Contact: [Malaika.sarco-thomas@falmouth.ac.uk](mailto:Malaika.sarco-thomas@falmouth.ac.uk)

**Call for Proposals**

*Journal of Dance and Somatic Practices* Issue 6.2 ‘On Contact [and] Improvisation’ (late 2014)

Edited by Malaika Sarco-Thomas and Misri Dey

*Deadline for Full Papers: 20 December 2013*

Steve Paxton has said that ‘improvisation is a word for something which can’t keep a name’ (1987: 19)[[i]](https://mailspace.falmouth.ac.uk/owa/redir.aspx?C=Oe-JFUD_0kCFjzL0tlS_j9chCIiOeNAIhberKD298UbixGr-4yMPDMXp2RRVmfiUoDnNDpFuR54.&URL=http%3a%2f%2fuk-mg42.mail.yahoo.com%2fneo%2f%23_edn1), and contact improvisation by its nature is a movement proposition that is challenging to articulate.

As a dance form with a dedicated following, and as a practice that supports movement education in many contexts, contact improvisation continues to grow and contribute to disciplines as diverse as dance, somatic practices, sociology, education, philosophy, medicine, psychology and performance.

Recent contact improvisation conferences and contact improvisation teachers’ gatherings have identified the need to articulate the usefulness of contact improvisation practices in relation toother disciplines. They also aim to reflect systematically on concerns within the field, and even question the validity of the term ‘field’.  Expanding this ‘field’ to include touch-based and improvisational work affiliated with CI offers further routes toward opening up how, why, and who uses contact [and] improvisation to facilitatechange with different groups of people.  More than forty years since the initial development of CI, these questions continue to generate new narratives about the practice and its impact.

*The Journal of Dance and Somatic Practices*(*JDSP*)invites perspectives  on work that encompasses improvisational and touch-based activities in order to reflect on how contact [and] improvisation practices propose innovative frameworks forrelating.

Work by practitioners and academic researchers from diverse disciplines are welcomed which identify new windows/lenses on thesepractices and the political, ecological frameworks they represent.

*For further information please see:*[*http://jdsp.coventry.ac.uk/*](https://mailspace.falmouth.ac.uk/owa/redir.aspx?C=Oe-JFUD_0kCFjzL0tlS_j9chCIiOeNAIhberKD298UbixGr-4yMPDMXp2RRVmfiUoDnNDpFuR54.&URL=http%3a%2f%2fjdsp.coventry.ac.uk%2f)