

6687... by Holly Worton.

THE
NEW
2021

A rchive

This booklet is an archive of Holly Worton's performance, 6687..., during her final year at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland (RCS).



Overview

Title.	6687...
Artist.	Holly Worton
Location.	Glasgow, UK
Date.	Friday 5th March 2021
Duration.	33:27
Medium.	Performance
Collaborators.	Sam Worton
Description.	

6687... is a collaboration and conversation between Holly and Sam Worton about music and the things that they don't talk about, which takes place on trampolines. They are all grown up now and can't quite believe it. This exhaustive performance shares something of Holly and Sam, past and present, as they attempt to deconstruct their relationship from childhood to adulthood and why they rely on music to have difficult conversations. It explores their shifting dynamic as big sister and little brother in an ever-changing world.



Playlist

Click the Spotify icon to listen to the 6687... playlist. Each song features in the performance. We recommend listening to the playlist while reading this booklet.

Track 1. Bubbles: Biffy Clyro

Track 2. Come Dancing: The Kinks

Track 3. Rockin' Chair: Oasis

Track 4. Millennial: Sam Fender

Track 5. Live forever: Oasis

Image: Holly and Sam at Catfish and the Bottlemen in Bellahouston Park, Glasgow, as part of Glasgow Summer Sessions 2018. Click on the image to listen.



Artist Biography



6687...

Holly Worton

Do you remember when you were young? What music did you listen to? Who did you listen to it with? In 2002, my life changed and into the world came a human who I would grow to love. My brother, Sam. I was alive for 1342 days before he was born. I can remember none of these days. We have been alive together for just over 6687 days. If only we could remember each one.

6687... is a collaboration and conversation between Holly Worton and Sam Worton about music and the things that they don't talk about, which takes place on trampolines. They are all grown up now and they can't quite believe it. This exhaustive performance shares something of Holly and Sam, past and present as they attempt to deconstruct their relationship from childhood to adulthood and why they rely on music to have difficult conversations with each other. It explores their shifting dynamic as big sister and little brother in an ever-changing world.

Holly Worton is a Glasgow-based, multi-disciplinary artist from Motherwell. In her studio work Holly explores the use of materials, physical exhaustion, conversation and play to interrogate the relationship between her experience and the wider world. She often approaches her work from a feminist lens, focusing on her role as a woman in order to discuss wider themes of strength, endurance and safety. With experience across various social contexts, including schools and hospices, Holly has developed a strong socially engaged thread within her practice, focusing on engaging communities.

Instagram [@hollywortonartist](#)
Twitter [@worton_holly](#)

Image: Artist biography from Into The New brochure.

MOVE



JUMP



DANCE



RUN

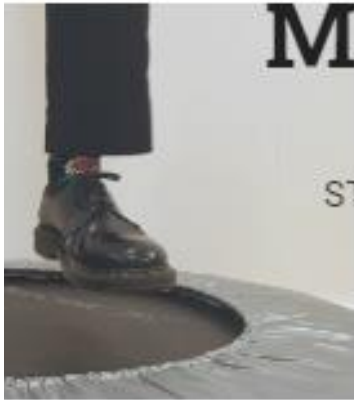


STAND



STOP

MOVE



STRETCH



RISE



FALL



SCREAM

STOP



Reflections



Play and childhood

The interaction between siblings, the trampolines, and text – which focused on movement – suggested exhaustion and children at play. This highlighted the loss of play in adulthood and the stage as a space to resume play. Gigs became an alternative form of play and exhaustion in early adulthood for the performers.



Relationship

The construction of the trampolines reflected the development of their relationship over time; while its final deconstruction symbolised the end of their childhood.



Exhaustion

Movement contributed to a sense of exhaustion, connected to childhood. It was interesting to see how the conversation changed in sound, pace, and content based on breathing. It demonstrated the role of physicality and exhaustion in bonding and forming connections, and its cathartic nature.



Community

Sam was not a trained performer, providing authenticity and prompting us to ask who participates in a performance and why. There was therefore a sense of community, which is reflected in Holly's other work.

Music

This played a strong role in the sibling connection and resonated with viewers from a similar location and generation.



Image: Sam at Glasgow Summer Sessions 2019. Music and gigs are one of the key elements running throughout the piece, connecting Holly and Sam during their adolescence.

Interview

Image: Holly and Sam before TRNSMT Festival 2018, taken in Holly's old bedroom, which became Sam's room.



How did you begin developing this piece?

Initially, I explored verbs like rip and applied these to materials. I wanted to work with someone and I was interested in exploring my relationship with my brother. He's not a performer, so I was also interested in that. The process has been about trying different things out, having fun, and reflecting on what we wanted to explore. We thought about childhood and the memories of our trampoline in the back garden.

Did you learn anything new about each other?

We ended up having deeper conversations during the performance and in its preparation than we do in real life.

Why does exhaustion and physicality interest you?

Our relationship is based on physical activities like going to gigs. I wanted to enjoy the performance, and I'm interested in durational work and being out of breath. I like to feel that I've worked for something during a performance, that I've given the audience everything. I've explored topics like violence against women before in this way, smashing concrete slabs with sledgehammers.

How did you develop the script?

It wasn't scripted but spontaneous. I like the idea of doing it differently each time. This also means challenges can arise which we respond to in the moment.



Ticket Stubs

These tickets show some of the gigs Holly and Sam have been to. They are displayed on Sam's bedroom wall. Click each ticket to find out more about the artists and festivals.

