

# Metal

**The Space In-Between**

**Programme Information**

Metal and Associate Producer Kate Marsh present 'The Space In-between' - a day of occupation, performance, mess, musings, glitter, and protest. The programme offers an opportunity to look beyond the binary of the 'normative' and 'othered' body. The performances, screenings and workshops will act as stimulus and springboard proposing new ways of hosting, new ways of moving and new ways of being together. The event is the culmination of 18 months of activity, working with 24 artists from across the UK through intensive research and development LABs and residencies at Metal in Peterborough, Southend and Liverpool.

Many of the artworks and discussions will be BSL interpreted, with audio description on request. If you have any specific access needs please talk to a member of the Metal team.

Please note that some of the material, films and performances may contain strong language, nudity and explicit content. If you have any questions please talk to a member of the Metal team.

The event is generously supported by Arts Council England through its *Change Makers* programme.

**ARTIST AND PROGRAMME DESCRIPTIONS**

<b>Ashleigh P Owen</b> <a href="http://www.ashleighowen.co.uk">www.ashleighowen.co.uk</a>	<b>*may contain strong language</b>
<b>Performance</b> - Ashleigh P Owen is a 'fat, queer, working class artist and performer' whose work focuses on themes surrounding her identity (such as body image, class, gender roles, LGBTQIA+ issues and mental health) through cabaret, comedy and parody.  <i>HIP HIP I'M GAY!</i> is a new musical comedy cabaret in development exploring the link between mental health and Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Queer identity, 'with a farcical nod towards how society generalises us and our identities'. Ashleigh is creating this piece as a letter to our current society, commenting on its still very prevalent prejudices in the way she knows best – through comedy!	
<b>Caroline Bowditch</b> <a href="http://www.carolinebowditch.com">www.carolinebowditch.com</a>	
<b>Discussion</b> - Performance artist and choreographer Caroline Bowditch describes herself as a performer, maker, teacher, speaker and mosquito buzzing in the ears of the arts industry in the UK and further afield. She will chair a panel discussion with the participating artists exploring the themes of The Space In-Between. This will include the opportunity for audience discussion.	
<b>Catherine Hoffman</b> <a href="http://www.cathoffmann.com">www.cathoffmann.com</a>	<b>*will contain nudity</b>
<b>Performance</b> - Excerpts from <i>CYST-ER ACT</i> (actual running time 55mins)  The piece originated from Catherine's personal experience of having her ovary and fallopian tube cut off. Keeping a diary throughout this experience, she wanted to make a show reflecting on her own thoughts around illness, sexuality and ageing. The process led to talking with other women about their experiences, diving into the world of gynaecology and bringing in the amazing 'PolyCysters' to perform alongside her. The show is an attempt at healing - allowing women's health, their bodies (both internally and externally) and knowledge greater visibility.  Concept, writing and performance: Catherine Hoffmann; Lighting Designer: Marty Langthorne; Direction and dramaturgy: Jan Van den Bosch; Costume Designer: Jack Goode; Performers: Sarah Jane Grimshaw	

and Amanda Radix, Producer: Laura Sweeney

Described as 'an elemental weather system' Catherine creates a mixture of interactive one to one performances as well as staged pieces. Her work explores the intersection between performance art, theatre, comedy and music. She combines process-based actions, texts, visuals and extended use of the voice in a number of solo and collaborative projects.

**Fernanda Muñoz-Newsome**

**\*may contain strong language**

[www.cargocollective.com/fernandamunoznewsome](http://www.cargocollective.com/fernandamunoznewsome)

**Performance – 'something purple: my whole body overflows with thought'**

Fernanda's work links to questions around gender, ease and (dis)comfort as embodied experience through spoken word and dance exploring the female and non-binary body in public space; and reclaiming a sense of empowerment from pleasure. Music is by Junior XL.

