

Routes

n

A guide to getting new
work programmed in
the North of England

Published by Venues North

Contents

Introduction 2	
General Information?.....	2
What is Venues North?.....	2
What do we mean by ‘new work’?.....	2
How do Venues North members support artists?.....	6
Which programmers should you talk to?.....	6
How do you get to know programmers?.....	2
What should you ask programmers for?	2
Inviting programmers to see your work.....	2
When do programmers programme?.....	2
What do programmers want to know?.....	2
How are programming decisions made?.....	2
How does the money work?.....	20
Identifying audiences.....	2
Reaching audiences.....	2
Venue Information	
ARC Stockton.....	16
Arts Centre Washington.....	21
The Civic, Barnsley.....	23
Brewery Arts Centre.....	26
Cast.....	28
Contact.....	29
Creative Scene.....	33
The Edge.....	35
Enable Us Sheffield.....	37
Harrogate Theatre.....	39
HOME.....	42
Hull Truck Theatre.....	45
Interplay Theatre.....	48
Lawrence Batley.....	49
Leeds Playhouse.....	51
Live Theatre.....	54
Liverpool Everyman & Playhouse.....	56

Northern Stage.....	59
Octagon, Bolton.....	61
Oldham Coliseum.....	63
Live@theLibrary at Oldham Libraries Studio.....	65
Royal Exchange Theatre.....	67
Sheffield Theatres.....	70
Slung Low - The Holbeck.....	72
Square Chapel Arts Centre.....	74
Stephen Joseph Theatre.....	76
Sunderland Stages	77
The Dukes, Lancaster.....	79
The Lowry.....	82
Theatre by the Lake.....	86
Theatre Deli Sheffield.....	87
Theatre in the Mill.....	90
Unity Theatre.....	92
Waterside.....	93
York Theatre Royal.....	96
Z-Arts.....	98
Genre Matrix and Artist Development	100

Introduction

Getting work programmed is hard; getting new work programmed is even harder. Without a known title, famous actors or national reputation, persuading programmers to take a risk on your new show can be challenging. There is a sense of the touring landscape shifting, as we seek to find ways of offering audiences a deeper, more meaningful engagement with touring work, resulting in new and different relationships between artists and venues.

This guide has been put together to help artists and companies making new work overcome some of the barriers to getting their work programmed.

We can't promise it will help you book a 20 date national tour, but we hope it provides a useful insight into programmers and programming and helps you in your approach to venues.

There is one key piece of advice:

Be targeted in your approach

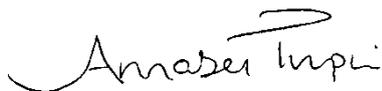
A blanket approach to venues is unlikely to net results. Being more targeted in approaching venues that have appropriate programmes, policies, spaces and audiences for your work will save you lots of time and energy in the long term. We hope that some of the information included in this guide will help you do that.

You are far more likely to be successful in getting venues interested in your work if you set out to develop relationships rather than just sell them a show. Think about your core purpose, and that of the venue, and if there is a match, then think about how you can benefit each other.

Once you have identified a target list of venues, start to develop a relationship with them. Be clear about what your rationale is for approaching those venues, and be prepared to have honest conversations.

Being successful doesn't have to mean touring to 20 different venues; it might be having really good, strong, meaningful relationships with six. Every programmer who does support your work has the potential to be a champion for it, so invest in these relationships.

We look forward to getting to know you and your work.



Annabel Turpin
Chair
Venues North

General Information

What is Venues North?

Venues North is a network of venues from across the North of England who are committed to supporting artists to create new work. Our aim is to work together as venues to support new and emerging artists from the North to get their work more widely seen regionally, nationally and internationally.

Venues North is not a closed network or an exclusive group of venues, but open to any venue in the North that shares this commitment to artist development and new work.

Current members include:

- ARC Stockton
- Arts Centre Washington
- Bolton Octagon
- Brewery Arts Centre
- Carriageworks
- Cast
- Contact
- Creative Scene
- Enable Us, Sheffield
- Gala Theatre
- Harrogate Theatre
- HOME
- Hull Truck Theatre
- Lawrence Batley Theatre
- Leeds Playhouse
- Live Art Bistro
- Live Theatre
- Liverpool Everyman and Arts Centre
- Northern Stage
- Oldham Coliseum
- Oldham Library Studio
- Royal Exchange Theatre
- Sheffield Theatres
- Slung Low – The Holbeck
- Square Chapel Centre for the Arts
- Stephen Joseph Theatre
- Sunderland Stages
- The Civic
- The Edge
- The Dukes
- The Lowry
- The Octagon, Bolton
- Theatre by the Lake
- Theatre Deli Sheffield

- Theatre in the Mill
- Touchstones
- Unity Theatre
- Waterside
- York Theatre Royal
- Z-arts

Venues North members meet three times a year to share our learning around supporting artists, and to champion the artists we support. In addition to publishing this guide, the group also publishes an annual guide to the Edinburgh festival, highlighting work supported by member venues that can be seen at the festival. The guide is distributed to UK and international programmers, and Venues North also has a stall at Fringe Central, providing an opportunity for artists and programmers to come and meet us.

What do we mean by ‘new work’?

By new work, we mean new theatre and performance, usually devised work or new writing, or work that explores the boundaries of theatrical form.

We recognise that whilst dance can sit within this definition, and many of our members programme dance, there are specialist development agencies supporting dance in the North. We have included their details below.

How do Venues North members support artists?

The individual venue information below lists many ways that Venues North members support artists. The overarching ethos of Venues North, which all members have signed up to, is that we will, whenever and wherever possible, do the following:

- talk to artists, and respond when they contact us
- be honest, even if that means saying no or that we don’t like someone’s work, or we don’t think it is good enough
- be clear and transparent in what we offer in terms of support for artists
- signpost artists to other people if we can’t help them

Which programmers should you talk to?

Every venue is different, and the more targeted you can be in selecting which venues to approach, the more likely you are to get a response. The information about each venue included below should help with this, but do have a good browse around each venue’s current programme and see whether you think your work is really likely to fit.

Also, look at the tour schedules for other another artist or companies who you think make work that might appeal to similar audiences as your own, and consider approaching these venues.

Know your geography – and if you don’t, buy a map! Many venues have exclusion clauses, either because they share audiences or want their programme to complement rather than replicate that of

nearby venues, so do take this into account before approaching venues or ask about catchment areas and exclusion clauses early in your conversation.

How do you get to know programmers?

Performance is based on a relationship between artists and audiences, and programmers are, momentarily at least, at the centre of that relationship. Therefore, if your work is designed to be presented in a programmed venue, building a relationship with programmers is the first stage in building a relationship with potential audiences.

Approaching programmers can be hard, but Venues North members are committed to ensuring they are accessible to artists. Aside from direct contact via phone or email (see venue information below for individual preferences on contact methods) here are some other ways of getting to know programmers:

- At gatherings of programmers and artists (eg festivals and showcases such as *Meet the Programmers* in the North East)
- At shows – programmers often see work in their own venue, so attending a show at their venue and asking for a meeting beforehand is a good tactic
- At scratch nights – programmers interested in new work often attend scratch nights, which are run regularly in the North by ARC, Arts Centre Washington, Barnsley Civic, Live, Northern Stage, Point Blank and West Yorkshire Playhouse
- Via social media – follow programmers on Twitter or Facebook and join or initiate conversations
- At special events for artists, such as Pitch Parties at The Lowry
- At the bar – where programmers can often be found pre and post show, both for informal and also curated conversations such as at Theatre in the Mill

What should you ask programmers for?

