

PILVI TAKALA THE STROKER

12 July – 18 August 2018

Private view 11 July, 6–9pm



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From: <events@secondhome.io>

Subject: Personnel Touch

Date: Wed, Jul 13, 2016 16:12:20 BST

To: <Second Home Members>

We're pleased to announce a new addition to our members' well-being programme. Nina is the founder of a new start-up called Personnel Touch, who provide touch in business environments. Their approach impacts the energy of a space and should become seamlessly integrated into our regular wellbeing routine.

Despite touch being one of our most fundamental human experiences it is still cutting edge when deployed in the workplace; integrating touch into a working environment is an effective route to a stronger team dynamic, inspiring co-workers to be more open and trusting and therefore more productive and creative. The benefits of touch are well established: regular contact has the ability to reduce stress, strengthen memory and contribute to physical health.

We are trying out how this could work in our creative, open-minded space. As always your feedback is appreciated. Please feel free to email them to events@secondhome.io.





Scene MIRRORING

Category Approach – welcoming

Reaction Intensity 2

Time 5 seconds

Both P and this person are walking at a reasonable pace, they are walking from opposite directions around one of the curved corners so they did not have much time for eye contact prior to the interaction. They were four or five feet apart when they noticed each other. P angles her body towards them first and smiles, once they notice P doing this they reciprocate the movement.



P uses her right arm to touch this person's left shoulder lightly, with the tips of her fingers flat in a touch that is almost like pressing, where maybe half of the finger is making contact. This person puts their right arm out, mirroring P's gesture, slightly touching P's upper arm (deltoid?) with just the tips of their middle finger and index finger. This version of the gesture gives the impression of being both careful and surprised. They do not falter or slow down so this all unfolds swiftly and the interaction seems genuine. They both let their arms retreat and fall in the same way and at the same time, they both have their heads turned towards each other and continue to look at each other as they pass, they seem to both turn their heads back in the direction of their individual trajectories simultaneously, they both walk on.





“Heyy, um, this thing that’s going on right now... I have been touched, actually, everyone in our office has. We don’t know why we think it’s weird, I mean... we shouldn’t think it’s weird, but we do.”





Scene SHY, FIRST APPROACH

Category Approach – defensive/anxious

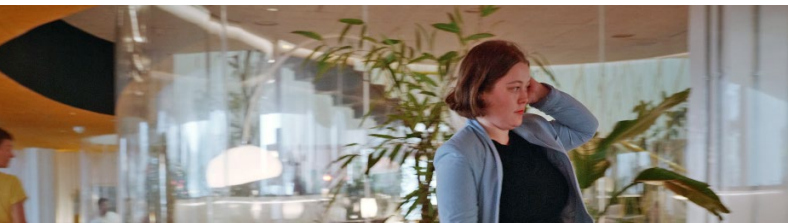
Reaction Intensity 2

Time 5–10 seconds

P and Shy approach from opposite ends of the corridor. Shy is walking faster than P. The contact takes place between the wall and a pillar so there is less space for them to manoeuvre. Shy is young and nervous seeming, with a nerdy demeanour and a bouncy walk. Their posture pushes their head and neck forward, a little away from the body. Shy is walking looking at the ground with one hand over their mouth/chin and the other holding some food in a wrapper. Shy only seems to notice P once they are closer to each other, although P has been looking towards Shy for longer.



Shy's left arm, which was hanging loosely by their side, stiffens and they hold it against their body throughout the whole interaction. It happens quickly and P's approach is casual, she looks straight on as soon as she has said 'hey you'. Shy doesn't reply and barely acknowledges her contact, doing that kind of almost smile, like a fake smile where your mouth is shut, you widen your mouth and kind of purse your lips, a similar sort of movement to trying to show your dimples. It's a hard smile to describe but is commonly awkward or insincere. Shy only very briefly makes eye contact with P for the seconds her hand is touching their shoulder. As soon as they begin to pass each other Shy lowers their eyes. Once past P they immediately look straight on and continue walking.



Scene HEELS FIRST ENCOUNTER

Category Approach – attempted avoid

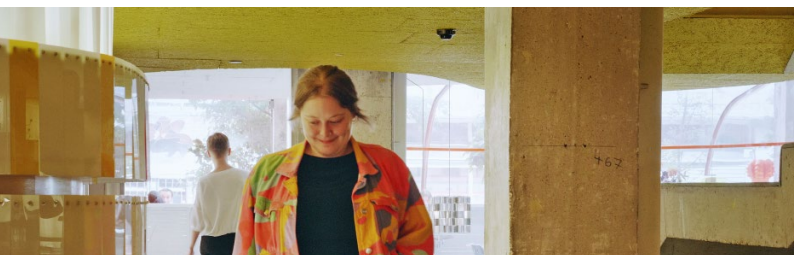
Reaction Intensity 3

Time 10–15 seconds

P waits for the lift. Heels exits the lift, followed by someone else. Heels sees P out of their peripheral vision, as they exit the lift they continue to keep looking down at their phone, trying to look busy in a way that indicates that they want to be left alone. Heels turns back to say something inaudible to the other person in the lift, they also give P a side eye as the lift doors finish opening.

The other person in the lift is stroking their chin with one hand and holding their phone in the other. P and Heels make eye contact as they get closer, P says 'hi' and kind of passively reaches out to touch Heels' shoulder. Heels strongly tries to move out of the way, they are wearing high heels so their footsteps sound like a stutter. Heels weakly says 'hi' back whilst leaning away with their upper body, both hands their phone which is defensively in front of their chest. The other person behind Heels is smiling in a knowing way, like there is some kind of consensus between the two of them about P's actions. They walk off and P enters the lift.





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