyboy Curtis and a Roundhouse emerging artist.

Supporting documentation - e.g. photos, publicity materials, reviews of previous work, links to videos

Open:Close, Tempo Rubato (New Wolsey Studio, April 2015):

<https://vimeo.com/130298839>

Selected documentation of Rohanne Udall's *Weekend Work*, *Weekday Work* and *Settling* (Degree Show 2014, Edinburgh College of Art) **password: temporubato**

<https://vimeo.com/128676674>

Documentation of *Let's Go*, Good Punch (SmashLab XIV, the Book Club, April 2014):

<https://vimeo.com/128676966>

Website of Imaginary Festivals Project, Tempo Rubato (Forest Fringe 2014):

<http://ifprojects.tumblr.com/>

Review of Ponyboy Curtis, *At The Yard* (The Yard Theatre, May 2015):

<http://exeuntmagazine.com/reviews/ponyboy-curtis-at-the-yard/>



Documentation of *Office Simulation Space*, Tempo Rubato (March 2013, JOBCENTRESUPERPLUS)



Documentation of *PPE*, Paul Hughes (December 2014, Battersea Arts Centre 'Artist as Activist')



Documentation of *A Labour of Love and Shame*, Tempo Rubato (Bedlam Theatre, September 2012)

If we want more information about you or your work, or a reference, who should we speak to?

Name of reference	Ira Brand
Organisation	Forest Fringe, Co-Artistic Director
Email	ire@forestfringe.co.uk

Please complete this form, turn into a PDF, and return to Anna (anna@cptheatre.co.uk) by **12pm on Fri 12 June.**

Unfortunately due to the amount of applications, we aren't able to feed back to unsuccessful applicants.

If you have any further questions, please get in touch with Anna.