Programmers aren't necessarily going to offer you a two week run in their venue the first time they meet you. In fact, they probably aren't even going to offer you one night. Offering programmers a range of opportunities to get to know and support your work can help you develop a longer term relationship. Ask them to:

- Come and see your work – and feedback
- Watch an extract online – and feedback
- Come and see you perform at a scratch night
- Come and see a work in progress sharing
- Talk to another programmer who has seen your work
- Introduce you to other artists/creatives
- Have a coffee and a 'no obligation to book your work' chat

- Show you round their venue

If your budget permits, hiring space within a venue for R&D/rehearsals can also be a good way of getting to know an organisation, providing a risk-free opportunity for programmers to get to know you and your work.

As the relationship develops, ask if they can:

- Offer you a slot at their scratch night
- Offer you any R&D or rehearsal space
- Read through your promoters pack before you send it out
- Talk through your creative process/plans with you
- Help you identify your audiences and how to reach them
- Help you with your budget
- Read over a funding application for you
- Give advice on fees and financial deals
- Offer support with documenting the development of your work
- Act as an outside eye during rehearsals
- Help you develop and/or test associated outreach/wraparound activity
- Act as an advocate or champion for your work and talk to other programmers on your behalf

Like any relationship, it is really important not to force the pace, and to accept a 'no' if ultimately that's the outcome. Be prepared to respond quickly and appropriately, but if you are asking for help or feedback on your work, set realistic timescales – especially if you are asking someone to read over a funding application for you.

Inviting programmers to see your work

It is always good to invite programmers to see your work, but be realistic on your expectations of how many will be able to respond – there are only seven nights in any one week, and programmers have commitments to seeing work they have already programmed in their own venue as well as work elsewhere. Resources in terms of time and money are limited, so don't be disappointed if programmers don't come – but do invite them, and if they aren't able to attend, do send them links to clips of the work online afterwards.

If programmers do come, don't expect instant feedback – giving honest feedback is hard, especially if you are expected to give it straight after a show. Suggest in advance a follow up call or email within the next few days, to give them a chance to think about the show and structure their feedback.

When do programmers programme?

One of the most difficult questions programmers get asked is ‘when will you be programming the [insert season]?’

Here are some possible answers:

- When I know whether I have got funding next year or not
- When I know whether this enormous potential project is going to happen or not
- When I have finished writing this funding application
- When I get back to my desk with an hour to spare to look at some potential shows
- When I get time to watch all the DVDs I’ve been sent
- When I have finished my financial/HR/operational tasks
- When someone tells me about a show I am really excited about
- When I see a show I really want to book
- When I know what’s out there
- When I have enough potential shows on the table to make a decision about the balance of the programme
- When the companies I have provisionally booked know about their funding

Programming rarely happens at a set time, especially as many programmers aren’t just programmers, but also act as chief executives, directors, finance and HR managers, building managers and so on. Marketing deadlines usually force a flurry of activity, but this doesn’t necessarily relate to when programmers make decisions.

The short answer is: there is no specific time, other than ‘when I have time, and before the marketing deadline’.

The best answer we’ve been able to come up with is a jigsaw analogy ‘when I have enough of the pieces available to know what the picture might look like’.

Neither of these answers are particularly helpful if you are trying to book a tour. However, in the venue information below, each programmer has indicated how far in advance they would prefer to be contacted, when their seasons run and what kind of response you should expect if you do approach them. We hope that helps a little.

What do programmers want to know?

Generally, when artists and companies approach programmers, they send information about themselves and their show – what is it about, what does it look like, when is it available. This is essential information but there are some other things that programmers often want to know, such as:

- Why are you making this show?
- Why are you touring now?
- Who is the show for?
- How will you be selling it to them? (copy/image)

- How can you support the venue to reach those potential audiences?
- Why do you want to visit this venue?
- What kind of financial deal are you looking for?
- A sense of the scale of the show
- What your expectations are in terms of audience numbers
- How is it staged and what kind of technical resource do you need?
- Is the show/tour dependent on funding, and if so, when will funding be confirmed?
- Which other venues are you talking to/where else are you going?
- Who has seen already seen your work? Do you have any endorsements from other programmers and artists?

If you can answer some or all of these questions as part of your initial approach, it is likely to help programmers decide whether the show is right for their venue or not.

Remember that 'copy' is for selling the show to audiences, and will be used as text in brochures, on leaflets and websites but at the initial booking stage, programmers require a different perspective on your work. A brief description of the work, synopsis of the story and your thinking behind the show, how you want audiences to experience or feel about your work is far more useful.

Don't feel that you have to use 'funding application' language. Many programmers are interested in process as well as the production itself, so answering the 'why' and the 'how' are-you-making-it questions are as important as the 'what' are you making.

How are programming decisions made?

Whilst fees and availability are key factors in decision-making for programmers, there are many other factors that play a part, such as:

- Commitment to other shows
- Balance of programme
- Audience potential
- Mismatch of need/perception
- Staffing restrictions
- Staging and technical requirements
- Sales pitch
- Quality
- Personal taste
- Geographical factors
- Status of show in terms of funding

Even the font you use in your promotional pack can be a real turn-off!

How does the money work?

Most people – artists and programmers - feel a little awkward when it comes to discussing money, which often leads to an unnecessary level of confusion. Don't be afraid to own up if you don't know, it is always better to clarify things early in the negotiation process rather than further down the line when it is too late.

Financial deals

Generally, venues will offer one of the following deals:

- A guaranteed fee - an agreed amount that they will pay you regardless of how much box office income there is
- A guaranteed fee plus travel and accommodation
- A box office split – a percentage of the box office income, often after deductions
- A guarantee against a split – this means they will pay you either an agreed amount or a percentage of the box office, whichever is greater
- A guarantee plus a split – an agreed amount they will pay you regardless, plus a percentage of the box office
- A hire – you pay them an agreed amount, and you retain all the box office income
- A first call against a split – you (or sometimes the venue) have a 'first call' on the box office income up to a certain level, and once that is reached, the rest is split between you on an agreed percentage. There can sometimes be a 'second call' in the other person's favour before the split.

When agreeing deals, it is always good to ensure that as much detail as possible is agreed. For example, when agreeing travel and accommodation costs, it is worth spelling out how many people this is for, travelling to/from where and how many rooms are required.

e.g. A guaranteed fee of £500 plus travel (standard class rail travel or equivalent, return to Manchester x 2 people) and accommodation (two singles x one night)

Always clarify if the fee is + VAT or not; if you aren't VAT registered, you won't be charging VAT but if you are VAT registered and the venue isn't, it does make a material difference to the venue.

If splits are expressed as 70:30 or 60:40 always check in whose favour they are, ie do you get the 70% or the 30%.

If shorthand is being used for deals (eg £500 vs 70%), make sure you are clear what it means, and whether VAT is being deducted or not.

Examples

Scenario:

150 tickets have been sold @ £10 each, providing a total box office income of £1,500.

