

# THE HOLD

Script for a live performance by Susie Green

Produced in response to Huguette Caland exhibition at Tate St Ives (May - September 2019)

Listen to a live recording of the performance [HERE](#)

View images of the performance [HERE](#)

## CONTENTS

Part one: Behold!

Part two: Hold me now

Part three: In the hold

Part four: Hand held

Part five: Hold on

## PART ONE - BEHOLD!

I put this on to feel good tonight  
The real deal

So smooooooth  
Liquid  
Liquid

The Boss

Firm  
Serious  
Sexy  
Sexy x 2

We own this!  
We own this, tonight  
Tonight, don't worry!  
We own this

You are alllllllll very sexy tonight

No worries  
No way x 4

Our heads held high  
Heads  
Held  
High

No worries  
No way  
Heads held high

No worries  
Liquid, liquid

Behold!

This is part one, its called Behold

Tonight there is Five sections, this was part one

## PART TWO - HOLD ME NOW

Do what we want  
We pleeease ourselves  
Do what we want (whisper)  
Please yourself

I'll take care of you x 3

Let me take care of you?

Let me take care of you x 4 (whisper)

I want to make a home with you / but still be free  
Be held when we both need it

Do you need it?

Our hearts beat so fast  
Ripe  
Fit. To. Burst.

Within our skin we flow alone, but, tidal together

Like those waves. It is true!

Your hair, the sky  
They cut into each other  
I like to run my fingers through them both

How do we come together?  
In a perfect world

How do we come together?

Like a puzzle  
Fit. To. Burst.

### PART THREE - IN THE HOLD

Pressed down  
Zipped in  
As close as very close can be

Floating, in this space

From one start to one finish  
Right now

Hands in the air  
Put your feet where the picture of the feet is

A position like your under arrest

The screen glides over us looking for the BAD THINGS  
Sometimes it picks up what it thinks are the BAD THINGS  
Like if you wear an Marks and Spencer's underwired bra

I recently caused alarm  
As I walked through  
Someone whispered to their colleague  
A special, secret code  
'M&S'

I asked: 'Is it because of the wires in my bra?'  
They said, 'yes'

I cracked their special, secret code

Does this airport ever close?  
Does this looping ever stop?

On this plane, either side are strangers  
Kim often meets people on planes  
Just say hi Susie, just say hi

With our arms and legs at right angles  
We plug in our ears.  
We fill up our heads

You have a child  
Now it is resting on me  
Gently asleep on my shoulder

I experience a mix of understanding and irritation  
'Could you take your child off my shoulder, please?'  
You gave it lots of crisps and chocolates and now it's sleeping on me  
You took 2 sandwiches saying one was for your child but I think you will eat them both'.

I would do the same  
If I had a child  
Do I want one  
If I do, I should have one sooooooonishhhhhhhh

How would we care for it?  
My income is low

But it feels so good when I have one in my arms  
Like holding my old cat

I watched a video about how you can put it's arms in a position across it's chest to soothe it  
(Much like a brace position, if this plane crashes)

Limbs folded close to other limbs  
Swaddled  
The baby feels safe

#### PART FOUR - HAND HELD

A comfortable nesting  
Loose in my grip

Ah yeah, I remember to look up the thing  
That thing I was telling you about, I'll look up that thing

Oh but then, I find the other things  
Clustered

The first thing, I've forgotten

I installed the app that tells you how long you've been looking at your phone

But it was too horrid. I had to delete it

Pulling down  
On pictures

I've forgotten that thing  
The thing  
I've forgotten!

Scrolling / Suspended / Pulling / Checking  
Updating / Touching / Looking / Feeling  
Scrolling / Pulling / Checking / Updating  
Touching / Looking / Feeling / Suspended  
Scrolling / Checking

Our beds are the perfect place for this  
Here we can be all alone but all together

Squeezed into the palm of our hands

I like to hold you in the palm of my hand

Eye to eye / thumb to thumb / heart to heart / thumb to heart  
'LIKE' x 4  
Put it down!  
I can't put it down (whisper)  
I can't put it down (whisper)

Stop looking at it!  
I was taught to look (whisper)

Be in this room now!  
Ok, we're here now (whisper)

Where are you?  
I only see you behind the glass

I miss you x 4

## PART FIVE - HOLD ON

Fully formed  
Fully framed  
Held tight  
Together

Fully formed  
Fully framed  
Held tight  
Held tight  
Together  
Tonight

Our hearts beat inside our body  
Surrounded  
We like to be submerged

The pool  
A warm bath  
That sea  
A film, sat in the dark

The limbs of the people in the pool  
Seem weightless

The water, turquoise  
The tiles yellow, green, red

My body sat weightless, I feel so glad

The little girl with the magenta swimsuit and orange floats on her arms  
I was held by it all

I felt so glad I started to cry  
Everybody needs to be held

What a pleasure this all is  
What a pleasure this all is

END