

Janet Meaney - Hitch Up

The action of hitching up ones pants is often executed somewhat surreptitiously - in the street; in private; in public or in general when our pants begin to fall down due to the waist being too large and/or the absence of a belt.

The work is a statement about the absurdity of the pants appearing to be oversized and the apparent necessity for hitching them up when in fact they are designer pants - well fitted but appearing to be oversized.

To be performed in the town square in the afternoon on any day.

Hitching up was commonly seen in days gone by, when hand me downs were most often ill-fitting. These days, the fitness trend resulting in rapid weight loss has seen the wearing of saggy baggy pants. Continuing to wear these oversized pants has turned them into a fashion statement creating a new trend in pants designed to be big.

Action: Standing tall in the square, hold your pant waist, shift the weight from one leg to the other, wriggling the bottom and hips and hitch up the pants (sliding the bottom down into the pants and pull the waist up). Then stand tall again. Walk a short distance and repeat action. Repeat for 15 minutes.

I would like the participant/s to wear baggy designer pants for this performance.

Malou van Doormaal

For this occasion I wore brightly coloured sweatpants. Baggy, but vintage and trendy at the same time. During other performances I wore this as tight as possible, but couldn't avoid hitching them up. During the performance itself I ate an ice cream, walked across the market and observed the crowd at specific spots. My pants were dropping all the time, so much that it became annoying.

At a certain point I got rid of them and invited the other performers to wear it. They didn't feel like it.