VAT @ 20% (£300) is deducted, leaving £1,200 of box office income, net of VAT

On a 70:30 split, you would receive 70% of £1,200 = £840

On a £500 guarantee vs a 70:30 split, whichever is greater, you would also receive £840, as that is greater than the guaranteed fee of £500

On a £1,000 guarantee vs a 70:30 split, you would receive £1,000 as that is greater than 70% of the box office income

On a £500 guarantee plus a 70:30 split, you would receive £1,340 (£500 guarantee plus £840, which is 70% of the box office income)

On a first call to you of £500 then a 70:30 split, you would take the first £500 of the box office income, leaving £700 to be split, of which 70% is £490 so you would receive a total of £990

On a first call to the venue of £500 then a 70:30 split in your favour, the venue would take the first £500 of box office income leaving £700 to be split, so you would receive £490 (70% of the remaining £700)

On a deal where there was a first call to you of £500, then a second call to the venue of £250, then a 70:30 split in your favour, you would take the first £500 of box office income, leaving £700; the venue would take the next £250, leaving £450, which would then be split 70:30, so you would get a total of £815 made up of £500 + £315 (70% of £450)

Risk

The difference between these deals is essentially about where the risk sits: a guaranteed fee means the risk sits with the venue, as if they don't achieve enough box office income to cover the fee, they have lost money. A hire means all the risk sits with you – if you don't receive enough box office money to cover the hire fee, you have lost out.

Box office splits, guarantees against a split and first calls against a split are all ways of sharing the risk, which means both parties have a vested financial interest in selling tickets.

Deductions

Box office income is usually subject to some deductions, such as:

- VAT – currently 20%, which means 20% of the box office income is deducted (and paid over by the venue to HMRC) before the percentage split is calculated
- Credit card commission – usually a percentage or flat rate, to cover the card processing costs incurred by the venue
- PRS - a deduction to cover the venue's contribution Performing Rights Society for the rights to play music during the show

Contras

Contras or 'recharges' are costs incurred by the venue which are charged back to the visiting artist or company. These are usually more applicable to mid-large scale productions, for example, expenditure on marketing, technical support or get out costs specific to your show. Always ask during the negotiations whether there will be any contra charges.

Identifying audiences

Who is the show for, and how can you help venues reach those audiences are the most difficult questions to answer, but also the critical ones. No venue has a ready-made audience for new work that will just pay their money and turn up. Developing audiences for new work is a long term project for venues, and artists and companies are critical to this process.

The more specific you can be about who you think the audience for your work is, the better able programmers are to decide whether they might be able to get an audience for your work. It also means that if your show is booked, venues are able to work with you to deliver targeted marketing and audience development campaigns.

It can feel uncomfortable to be specific about who you think the audience are, as if in some way you are indicating you don't want other people to come. We all want 'everyone' to feel that they can come to your show, but the reality is that not everyone will and the more specific you can be, the more successful marketing and promotional activity will be.

Sometimes it is useful to describe your audiences to programmers by likening your work to that of other artists and companies, ie my work is likely to be enjoyed or appeal to audiences of work by XX, XX and XX.

You can also use your development process to help identify audiences, through scratch nights, sharings, work in progress performances and other connected engagement activity. It is important to identify in advance what the aims of these activities are, who you are looking to engage with and why, and then to capture and be able to articulate what you have found out.

Venues can help you define your audiences, so if you have venue partners on board during the development of your work do ask for support with this. Looking at their audiences for similar work, and asking them to share appropriate data with you will strengthen your audience development plans, both for funding applications as well as approaches to other venues.

Reaching audiences

Once you have identified your potential audience, then you need to work out how to reach them. What will your own activity look like, and how can that complement activity undertaken by the venue? What will the communication between you and the venue's marketing staff look like? Invest in this relationship, it is a key one to achieving success.

Do set expectations of what success will look like at the outset – how many people are you realistically expecting to attract, and does that match the venue's own target?

Think about the language you use in your description of the show – is it familiar to the audiences you are trying to reach?

Where else might these audiences be, if they aren't at the theatre? How else might they spend their leisure time? What do they watch on TV or at the cinema? What else might they be interested in?

Increasingly 'depth of engagement' is becoming a key consideration, so programmers aren't just interested in the number of people who might come and see your show, but also what the opportunities are for them to engage with it.

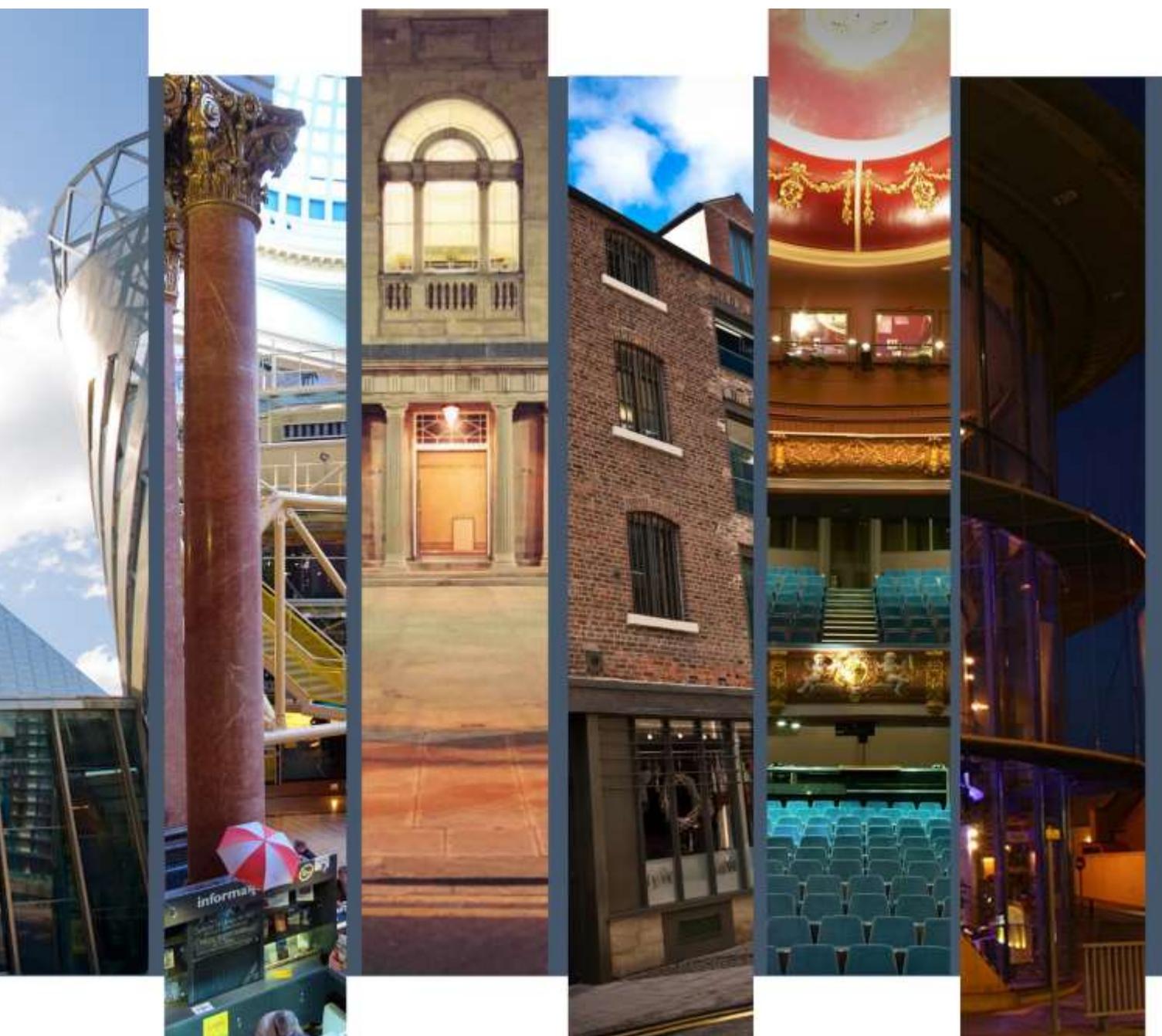
This doesn't just mean offering a traditional devising workshop for local schools/colleges, but being open to a much wider range of engagement with the venue's audience and local community. Are you willing to talk to local artists, to open up your rehearsal room or share your practice with them? Are there opportunities for local students and artists to respond to your work by creating their own? Can audiences engage with the show and its themes online, either before or after the show? Will this involve passive activity – watching an online trailer, reading your rehearsal room blog – or active engagement – contributing their own thoughts, material, responses?