Fernanda Muñoz-Newsome was born in UK, of English and Chilean descent. She works with composers, visual artists, music producers, pop/punk bands, choreographers and dance artists. Fernanda is particularly interested in alternative performance contexts and the experience and transformation between public and private bodies.

**Gareth Cutter and Gemma Nash**

[www.gemmanashartist.com](http://www.gemmanashartist.com)

[www.garethcutter.com](http://www.garethcutter.com)

**Performance** - Gemma and Gareth create eerie and seductive soundscapes of electronic textures and organic found-sounds in their attempt to capture and celebrate the strangeness of the voice. For *The Space In-Between*, they will be experimenting with live sound performance for the first time, presenting a selection of work-in-progress scenes reflecting on the voice's historical myths and legends, and speculating what it might sound like in the future.

Gareth is an artist working in performance, writing, music, movement and curation. He makes queer work: work about penetrability and the cis-male body; the in-between space occupied by the HIV 'undetected' body (neither well or unwell in the conventional sense); and the queerness of the voice, immaterial yet of the body.

Gemma is a digital storyteller and sound artist whose work focuses on re-imagining the 'othered' body and the complex relationship between medicine, disability and ethics. Her compositions incorporate rehashed found sounds and other recycled materials to create impressionistic and disjointed pieces.

**Hamish MacPherson and Kimberley Harvey**

[www.hamishmacpherson.co.uk](http://www.hamishmacpherson.co.uk)

**Film - *Zu vier Händen I***

The film is part of an ongoing dialogue between Kimberley and Hamish as they follow their own separate but related artistic research enquiries into holding (Kimberley); and care and passivity (Hamish). The project is a series of hand conversations involving a range of unremarkable objects, such as electrical tape, glitter and a spiky ball. Through these materials we see the detail of how the four hands investigate, direct and respond to each other.

Camera: Luke W Moody

**Performance - *Zu vier Händen II***

A short introductory performance workshop comprised of a series of table-top conversations with the artists.

Kimberley is a freelance dancer, choreographer and teacher. She is also a Candoco Artist and Dancer-in-Residence at Great Ormond Street Children's Hospital. Kimberley has her own inclusive contemporary dance company, Subtle Kraft Co., which she formed in 2011 with Anna Bergström. Their work centres around 'what it means to be human' – exploring relationships, communication and connection from a variety of perspectives through live work and film.

Hamish is a choreographer, using performance, workshops, LARPs, games and other things to create environments for people to think, learn and be together. These structures are often decentralised and self-organising, combining physical activity and conversation and have dealt with themes like somatic citizenship, resentment, care and the future.

#### **Jemima Hoadley**

**Performance** - *HE (and me)* is the beginnings of an exploration of the 'otherness' of Jemima's role as parent carer to her son Nathan who has Down's syndrome, Type 1 diabetes and an obsession with Romeo & Juliet. 'It's about taking a look at the world through his eyes and seeing where HE (and me) fit in'.

Jemima is a dance artist with 20 years' experience of performing, choreographing and teaching in the UK and abroad. She is a Candoco Artist and former Director of Highfliers Training Company for dancers with learning disabilities from 2014-2018. She is a BSL Communicator and has worked with several dance companies to facilitate making the work accessible to deaf audiences.

#### **Julie Cleves and Robbie Syngé**

[www.juliecleves.com](http://www.juliecleves.com)     [www.robbiesynge.com](http://www.robbiesynge.com)

**Performance** – Julie, based in London, and Robbie, based in The Highlands, collaboratively address physical access issues through choreographic actions and DIY object design. Working together for almost a decade, their practice was initially founded in developing a specific studio-based floor movement technique. Their attention has more recently shifted to getting outdoors, being visible in the world and achieving task-based choreographies through simple ideas such as sitting together on grass or moving together along an uneven forest path. For *The Space In-between* they will present a live durational performance and show films of their outdoor work.

