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# INTUSSUSCEPTION

**SARAH ROE**

# OUTPUT INFORMATION

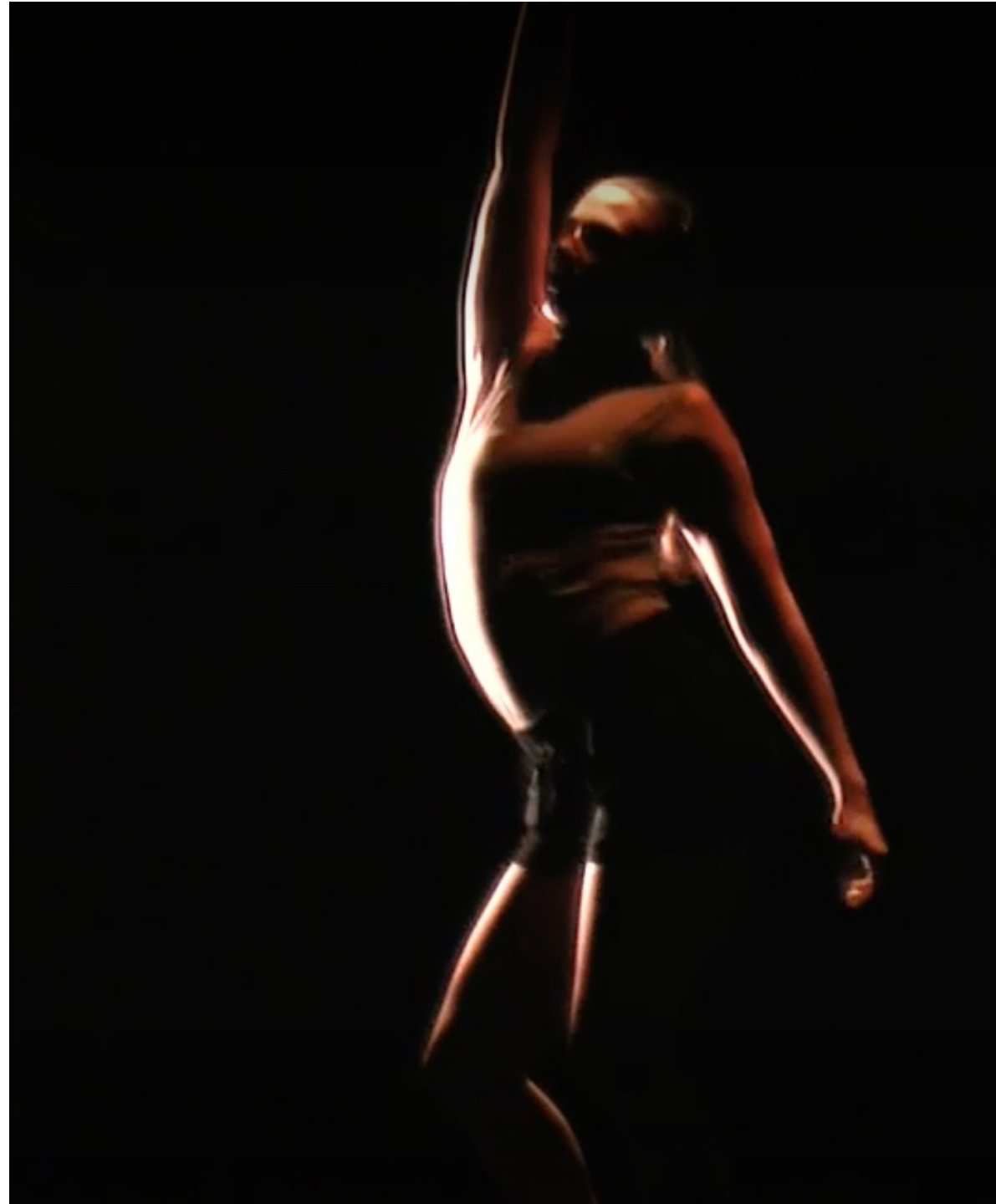
Title:  
Intussusception

Output Type:  
I – Performance

Venue:  
Hull Truck Theatre

Year of first performance:  
2015

Output allocation:  
Dance practice research



# ADDITIONAL INFORMATION STATEMENT

Intussusception (2015) is a choreographic work, with related journal article published in Research in Dance Education. The output addresses the question: How might Drew Leder's concept of the 'Absent Body' (1990) be adopted as choreographic strategy? The article, 'Chasing Ambiguity: Critical Reflections on Working with Dance Graduates' (2017), examined the extent to which ambiguity experienced during the choreographic process became part of the relationship between artist-pedagogue and student-dancer.

The starting point for practical research was Drew Leder's text 'The Absent Body', in particular his analysis of the ecstatic and recessive body in relation to 'dysfunction'. During the choreographic process, 'dysfunction' was interpreted as 'dys-comfort' and, together, the dancers explored the terrain of each other's bodies to move the recessive to the ecstatic. In doing so, attention was placed on Leder's conceptual framework; the performance investigated, amongst other things, belly buttons, the frustration of unlicked sugary lips, and the confusion that occurs when heads and crotches intertwine.

The author found that in provoking the recessive out of absence both the ecstatic and recessive body is always receding from direct experience. Therefore, the pursuit of absence was fundamental to choreographic process. Other findings related to dance pedagogy: Intussusception revealed the lack of discussion around ambiguity in choreography in the context of Higher Education due to its current rigidity.

Intussusception premiered live for the Hull Dance Prize at the Hull Truck Theatre (October 2015). Intussusception won the Artist Prize and was awarded £1,500 for further development. Judges of the prize were: Rita Marcalo, independent dance artist; Pete Shenton from New Art Club; and David Watson, Director of Hull City of Culture 2017.



Still from film of *Intussception*  
performed at Hull Truck Theatre



Stills from film of *Intusception* performed at Hull Truck Theatre



Stills from film of *Intusception* performed at Hull Truck Theatre



Winning the Hull Dance Prize at  
the Hull Truck Theatre

Keywords:

Choreography

Dance

Performance

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