Developing audiences is a partnership between artists and venues. Do be realistic about the capacity of the venue to support you with this, as sometimes additional outreach activity can feel like it is adding to everyone's workload rather than supporting it. Offering a free workshop at the last minute because tickets aren't selling is not helpful!

Do your research – find out about existing education, outreach and creative learning programmes, ask what the venue's priorities are and what has worked in the past and then plan your activity – in advance - accordingly.

Venue Information

The information below is subject to change but will be updated annually.



Programmer's Contact Details		
Name:	Annabel Turpin	
Position:	Chief Executive & Artistic Director	
Tel:	01642 525181	
Email:	Annabel.Turpin@arconline.co.uk	

ARC, Stockton Arts Centre

Artistic Policy

ARC's artistic policy is to present work that is contemporary and relevant. By that, we mean we want to show work that helps us understand and enjoy the world as it is today. We want to look forward, to excite audiences about the future. ARC's programme currently encompasses the following:

Core programme

Our priority is to develop work at ARC for our audiences, to make sure it has a strong relationship with our local community. Our core programme involves activity that we influence, that directly delivers our artistic policy.

This includes:

- projects and events developed with partner organisations
- community-led activity
- our programme of support for performance-based artists
- work created by our Associate Artists, including shows we tour to other venues
- other performance work developed in association with us

We present some of the newest and most exciting performance work being made in the UK today. Our programme features local, regional and nationally renowned artists and companies, who are making work that is relevant to our community. Often we bring work to ARC that challenges perceptions of what performance might usually look like, that offers audiences a different kind of experience to more traditional forms of theatre.

We don't generally book work based around classic texts or adaptations, or that has historical themes. The majority of our programme is set in the modern day. We prefer to work with artists and companies during the development of work. This enables us to find ways of engaging audiences alongside the creative process, before presenting the final show. This means we are unlikely to be interested in booking a finished piece of work. Ultimately, we present work we are passionate about, so there are exceptions to everything.

We select artists and companies to work with based on the content and style of their work, if it is a good fit for our programme. We identify people to work with by attending festivals and showcases, meeting artists, listening to recommendations and seeing as many performances as we can.

Our core programme is usually booked around 12-24 months ahead. If you are interested in being part of our programme, please contact us at the earliest stage of developing your work.

Disabled-led work

ARC has a particular interest in disabled-led work. From 2015 – 2018, in partnership with Little Cog, we delivered Cultural Shift, a strategic programme of activity delivering new and increased opportunities for disabled people in the arts. Part of the legacy of the project is an ongoing commitment to ensure our cultural landscape is vibrant and representative of the people living and working in our communities. Within ARC's artistic policy, we have worked with Little Cog to develop a specific policy around disability work.

Our aims are:

- to challenge negative commonly held perceptions about disability and disabled people
- to involve disabled people in the arts at every level

If you are a disabled artist or are approaching us about work that considers disability, illness or mental health, please read our policy and watch our short film first, which you can find on our website under About Us/Artistic Policy. The work of disabled artists and participants in the programme may or may not have a disability focus, although we are ensuring that the work is disabled-led.

Family

ARC's family programme is mainly focussed on work for under 7s. We present theatre, dance and puppetry performances on Saturdays approximately once a month. We co-commission a Christmas show for under 7s with the Albany in Deptford, and a February half term show with The Civic in Barnsley. Details of these opportunities will appear here on our website under Artists/Opportunities. Our family shows are usually booked at least 6 - 12 months ahead.

Music

ARC's programme encompasses a wide range of music including rock, pop, soul, jazz, folk and indie. The Point is an ideal space for music, with a seated capacity of up to 400 and a standing capacity of 550. ARC also presents a monthly series of daytime classical concerts in association with [Master Musicians](#), featuring young musicians from across the world. Concerts are usually booked at least six months in advance.

Comedy and light entertainment

ARC has a fabulous reputation for comedy amongst audiences and comedians alike. Some of the best comedians around knock on our door wanting to perform here.

You can see everything comedic at ARC:

- aspiring newcomers at our seasonal Beat the Gong events, where the audience gets to judge whether new acts get 'gonged off'
- circuit regulars at our monthly Catch 22 Comedy Club nights
- stand up favourites such as Chris Ramsey, Marcus Brigstocke and Jenny Éclair
- comedy legends like Lee Evans and Jack Dee, who have chosen ARC as a great venue to try out new material

Film

ARC's film programme features a range of mainstream, arthouse and family films, independent and world cinema. We regularly host post-show discussions and Q&A sessions with guests. We also screen live broadcasts such as NT Live and international ballet and opera productions. Regular film screenings run Tuesday – Saturday, with matinee and evening screenings. One-off screenings take place on Monday nights, either as private hires or collaborations.

Exhibitions

ARC's exhibition programme, which shown in the second floor Gallery, allows us to represent our local community visually. We exhibit work by local artists and community groups, as well as exhibitions developed by local curators. The programme is booked at least 12 months in advance.

Creative learning

We provide lots of opportunities for people to take part in creative activities, including children, young people, adults, disabled and older people. You can read more about the programme on our website.

Community-led events

We work with lots of different local people and organisations to help them stage their own creative events and activities. If you have an idea for an event or activity and want to talk to us about presenting or running it at ARC, please contact us.

Strategic projects

As part of ARC's regional and national work, we manage strategic development projects that benefit the wider cultural sector. Current projects can be found on our website.

How we support artists

We dedicate time, space and resource to supporting artists at ARC because we want artists to make work that is relevant for our audiences. We want to make sure that our programme is representative of our community, and that our audiences hear stories that resonate with them.

We look to support artists whose work contributes to our artistic policy.

Our priorities are:

- To offer development support to a range of performance based artists, tailored in response to their needs
- To support artists at different stages of their careers that are making work relevant for our audiences
- To diversify the range of artists we support, in particular artists of colour, disabled and LGBTQIA artists or those from working class backgrounds who can contribute to ARC's artistic vision
- To find ways of supporting artists to grow their work in scale and ambition, particularly addressing the absence of pathways between small and mid-scale work
- To initiate and maintain strategic partnerships to ensure artists can sustain their work and careers
- To bring new artists to the North East through the provision of accommodation alongside workspace

We do this through:

- ARC Getaways
- ARC House
- Associate Artists & Companies
- ARC Productions
- Partnerships
- Resources

Find out more:

If you are an artist and want to connect with us, please visit our website to join ARCADE, our artists mailing list. Our Producer is happy to offer advice and guidance to any ARCADE member, either via a one-to-one session or as part of our monthly ARCADE Surgeries. To arrange a time, please email Daniel Mitchelson. You can also see current opportunities for artists to get involved on our Opportunities page.