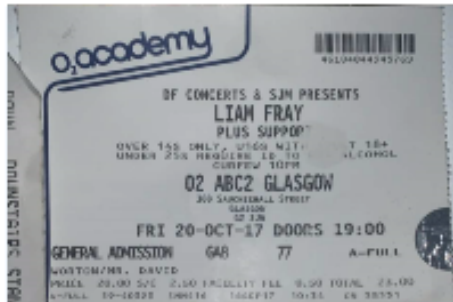


Image: Ticket from a Liam Fray gig at the O2 Academy, Glasgow, October 2017. Fray is the founder of Indie-rock band The Courteeners, based in Manchester.



Image: Ticket from a Miles Kane gig at SWG3, Glasgow, June 2019. Kane is an Indie-rock solo artist and part of The Last Shadow Puppets.



Image: Ticket from pop rock band The 1975 at Glasgow Summer Sessions in Bellahouston Park, June 2019. The festival takes place annually in the city's South Side.



Image: Ticket from TRNSMT Festival in Glasgow Green, June 2018. That year, Stereophonics, Liam Gallagher, and Arctic Monkeys headlined the festival.

Into The New

Image: Front cover of Into The New brochure, comprising work from various RCS students including Holly.



Artist Ins

The following performances informed the development of

Image: Wallflower by Quarantine.



This dance marathon recollects memories of dancing in various contexts. The performance changes every night and in one version lasts five hours. The concept of exhaustion and the power of dance in remembering is paralleled in 6687....

Image: Susan and Darren by Quarantine.

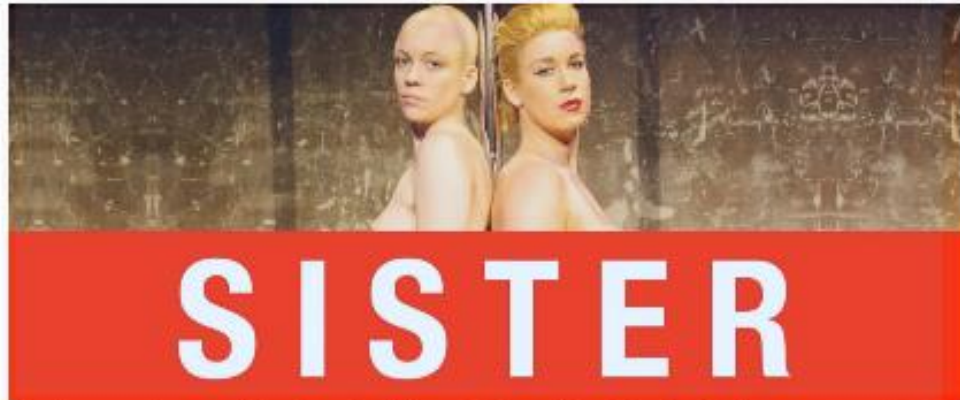


This work interrogates family and the relationship between a dancer and his mum through dance, examining extraordinary lives. This resonates in Holly's work, as an exploration of sibling relationships between a performer and non-performer.

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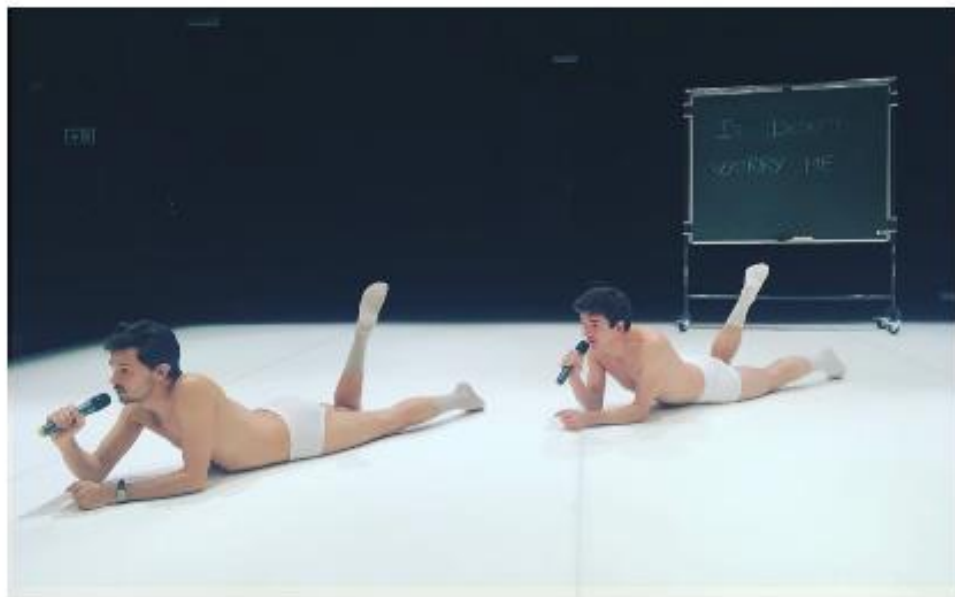
6687.... Click on each image to find out more about these works.

Image: Sister by
Roseanna Cade.



Cade explores their relationship with their sister, examining sexuality, feminism, and their childhood. These themes, expressed through movement and dance, are shared in Holly's work.

Image: It Don't Worry Me by
Atresbandes, Bertrand Lesca, and
Nasi Voutas.



This piece examines art and political correctness, through the analysis of an empty space by two commentators. The role of the commentators here is echoed by Holly and Sam in 6687... as they narrate the development of their relationship, childhood, and adolescence.



Performances

Click on each image to view the 6687... dress rehearsal and final performance. This provides a taste of the varied dialogue between rehearsals and the final piece.



Image: Screenshot from a dress rehearsal at the RCS.



Image: Screenshot from the final performance of 6687... in the Athenaeum Theatre at the RCS.