



BODY OF (AS) KNOWLEDGE:

'HANDLE WITH CARE' AND

'PLEASE DO TOUCH'

DR RACHEL KRISCHE

OUTPUT INFORMATION

Title:
Body Of (As) Knowledge: 'Handle with Care' and
'Please Do Touch'

Output Type:
I – Performance

Venues:
Nottingham Contemporary; Derby Museum;
Nottingham Castle, NottDance Festival; New Walk
Museum and Art Gallery; Dance Limerick

Year of first performance:
2016

Authors:
Sally Doughty, Lisa Kendall, and Rachel Krische

Output allocation:
Dance practice research



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION STATEMENT

Body Of (As) Knowledge (BOK) is an Arts Council-funded, practice-as-research project examining the body as a living archive.

Phase one, Handle With Care: InDialogue Symposium, included activities aligned towards understanding of traditional practices that exist regarding preservation, cataloguing and archiving in order to re/consider how to use corporeal archives in the generation and performance of dance practices. A series of residencies was undertaken at The Silk Mill Museum, Derby (2017, open to public viewing) and Dance4 International Centre for Choreography, Nottingham (2017) and included three performative outcomes.

Phase two focused on the development and performance of Please Do Touch. Conceived to be performed in gallery/museum spaces, this performance work challenges traditional notions of what an archive might be. It considers how embodied memory can be rich in history and how active re-calling provokes the re-emergence of what was once 'forgotten'. It further aims to provoke audiences' memories, as the artists recall and share their own personal histories through improvised movement, and spoken and sung responses. Please Do Touch opens up debate around the body as archive: what it means to document/generate, re-call and re-configure our histories (in the now) and how transferable this thinking can be to a non-dancing body.

Please Do Touch was presented at New Walk Museum and Art Gallery, Leicester (1-2 December, 2018), Modes of Capture: The Capturing of Process in Contemporary Dance-Making conference, University of Limerick, Ireland (22 June, 2019) and Cultural Exchanges Festival, Leicester Gallery, De Montfort University, Leicester, (15 February, 2020).

Findings were also disseminated as a book chapter - Krische, R. V., Osborne Kendall, L., and Doughty, S. (2020). The Holding Space: Body Of (As) Knowledge. In S. Whatley (Ed.), Body Space Object Memory Identity. London: Palgrave, 2019 - which connected to an online repository for film, audio and written documentation of BOK.



Photo credit:
Jason Senior at Redpix

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‘The dancers seemed to be slowly breaking down our expectations – a solo dancer dancing to shalamar in a Victorian gallery! This not only appeared to challenge convention it also offered a modern day twist on our rules of engagement with such a grand, historical space’

Audience member, Dr Kerry Francksen: Leicester 2018

GG

‘What also made this work special, besides its playful yet respectful exploration of space and behaviour, was the depth and knowledge the dancers brought to the work. All three women, clearly experienced in both their craft and in life, demonstrated an intelligence and strength of character that enigmatically pulled you into their world’

Audience member, Dr Kerry Francksen: Leicester 2018



Teaser video for Please Do Touch | Saturday 1st and Sunday 2nd
December 2018, Leicester New Walk Museum and Art Gallery

<https://vimeo.com/315483156>



Performance at NottDance 2017 | Sunday 12th March 2017,
Nottingham Castle

<https://vimeo.com/219719654>



Performance at InDialogue | Thursday 1st December 2016, Nottingham Contemporary

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=56tfB0lz7do&t=1s>



HANDLE WITH CARE: TWO, 2 December 2016

[HTTPS://WWW.YOUTUBE.COM/WATCH?V=XEGCUAUPBC4](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XEGCUAUPBC4)



Performative Presentation at *Thinking Dance: Questioning the Contemporary* conference | 16 October 2015, Leeds Beckett University

<https://vimeo.com/229689719>

SALLY DOUGHTY, RACHEL KRISCHE AND LISA KENDALL (UK)

Body of Knowledge

Undertaken by dance artists Sally Doughty, Rachel Krische and Lisa Kendall, *Body of Knowledge* is a year-long research project that explores the body as a living archive and how it might be treated as such through collection, articulation and dissemination, so challenging traditional archival methods reliant upon artefacts and documents.

In partnership with Derby Museums, the first research phase has included residency time at Dance4's International Centre for Choreography, discussions with the museum curators and archivists and presenting initial research as part of the international symposium InDialogue, Nottingham. The artists explore the body as a means of making: past, present and future, drawing from The Silk Mill and its collections of Making and Social History.

Phase two provides an opportunity to expand the research further through open dialogues and residencies, and will include some opportunities to meet the artists including a Sunday Supplement (see more on page 7).