ARC Getaways

ARC Getaways offer free accommodation and workspace for one week, to enable artists and companies working in performance to get away and embrace some fresh thinking along with some North East air.

ARC Getaways can be used for research and development processes, rehearsals, writing or thinking time – whatever artists need to do to help further their artistic practice or process. There are no requirements to share work, although artists are welcome to host a sharing if that's useful. All we ask is that artists spare half an hour on their first day for an informal meeting with ARC staff, so we can get to know them and their work.

ARC Getaways are available for artists and companies working in performance whose work or practice aligns with our Artistic Policy. Please read the policy before applying.

We are keen to use ARC Getaways to introduce new artists to the organisation, particularly those who are currently under-represented in our programme

Please visit our website under Artists/Opportunities for more details and how to apply.

ARC House

We encourage artists to spend time in Stockton, to find out more about our local community. Appropriate accommodation is hard to find in the area, is often expensive and involves additional travel. Since 2016, we have rented a house in Stockton which means we can provide self-catering accommodation for artists working with us.

Associate Artists & Companies

ARC has a number of enhanced relationships with artists and companies whose work we feel is of particular value to ARC's artistic programme. Packages of support are tailored to the needs of the individual artists, but the relationship is intended to lead to the presentation of work at ARC.

Support can include acting as an ongoing creative mentor or producer, or more practical help with funding applications, rehearsal space, production, technical and marketing support. Associate relationships are regularly reviewed to make sure they remain mutually beneficial, usually at the end of each project or production.

ARC's current Associate Artists and Companies are:

154 Collective
Kathryn Beaumont
Umar Butt
Daniel Bye
Full Circle Theatre Company
Holly Gallagher
Kitchen Zoo
Luca Rutherford
Scott Turnbull
Two Destination Language
Vici Wreford-Sinnott

ARC Productions

ARC acts as a producer for some of our Associate Artists and Companies, supporting them to make, present and tour work. Each year we tour 3 – 4 shows to venues across the UK.

Partnerships

Partnerships are an important part of our work to support artists. In addition to Venue North, key partnerships include:

North East Exchange

ARC currently manages North East Exchange, formerly known as the North East Artist Development Network. The network was formed in 2012 with a vision to make the North East the best place in the UK for artists to

develop work. We want to create a strong and effective infrastructure that not only retains talent in the region, but also attracts talent to the region.

Bridging the Gap

Bridging the Gap is a project originally developed by ARC, Newcastle Theatre Royal and The Maltings in Berwick designed to contribute to the creation of new theatre in the North East region. The project has expanded since its inception in 2009 and now includes nine venues across the North East and Yorkshire, who work together to offer a joint package to support North East/Yorkshire based artists and companies to create and present a new piece of work across the venues. Details of the 2021 scheme will be available later in 2020.

Spaces & Capacities

<i>Venue</i>	<i>Capacity</i>
The Point (Music/Comedy space)	400/550 standing
Theatre	250
Studio	100
Cinema	130

Seasons

Sept – Dec
Jan – June

How far in advance to contact us

We are interested in working with artists throughout the creative process, so prefer to hear from artists in advance of starting new work. Because we work in this way, our programme is usually provisionally committed up to 12-24 months in advance. It is never too early to talk to us!

We aren't interested in booking...

We don't generally book work that is based around classic texts or adaptations – our programme is almost entirely new work. We also tend not to book musicals or comedy theatre. As explained above, we also rarely book finished, touring work.

The kind of financial deals we can offer

In the Studio, we offer small guarantees (£250-£300); and in the Theatre fees range from £750-£1,000. However, more and more of our work is made collaboratively where fees are negotiated as part of a wider support package. We rarely book more than one or two performances, but often invite companies to spend more time with us, developing work and leading audience engagement activity

We like artists to make initial contact by...

By email: introduce yourself and your work, tell us why you are interested in working with ARC, how your work fits our programme and audiences. Let us know when and where we can see your work, or how we can find out more.

We prefer artists to contact us:

By email	X	By phone		By post	
Send weblink	X	Send DVD			

If you approach us, you can expect...

Any emails personally addressed to ARC staff will be responded to; generically addressed emails will be read but only responded to if we are interested in the work.

Programmer's Contact Details	
Name:	Helen Green
Position:	Head of Performance for Sunderland Culture
Tel:	0191 515 5501



Arts Centre Washington

Artistic Policy

Arts Centre Washington (ACW) is a community hub that seeks to build engagement in the arts primarily amongst the residents of Washington which has some of the lowest levels of engagement in England. A converted farm housing a 120 seat theatre, gallery spaces, recording studio, artists' studios, art workshop, café bar, rehearsal studios and function / meeting rooms, ACW is a multipurpose arts centre, programming exhibitions, film, comedy and music. Our core priorities are:

- Work for, by and with children and young people
- The support and development of emerging artists, especially those based in Sunderland
- Engaging the community in artistic excellence

There is also a strong current of participation running through everything we do with approximately 75% of visitors to ACW taking part in activities.

ACW seeks to balance programme offered elsewhere in the wider city of Sunderland (see separate entry for Sunderland Stages later in this document) by concentrating on work that is original, inventive and, of course, small scale. Work that really appeals to us is:

- Performance for children and families
- Performance that has real relevance to local audiences e.g. heritage, armed forces, politics
- Adaptations of well known classics: plays, novels etc
- Performance that involves community participation and amateur dramatics

How we support artists

We provide free rehearsal/R&D space to emerging artists (especially those in the Sunderland area), mentoring and fundraising advice.

We are a member of: NE Exchange – performing artist networking group
REACH network and attend REACH showcase event
Venues North

Spaces & Capacities

<i>Venue</i>	<i>Capacity</i>
Theatre	120
Low Barn	135
Granary	50

Seasons

Spring / Summer - Jan – July

Autumn – Sept - Dec

How far in advance to contact us

6 – 12 months

We aren't interested in booking...

The kind of financial deals we can offer

Splits, occasional guarantees especially for children's work, hires

We like **artists to make initial contact by...**

Email only

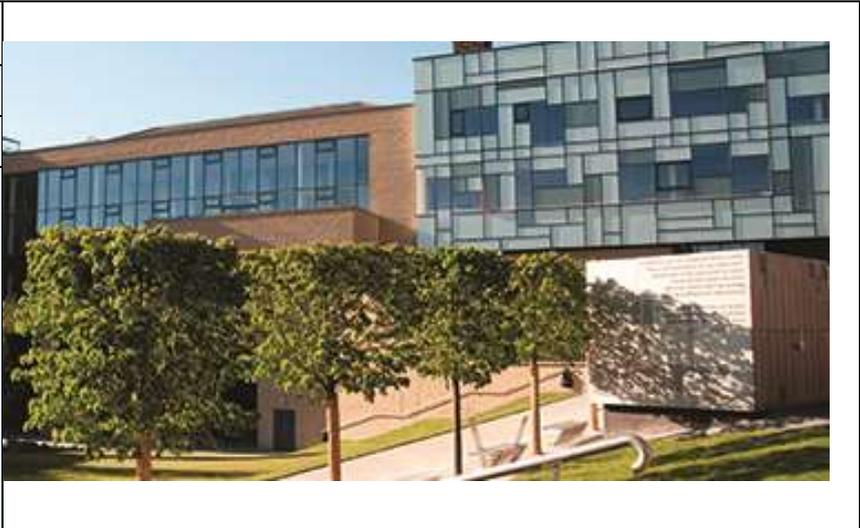
We prefer artists to contact us:

By email	x	By phone		By post	
Send weblink		Send DVD			

If you approach us, you can expect...