#### **Kitty Fedorec**

[www.kittyfedorec.com](http://www.kittyfedorec.com)

**\*may contain nudity and strong language**

**Performance** – For the development of *Some Day Dominion*, Kitty is inspired by current global politics with historical echoes, her grandparents' experiences as refugees, early 20<sup>th</sup> Century geopolitical theory, subcultures as refuge and the music of The Sisters of Mercy. *Some Day Dominion* sits between live art, dance, ritual and gig. It utilises found movement, nostalgia, storytelling, phonomancy and live music from gender-f\*cked tribute band, The Mistresses of Circe to create a protective pocket goth world beyond borders.

Kitty is a performer and creator, with a strong interest in the relationship between dance, place and the mind. Her work is informed by her experiences of queerness, mental illness and neuro-atypicality.

#### **Luke Pell**

[www.lukepell.org](http://www.lukepell.org)

**Discussion** - Artist, performer and dramaturg Luke Pell will host a 'relaxed' conversation for artists and audiences on the emerging themes of the day. Through his practice, Luke collaborates with other artists and organisations imagining alternative contexts for performance, participation and discourse that might reveal wisdoms for living. Noticing threads that weave between people and place, his work takes form as intimate encounters, poetic objects, installations and environments – choreographies – for physical and virtual spaces.

**Matt Lewis**

[www.mattlewis.info](http://www.mattlewis.info)

**Walking tour / soundscape** - Matt is a sound artist and musician. His work is most often focused on particular physical sites, or around particular social issues, such as regeneration, sonic inclusivity and urban planning. A strong participatory and educational aspect to his work exists as an important counterpoint to his practice. The project presented for *The Space In-between* is a playful, prototype sound work that allows the audience to navigate space by reacting to a choreographed route around the Southbank Centre using audio description, automated voice, and 3D sound.

**Rob Hesp and Tim Casson**

[www.cassonandfriends.com](http://www.cassonandfriends.com)

[www.roberthesp.co.uk](http://www.roberthesp.co.uk)

**Film** - Rob and Tim shared a beautiful moment in the initial Change Makers Lab at Metal over the mutual love of a specific Britney Spears choreography. Since then, the pair have come together to find more joy in these moves and to hold shared jams, choreographies and conversations exploring joy and shame, shifting gay and queer identities, the right to joy and self acceptance, gender expression, societal labelling, 'maleness', and public and private intimacy.

This film presents a slice of their joint explorations, returning to the pair's starting point by performing an 'ultimate Britney dance', chronologically capturing and stitching together moves from Britney's iconic video canon.

Performers: Robert Hesp and Tim Casson, Music: 'Born to Make You Happy' Britney Spears, Rehearsal Director: Chloe Mead, Filmed at Studio Wayne McGregor

Working as Casson & Friends, Tim is a Dance Artist with a collaborative practice focussed on interactivity, accessibility and joy. Working with a range of collaborators from coders to audio describers, Tim makes work for theatres, public, unusual and online spaces, giving equal value to all contexts. Tim often works with communities and members of the public, placing their experiences at the heart of the work. This is the first time Tim is working autobiographically to explore his own experience. Tim is currently Associate Artist at DanceEast.

Rob is an interdisciplinary artist and dancer interested in temporality and how the choreographies/ actions/ resistances of today manifest and imprint themselves into our shared cultures, histories and archaeology. Or how they disappear completely. His work is constructed from a continuous but shifting queer perspective, and frequently explores the use of mess, objects and materials alongside the human form.

**Rowan James**

[www.rowanjamespoet.co.uk](http://www.rowanjamespoet.co.uk)

**Performance** - *A Room Full of Elephant* is the first scratch performance of Rowan's new show in development, aimed at exploring the complicated maze of how we value and view difference and the judgments we make.

Rowan is a poet and theatre maker. His work explores the world around him using word play, wit and well thought out audience experiences. He delivers complex rhymes with directness and swagger, making work that holds you tenderly by the collar while it slaps you in the face - subversive, quick-witted, full of road hardened wordplay and the flare of showmanship.