OPEN RESIDENCIES

Drop in and see Sally, Rachel and Lisa in residence within The Silk Mill, this is an invitation to come along and witness them during their process, giving an insight into their research and what they have been up to.

SATURDAY 7 JANUARY 1PM – 5PM
THE SILK MILL, DERBY DE1 3AF
FREE

In pursuit of understanding how the body might amass and conserve the archive, the artists curate their own and each others' collections in and around The Silk Mill Hub. They invite you to drop in, observe and share their creative process.

SATURDAY 11 MARCH 1PM – 5PM
THE SILK MILL, DERBY DE1 3AF
FREE

**'The body as
archivist is one
thing. The body
as archive is
quite another'**

André Lepecki



Photo: The Silk Mill © Derby Museums Trust

WHAT'S IN YOUR ARCHIVE?

Working with themes from the Body of Knowledge research, join Sally Doughty to practically explore the potential for using movements and memories from your personal archive to generate new ideas and materials. You will write and move but you do not need any dance experience to take part.

SUNDAY 26 FEBRUARY 10.30AM – 12.30PM
IC4C, SPACE2, NOTTINGHAM NG3 2AR
Tickets: £10
www.dance4.co.uk
Suitable for 16+

Q&A VIDEO SERIES

As part of Body of Knowledge Dance4 is releasing a series of 1 minute long videos with the artists answering questions about main themes and issues they explore in the project. For more information on Body of Knowledge visit www.dance4.co.uk.

Produced by Dance4, the research is supported by Derby Museums Trust, De Montfort University, Leeds Beckett University and supported using public funding by the National Lottery through Arts Council England.

References: Lepecki, A. (2010) 'The body as archive: Will to re-enact and the afterlives of dances' in *Dance Research Journal*, 42(2) Winter

Silk Mill Museum Residency 2017



Please Do Touch, Leicester, 2018

Photo credits:
Jason Senior at Redpix

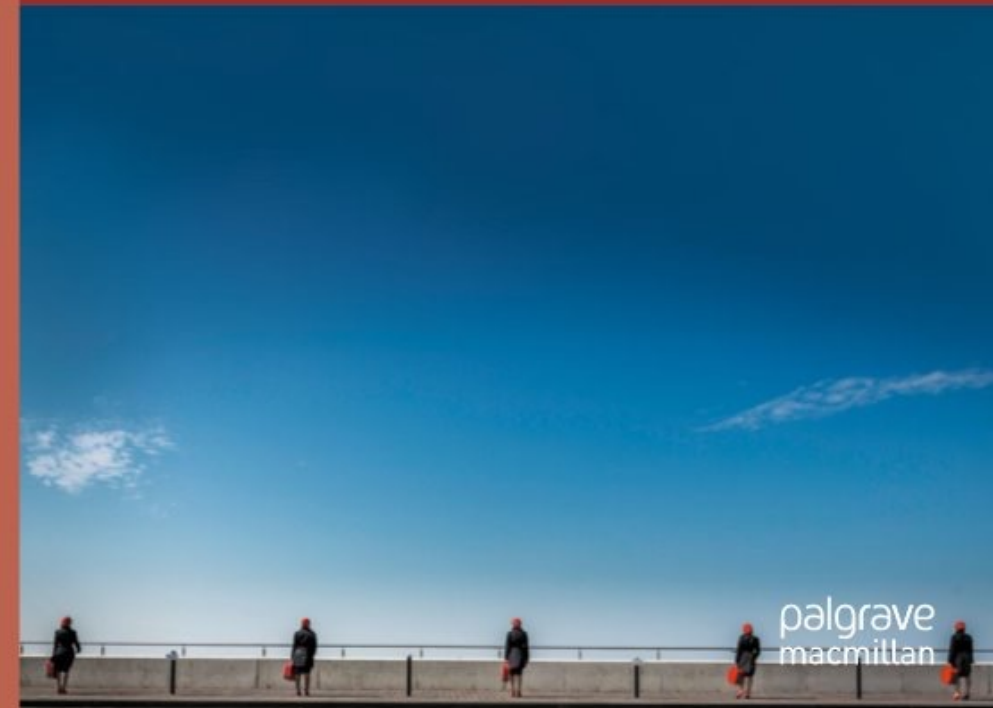




Art and Dance in Dialogue

Body, Space, Object

Edited by Sarah Whatley · Imogen Racz
Katerina Paramana · Marie-Louise Crawley



palgrave
macmillan

Photo credit:
Jason Senior at Redpix



Keywords:

Dance
Performance
Archive
Embodiment

Links:

<https://www.bodyofknowledge.co.uk>

Funding Credit:

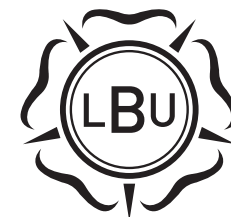
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