Owing to capacity we cannot respond personally to every submission. We keep all submissions relevant to each season on file until it is time to programme that season. If we are interested, we will get in touch by email.

Programmer's Contact Details	
Name:	Ian Morley
Position:	Theatre Programmer
Tel:	01226 327000
Email:	ianmorley@barnsleycivic.co.uk



The Civic, Barnsley

Artistic Policy

Who We Are:

The Civic is a small to mid-scale arts centre located in the Centre of Barnsley, South Yorkshire. We programme a varied and dynamic cross section of visual and performance art that includes theatre, dance, circus, comedy, music, community arts, sculpture and fine art exhibitions and a dedicated programme of professional children's theatre.

We believe in collaborative work with companies and organisations and run an annual dedicated artist development programme, CARP (Civic Artists Residency Programme) a flexible programme aiming to support Northern artists in the process of creating work, developing and experimenting with new ideas in a creative and supportive arts environment.

We are a multi-functional and mixed space venue that comprises of The Assembly Room, Gallery@, meeting rooms and Foyer areas, and Mandela Gardens. We are an Arts Council National Portfolio Organisation

What are our aims?

Our vision is to provide extra-ordinary art and experiences to the people of Barnsley, Yorkshire and surrounding region. We aim to raise aspirations, challenge perceptions and inspire pride in our community. We aim to achieve this through our dynamic programme

What do we programme?

- Theatre, Circus and Dance

Our Theatre Circus and Dance programme is mixture of contemporary dance, Contemporary Circus new writing, physical theatre, adaptations of classic text and spoken word.

The programme consists of nationally renowned touring companies and local / regional artists. We are predominantly a receiving house but are interested in collaborative and potential commissioning opportunities that have audience development and engagement at their heart. In addition to onsite indoor work we regularly co-commission and programme work to be presented of site

We programme dance and theatre approximately 10 – 12 months in advance

We are a relatively new venue and are still building audiences therefore we will only programme 6 to 8 theatre performances and 1 or 2 Dance performances per season.

However we are keen to establish dialogue with arts organisations and companies that could support us to engage and develop new audiences

The programme consists of nationally renowned touring companies and local / regional artists. We are predominantly a receiving house but are interested in collaborative and potential commissioning opportunities that have audience development and engagement at their heart.

We programme dance and theatre approximately 10 – 12 months in advance

We are a relatively new venue and are still building audiences therefore we will only programme 6 to 8 theatre performances and 1 or 2 Dance performances per season.

However we are keen to establish dialogue with arts organisations and companies that could support us to engage and develop new audiences.

- Family Performance

We are passionate about programming high quality, dynamic and engaging work for families and young people, we predominantly programme work for 3 – 8 year olds but are keen to explore work that attracts and engages with older children. We work with and programme companies that both adapt classic or known text and with those that produce new writing and devised work. Our family programme consists of fortnightly Sunday afternoon performances, an extended family show for Christmas that is an alternative offer to the traditional pantomime, and periodic longer runs that tie in with school terms and half terms depending on the company and show. We commission and co commission family work and are open to discussions with companies about their work. We programme our family work 6 – 12 months in advance

- Music

Our music programme is a range of touring folk, jazz, blues and classical acoustic artists and bands. We predominantly programme artists producing original material and tend not to present tribute acts as this is already catered for in other venues in the town. However, if available our facilities can be hired for tribute acts. We programme at least one band or artist per month.

The music programme is planned 6 – 8 months in advance

- Comedy and Cabaret

Our comedy programme consist of monthly gigs from national touring known comedians and a seasonal showcase of emerging talent in partnership with The Last Laugh Comedy Club
We programme our comedy 6 – 12 months in advance

• Visual Arts

The Gallery@ The Civic currently stages approximately 10 temporary exhibitions each year; five in the main gallery and 5 on the smaller Panorama space. As The Gallery@ has no permanent collection from which to draw, these exhibitions are a mixture of touring exhibitions from established lenders, exhibitions created specifically for the Civic either by the in-house team or in conjunction with local curators, and exhibitions by local emerging artists and makers. Our aim is to be forward-thinking in our choice of exhibitions, and to present the best of all aspects of art and design to our audience by including a range of contemporary visual fine art, design, fashion, photography and craft. The Gallery@ The Civic is passionate about visual arts and particularly about sharing exceptional and extraordinary visual art with the widest audience. The Civic also believes in nurturing the talent of emerging and established makers, supporting them to create and sell new work, extend their practice and develop sustainable careers, for example through exhibiting at the venue and through participation in the Civic's Artistic Residency Programme, CARP.

In addition to Venues North we are members of SVN a Small Venue Network of 20 arts venues in the Yorkshire region that meet and work collaboratively, share knowledge and expertise with the purpose of bolstering the artistic and economic resilience of smaller provincial venues.

How we support artists

We support artists through scratch nights, our CARP scheme, commissions and co-commissions, and rehearsal space.

Spaces & Capacities

<i>Venue</i>	<i>Capacity</i>
The Assembly Room	336 theatre end on format, 200 in the round, 336 -384 comedy format,
Mandela Gardens	Public gardens with flat performance space for outside work 500+ Capacity

Seasons

2 seasons per year Sept – Jan & Feb – July

How far in advance to contact us

12 months

The kind of financial deals we can offer

Varied deals from guarantees to box office splits, first calls, hires

We like artists to make initial contact by...

Email followed by telephone

We prefer artists to contact us:

By email	x	By phone	x	By post	
Send weblink		Send DVD			

If you approach us, you can expect...

I will aim to respond with 2 weeks

Programmer's Contact Details		
Name:	Conrad Lynch & Hannah Flynn	
Position:	Executive Director / Head of Performing Arts	
Tel:	01539 722833 x230	
Email:	programming@breweryarts.co.uk	Brewery Arts Centre

Artistic Policy

The Brewery Arts Centre aims to provide a balanced and diverse programme of artistic and educational activity across all art forms with the main focus being on music, theatre, dance, comedy and film.

The Brewery's programme is eclectic, wide ranging, high quality and culturally diverse.

Within its limited financial resources, the Brewery takes artistic risks and invests in artists. In particular, we programme:

- The best music from around the world appropriate to our performance spaces, introducing our audiences to new artists as well as those well established within their genre. We programme in conjunction with Band on the Wall in Manchester to secure better artists and more cost effective touring to the region.
- An eclectic and diverse mix of theatre and dance, developing audiences for both accessible and more challenging work. We explore opportunities to introduce new companies and new writing to our audiences. We develop co-productions with a number of touring companies.
- A wide range of comedy events including warm up gigs from high profile names, circuit regulars and emerging talent
- Regular spoken word events, with an emphasis on grassroots activity, mainly utilising the intimate Warehouse venue.

- Major film releases in our main cinemas (and for 26 weeks of the year, the Theatre) and a regular programme of art house and world cinema in the Warehouse.
- Exhibitions (primarily of regional contemporary artists) in the Sugar Store gallery and Warehouse.

How we support artists

As part of co-production deals, we provide the Theatre and full technical support to companies opening new work. Companies we have worked with include Theatre Cryptic, Starving Artists, Chris Goode & Company and DecaDance Theatre.

We have occasionally provided development space to companies such as Imitating The Dog and David Lloyd Dance.