**Samuel Kennedy**

[www.samuel-kennedy.com](http://www.samuel-kennedy.com)

**Film** – *Looks Like God Left The Phone Off The Hook* is a new video work by Sam Williams and Samuel Kennedy. It appropriates the zombie body and uses it as a site to perform notions of British working-class identity. Shot in Southend-on-Sea, the film exploits the strong cultural markers that coastal towns still hold, and the ways they perform “Britishness”. The film is deliberately ambiguous in its presentation of the zombie body and seeks to steer away from it as a distant threat of abject horror and position it closer to a lived reality in contemporary Britain. There is an alluding to the idea that the monsters are already inside of us and it is the performance of “civility” that is most monstrous in its manifestation. Have we been left behind?

Directed by Sam Williams, Performed by Samuel Kennedy and Lucy McCormick, Shot by Paul Bates, Make-up by Elle McMahan, Sound by Helen Noir.

Samuel is an independent dance and performance artist. His work is political. It wants to scare you. It wants you to feel something. Anything. Scrapping with abstraction and absurdity. Action. Artifice. Anality. Routing around queerness and nihilism and the body.

**Sarah Blanc**

[www.sarahblanc.com](http://www.sarahblanc.com)

**Performance** - A new outdoor dance theatre piece looking inside the head of Jane Morris- a 19th century artist’s muse. Playing with power, and exploring femininity and control, Sarah and the team have been imagining and reimagining what her experience as a muse could have been like. Her story fascinates them and they are in love with her. The work in progress performance presents brand new ideas and they are keen to hear audience feedback.

Sarah is an Irish performer and choreographer based in London. She is Artistic Director of Moxie Brawl, an all-female dance theatre company that makes work for outdoors, indoors and places where dance shouldn’t be. As a freelance choreographer she has recently worked with Complicite on *A Pacifists Guide to the War on Cancer*, Bryony Kimmings’ *I’m a Phoenix Bitch* and Greenwich and Lewisham Young People’s Theatre to create a dance film in a local hospice. She is a Resident Artist at Great Ormond Street Hospital and an Associate Artist with Candoco Dance Company.

**Tanja Erhart**

**Performance** - Tanja and her collaborator Katharina Senk met in summer 2017 as lecturers at the *Stretching the Physicality of Dance* conference in Berlin. This first real life-encounter initiated many more digital ones: emails, Facebook-messages, video-calls... there was a need to stay in touch - a need to stretch the possibilities of human connection - through the use of on-line tools. Through the residency at Metal, the two dance-artists had the possibility to meet in real-life again. They talked, asked questions, explored, improvised, moved, were moved, rested, ate, slept, went to the beach and started all over again. For *The Space In-between* you are invited to experience a structured improvisation and explore with the artists how to find each other across borders, as Katharina will be live-streamed from Vienna to the Southbank Centre. The artists will muse on questions arising from the themes, exploring physicality across space, time and everything in-between.

Tanja Erhart, born in Tyrol/Austria, studied in Vienna and graduated her MA as a cultural and social anthropologist in 2012. She specialised in dance, performance and disability studies. Meanwhile she also trained as a contemporary dancer and joined Candoco in 2014. She toured, performed and taught inclusive dance practice across the world. Currently Tanja is an independent dance artist and cultural scientist based in London exploring her interests of physical, emotional, and mental well-being as well as the interconnectedness of being an artist and a citizen of the world.

Katharina Senk is an Austrian dance-performer, pedagogue and choreographer based in Vienna. In her personal artistic practice Katharina looks for ways to join her interests in psychotherapy, neuroscience and epigenetics with her knowledge from the fields of dance and movement.

#### **Vicky Malin**

**One to One Performances** - Vicky Malin explores the possibilities of her hands to better understand their movement, connections, experiences and stories. With her own perspectives and experiences central to the research, this creative practice is in relation to encounters with many others, including doctors, artists, friends and strangers. Watch her solo practice or join Vicky for a one to one conversation.

