

## **SOLO FLIGHT: COLLABORATIVE PRACTICES AND INDIVIDUAL PERFORMANCES FOR COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

### **Practitioner exhibitors**

Lisa McEwan, Auckland University of Technology (AUT), Tāmaki Makaurau Auckland, New Zealand

Heidi Latsky, Heidi Latsky Dance, New York, USA

Loren Abdulezer, Evolving Technologies Corp., New York, USA

Jen Bricker, Los Angeles, USA

Corresponding exhibitor [lisa.mcewan@aut.ac.nz](mailto:lisa.mcewan@aut.ac.nz)

### **Reviewers**

Tūhura Otago Museum team and Margo Barton

### **Gallery**

Post Master Gallery, HD Skinner Annex, Tūhura Otago Museum

### **Keywords**

Augmented Reality, Inclusive Performance, Dance, Fashion as Agency, Collaboration

### **Abstract**

The Solo Flight performance featuring disabled acrobat and aerialist Jen Bricker-Bauer, is a collaborative project incorporating choreography, clothing design, performance, and videography. It provides an example of clothing design contributing to socio-political commentary, and of fashion as agency.

The Heidi Latsky Dance Company has been working with disabled performers since 2006; the participation of these actors and their visibility on the public stage is intrinsic to the work of the company. This work forms part of a suite of performances curated by Latsky under the Solo Flight banner. It is underpinned by its participatory nature, with all collaborators contributing to the broader development of the work, beyond their own discipline-specific contributions. The costume design drew on the researcher's own fashion background, with Heidi Latsky (artistic/executive director, Heidi Latsky Dance, NY) providing creative input, Loren Abdulezer (Evolving Technologies, NY) advising on textile limitations in relation to video capture, and feedback about functionality and fit provided by performer Bricker-Bauer (Austria/LA).

The performance was filmed in New York using volumetric video capture. The resulting file is viewed through an augmented reality headset to provide the wearer with a life-sized 'holographic' view of the performance, with Bricker-Bauer appearing to perform on a real plinth situated within the viewing space. The technology serves to give a sense of immediacy to the performance and seeks to “engage viewers in a dialogue about agency, inclusion, and sensitivity; portraying the experience of isolation in a way that builds community” (Heidi Latsky Dance, n.d.).



Image 1. Solo Flight, (2020) Loren Abdulezer from Evolving Technologies, New York.



Image 2. Solo Flight, (2020) Loren Abdulezer from Evolving Technologies, New York.

**Reference**

Heidi Latsky Dance. (n.d.) *Solo Flight*. Available at:  
<https://heidilatskydance.my.canva.site/solo-flight>