We regularly offer local bands/musicians support slots to headline acts.

Spaces & Capacities

Venue	Capacity
Theatre	260
Malt Room	300 seated / 420 standing

Seasons

Jan – Apr / May-June / Sept - Dec

How far in advance to contact us

9 - 12 months

We aren't interested in booking...

Non arts events such as mediums, mindreaders, wrestling

The kind of financial deals we can offer

A guarantee against a percentage split, based on likely box office forecast.
Straight splits for comedy.

We like artists to make initial contact by...

By e-mail

We encourage artists/companies to outline how they think their work fits into our programme, and how they can support us to engage and develop audiences. We also actively seek out exciting new theatre at key festival events such as the Edinburgh Fringe Festival as well as working with a network of trusted promoters, agents and companies.

We prefer artists to contact us:

By email	X	By phone		By post	
Send weblink		Send DVD			

If you approach us, you can expect...

Due to the number of proposals received I can only respond to artists/companies whose work I wish to discuss further.

Programmer's Contact Details

Name:	Rosie Clark
Position:	Producer
Tel:	01302 303 950
Email:	programming@castindoncaster.com/ rosie@castindoncaster.com



Cast, Doncaster

Artistic Policy

Cast is a purpose built theatre venue in the centre of Doncaster which opened in 2013. The artistic programme comprises mainly touring product in both our spaces and some local amateur hires. We have an artist development programme with a range of different strands.

Our mission is to enrich the creative and cultural life of our communities through high-quality artistic experiences. We aim to raise engagement in the arts in Doncaster through a varied performance programme; to transform aspiration and develop cultural capital through participation in creative activity; to encourage a vibrant dynamic confident community using the arts as a catalyst for conversation; and to work in partnership using the arts as a powerful tool for social change and place making.

How we support artists

We have an Associate Artist scheme (currently 5 companies), and we also support a range of other artists and emerging companies through mentoring, signposting, and where possible R&D time in our spaces. We run monthly artist hangouts, have recently started a writers' group for emerging writers, and offer masterclasses and workshops.

Spaces & Capacities

<i>Venue</i>	<i>Capacity</i>
Main House	620
Second Space	142 (various configurations)

Seasons					
Feb – July; Sept - Dec					
How far in advance to contact us					
6-12 months					
We aren't interested in booking...					
Hypnotists, wrestling, mediums					
The kind of financial deals we can offer					
Mainly box office splits, occasionally work on first calls for studio shows, some guarantees in the main house					
We like artists to make initial contact by...					
Email please					
We prefer artists to contact us:					
By email	Yes	By phone		By post	
Send weblink	Yes	Send DVD			
If you approach us, you can expect...					
<p>Programming tends to happen in clusters where a range of potential work is considered, so we can't always respond immediately.</p> <p>A no this time doesn't mean that we aren't interested in future work!</p> <p>Unfortunately, it is impossible to reply to everyone with detailed feedback on shows and due to the number of proposals we receive, we tend to only respond to artists/companies who we have a relationship with or whose work we wish to discuss further. If we haven't responded within 3 months it will usually mean that we haven't been able to include your work on this occasion.</p> <p>Please include your touring plans and if we aren't able to programme your show, do let us know when it is touring – we try to see work where possible.</p>					

Programmer's Contact Details	
Name:	Pelin Basaran
Position:	Programme Manager
Tel:	0161 274 06 11
Email:	pelinbasaran@contactmcr.com



Contact, Manchester

Artistic Policy

Note: Contact's new building will be open in autumn 2020.

Contact is where young people change their lives through the arts, and audiences of all ages experience exciting and diverse new shows. It is the leading national theatre and arts venue to place young people at the decision-making heart of everything: where young people aged 13-30 work alongside staff in deciding the artistic programme, making all staff appointments and act as full Board members. The result is an outstanding, diverse and accessible artistic programme for everyone.

We present contemporary theatre, dance, live art, cabaret, spoken word, circus, comedy and music. We support artists who work across any or all of these art-forms, or who are inventing new forms. We have a particular interest in work that speaks to people under 30, that is socially engaged or that young people find exciting and relevant. Our programme features:

- Professional shows produced or commissioned by Contact (including a strand of work which is health, wellbeing or science focused)
- Contact Young Company shows, made in collaboration with leading artists
- Touring shows selected by young people (Re:CON Young Programmers) and staff

How we support artists

Artist Development Mission

Based in our unique creative building in Manchester, we provide a range of support programmes for artists of all career stages, and emerging arts leaders. An ecology under one roof, Contact supports artists across live performance forms (theatre, dance, spoken word, music, cabaret, live art and comedy) progressing from youth programmes to professional development for artists from across Greater Manchester and the UK. Support takes the form of emerging artist commissions, artists labs, and major productions and co-productions for national touring.

Contact's talent development offer also includes year-long programmes covering programming and producing (ReCON), community arts leaders (Future Fires), technical/design (Technique), and marketing and communications (iCON).

How We Support Artists

Co-productions and Main House artist commissions

As well as in-house productions and co-productions, Contact commissions several shows a year; this includes 3 commissions up to £1,500, for emerging artists who are alumni of Contact to conduct initial research phases, and mid- large scale productions, and co-productions (between £8,000- £20,000).

Co- Productions and Contact productions are developed and presented at Contact before extensive national touring, and several have recently been subsequently developed for BBCTV. Shows often have a particular focus on socially engaged practice, work that platforms under-represented communities and narratives, or that has particular interest to young people under 30.

Health and Science Commissions

Contact annually commissions around 4 artists/companies to develop new work exploring health inequalities or research with a range of partners (Wellcome, Public Health England). From 2020 these will be developed through the Contact/Wellcome studio supported by a Health and Science Producer.

Contact Young Company (CYC)

An annually recruited ensemble of 25 young artists aged 15-25. CYC undergo a year-round programme of weekly workshops, see shows in our programme, and join subsidised places at Contact masterclasses. CYC make 3 professional-standard shows in collaboration with leading artists (recently Stacy Makishi, SHIT Theatre, Hetain Patel and Theater DEGASTEN) for professional contexts, including touring recently to Southbank Centre, Traverse Theatre and BAC. Form/scale and location varies during the programme (promenade, studio pieces, mid-scale shows, work for families).

Director Development

Director support takes the form of paid opportunities to shadow and assist professional directors and companies working on Contact Young Company shows and in-house productions, with considerable responsibility to work with lead artists throughout production. Contact also appoint and support emerging directors to lead on specific projects, e.g. a Greater Manchester Police commission, to create a new piece about honour based violence, directed by early career directors.

Young Musicians

Funded by Youth Music, we provide weekly training in music, media and production at drop-in level (Media Drop) through to professional activity (Level Up) aimed at producing skilled musicians, vocalists and MCs able to develop their career in the music industry. A strong focus on diversity and gender balance has created a highly distinctive offer in the city.

ReCON Young Programmers and Producers teams

ReCON is Contact's internationally renowned programme for young programmers and producers, from the age of 18+. They work alongside staff, attend all programming meetings, programming work directly into Contact's public seasons. They also conceive and deliver their own funded projects, presented within our core public programme. Many former ReCON members go on to successful careers in arts management. Recruitment takes place annually.

Future Fires

Our young community arts practitioner programme supports and mentors young creatives under 30 to conceive and deliver their own community-based arts project in response to local need across Greater Manchester. Recruitment takes place annually in Summer and the programme runs from September, as well as short courses.