Vicky, former company dancer and now a Candoco Artist and independent choreographer/dance artist is based in London. She continues to perform, teach and create pieces of work for different settings. She has also recently become an accredited life coach, providing one to one coaching sessions for artists. Vicky has re-ignited a keen interest in neuroscience from her past studies in Psychology and is beginning to research more in this field, particularly in relation to her own movement.

#### **Welly O'Brien**

**Film** - *The Fainting Couch* is based on Welly's deepening fascination with the gaze, observation and the objectified body - who observes who and how do we observe each other, especially within contained and framed spaces like the camera, computer screen or the theatre? Through the persona of 'Sylvia', Welly also challenges and destabilises assumptions and expectations about her own image as performer. To realise the project, she worked with long term friends - film maker Ben Hawley and designer Rachel Edwards - to help bring her ideas to studio and film.

Welly O'Brien has been performing for over 20 years. She has worked in Integrated dance for over 17 years. Welly has performed and taught both nationally and internationally, travelling all over the world. She has worked with Candoco Dance Company, Caroline Bowditch, Graeae Theatre Company, La Fura dels Baus, Underground7, Scarabeus, and others.

#### **The Space In-Between Zine – audio description**

Each attendee at the symposium will receive a copy of a Zine – a compilation of thoughts and musings by our participating Change Maker artists and their mentors. An audio description of the Zine will be available on the day. The Zine and the audio description contain strong language, nudity and explicit content.

For more information about Metal see [www.metalculture.com](http://www.metalculture.com). Your feedback is very important to us. Please visit the Feedback section on our website and leave your audience comments.

Metal and Kate would like to express thanks to all the contributing artists and their collaborators; all those providing expert access support; all the staff at the Southbank Centre; The Seedbed Trust and Arts Council England.

**Metal**



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**ARTS COUNCIL  
ENGLAND**

**SOUTHBANK  
CENTRE**

Time	Blue Room	Foyer		White room	
10.30am		Registration (BSL / AD)		Robbie and Julie (12pm: BSL / AD)	
11am	Caroline Bowditch – discussion (BSL)		Vicky Malin 121's (BSL / AD)		Tanja Erhart performance (BSL / AD)
11.30am			Vicky Malin 121's		Samuel Kennedy projection*
12pm	Gareth Cutter and Gemma Nash (BSL / AD)	Jemima Hoadley (BSL / AD)		LUNCH	Tanja Erhart performance
12.30pm		Fernanda Munoz-Newsome			Samuel Kennedy projection* (BSL / AD)
1pm					
1.30pm	Ashleigh P Owen (BSL / AD)	Vicky Malin (BSL / AD)		LUNCH	
2pm		Sarah Blanc (AD)			Discussion led by Luke Pell (BSL)
2.30pm	Rowan James (BSL / AD)	Fernanda Munoz-Newsome (BSL / AD)			Hamish MacPherson and Kimberley Harvey workshop (BSL / AD)
3pm				Samuel Kennedy projection	
3.30pm	Cath Hoffman* (BSL / AD)		Vicky Malin 121's	Projection of films normally on the TV screen (BSL / AD)	
4pm		Jemima Hoadley (BSL / AD)		Hamish MacPherson and Kimberley Harvey workshop (BSL / AD)	
4.30pm	Kitty Fedorec* (BSL / AD)				
5pm		Sarah Blanc	Vicky Malin 121's (AD)		
5.30pm	FINISH / chat	FINISH / chat			FINISH / chat

Matt Lewis audio tours

Sit with Me – opportunity to chat to artists

Loop of films: Welly O'Brien, Rob Hesp and Tim Casson, Julie Cleves and Robbie Syngé, Hamish MacPherson and Kimberley Harvey (AD at 5pm)

Audio described zine

BSL – British Sign Language interpretation available  
AD – audio described performance / screening  
\*- may include explicit language, nudity and / or violence