Creative Experts

Creative Experts are Contact's young arts facilitators who deliver training, away days, conference enhancement and staff development workshops for charitable and commercial sectors. Members get monthly training sessions focused on turning their creative skills into workshop and facilitation skills applicable in a range of contexts. Recent clients include Siemens, Virgin Trains and BBC.

Technique

Weekly workshops for emerging technicians and production managers under 25, led by the Contact technical and production team. The project has been successful in producing emerging technicians who go onto receive paid freelance work at Contact and in other venues in the city.

Spaces & Capacities

<i>Venue</i>	<i>Capacity</i>
Main Space (Space 1)	320
Studio Space (Space 2)	70

Space 0 (Science and Health focused space, in partnership with Wellcome Trust)	100 (cabaret style)				
Seasons					
Jan to July & Sept to Dec					
How far in advance to contact us					
For touring work at least 6-9 months in advance. For commissioning/co-production partnerships ideally at the start of the project. We programme two main public seasons: Jan to July and Sept to Dec, around 6-9 months in advance. The Programming team including RE:CON (our Young Programming and Producing team), meet fortnightly and the wider Artistic team meet monthly to discuss submissions from artists and companies. When selecting work we consider carefully how they meet our programming aims as well as how they fit our spaces, budget and overall programme ethos.					
We aren't interested in booking...					
We do not programme traditional adaptation of classical texts. We do not accept unsolicited texts.					
The kind of financial deals we can offer					
Fees are negotiated though we aim to provide guaranteed fees rather than splits. We are also open to proposals from artists, companies and organisations for commissioning/co-production opportunities, through cash contributions and in-kind support. We also co-present with other venues in the city.					
We like artists to make initial contact by...					
We welcome submissions from all artists and companies. If you would like your work to be considered for inclusion in Contact's programme please email a proposal to programming@contactmcr.com You should include the following information: - Who you are and what kind of work you make - Contact details including a current mobile number - Details of the project including video footage, script, press reviews and information about the creative team. - An invitation to see the work or other work by the same company/artists. - Which space at Contact the work will fit in and why Contact is the right platform for your work.					
We prefer artists to contact us:					
By email	x	By phone		By post	
Send weblink	X	Send DVD			
If you approach us, you can expect...					
Once you have contacted us, if we are interested and excited by your submission or require further information, we will get in touch initially by email or phone. Please note that we receive a high number of programming submissions each week, and it may take some time to respond to emails. If we have not responded within 6 weeks it is unlikely that we will be pursuing your submission for inclusion in our programme.					

Programmer's Contact Details		
Name:	Vicky Holliday	
Position:	Senior Producer	
Tel:	01924 437966 07714 249976	
Email:	vicky@creativescene.org.uk	Creative Scene

Artistic Policy

Creative Scene is the Creative People and Places programme for West Yorkshire-North Kirklees, an arts and social change initiative supported by Arts council England. It's about more people creating and experiencing great art in the places where they live. The Creative Scene is being grown with the people of Dewsbury, Batley, Mirfield, Cleckheaton, Heckmondwike, Birstall, Liversedge, Gomersal and Birkenshaw- and all places in between. We want to work with artists and companies who are open to collaboration and put community and engagement at the heart of their work. We programme and commission work that is:

- **Distinct:** it should be radically different
- **Relevant:** with the potential to involve local people in development and decision making
- **Engaged:** communities involved in engagement activities and opportunities for co-creation
- **Accessible:** with understanding of the needs of diverse audiences in peri-urban towns
- **Focused:** with clear understanding of the target audience for the work
- **Inspiring:** it should raise aspirations for what is possible in the area
- **Forward thinking:** have the potential to build long term relationships between artists, arts organisations and local people
- **Putting a spotlight on place:** is developing the local venue infrastructure and is inspired by the presentation location.

Specifically Creative Scene programs with the following locations in mind:

Festivals: Many community run festivals make up the Creative Scene in North Kirklees and provide opportunities for artistic programming. Venues include town centers, town halls, libraries, market halls and parades.

Outdoor: Providing opportunities for large-scale accessible events we are interested in all sorts of outdoor spaces including parks, town centres, train station platforms, etc.

Community Venues: We have developed two touring networks working with local venues:

- **On Tour Family:** Focused on performances for children aged 3 and up and their adults. Spaces include a 16th century barn, community centre, dance hall and two sports clubs.
- **The Local:** Creating an exciting and memorable night out in a relaxed environment. Spaces include 4 pubs and a community centre.

How we support artists

R&D/Production Space: Provision for time and space working in our area to create new work in collaboration with people here. Often this will be offered as part of a commissioning process but is also offered by invitation or request. (Please note we do not have a traditional rehearsal space but often broker opportunities in office blocks, pubs, etc).

Commissions: Designed with local people we put out briefs for commissions to create work specific to our context, often with relevance elsewhere and therefore potential for touring. These range from theatre productions to outdoor arts. Please sign up to our mailing list to be kept up to date with opportunities. <https://www.creativescene.org.uk/>

Training/Networking Opportunities: We are interested in developing artists who have a commitment to collaborating with communities to inform their work. We offer a programme of provocation sessions, training schools and networking opportunities. From time to time we will also support artists to attend wider opportunities, offered by invitation. Please sign up to our mailing list to be kept up to date with opportunities. <https://www.creativescene.org.uk/>

Spaces & Capacities

We programme for non-traditional spaces. We work with venues as part of two touring circuits:

On Tour Family: Performance work for children aged 3 and up and their adults

The Local: Performance in pub style venues (works best when work is 'safely' interactive, where people can get up and go to the bar and where heckling is expected and can be embraced in the context of the work.)

We also programme work in a range of outdoor contexts and are open to work in other locations.

<i>Venue</i>	<i>Capacity</i>
Northorpe Barn (On Tour Family)	85
Birstall Community Centre (On Tour Family)	80
Batley Bulldogs Rugby League Club (On Tour Family)	80
Thornhill Sports and Community Centre (On Tour Family)	60
Healey Community Centre (On Tour Family)	75
The Navigation Tavern (The Local)	70
Robertown Community Centre (The Local)	70
The Taproom (The Local)	40
The Leggers Inn (The Local)	70
Mill Valley Brewery (The Local)	40

Seasons

We programme year round. Family work is usually programmed in the February, May and October half-terms.

How far in advance to contact us

At least 3 months. Often we would expect the artist/company to spend time in the area developing relationships and the work and therefore this requires a much longer lead-in.

The kind of financial deals we can offer

Programme fees for the touring circuits range from £300-£800 depending on the scale of the work.

We like artists to make initial contact by...

By email. Please introduce yourself and your work and tell us why you are interested in working with the us, how your work fits into our programme and what it offers our audiences. Let us know when and where we can see your work and how we can find out more about what you do.

We prefer artists to contact us:

By email	Email	By phone		By post	
Send weblink		Send DVD			

If you approach us, you can expect...

Any emails personally addressed to Creative Scene staff will be responded to however generically addressed emails and circulars will be read but only responded to if we are interested in the work.

Programmer's Contact Details

Name:	Janine Waters
Position:	Artistic Director
Tel:	01612829776



Email: info@edgetheatre.co.uk

The Edge Theatre & Arts Centre

Artistic Policy

We programme small or mid-scale touring theatre, children's work, music, dance, comedy, and spoken word.

How we support artists

Each year we work with 2 early and mid-career Manchester based companies to create a new piece of work, as part of our Made at The Edge scheme. This can be through free rehearsal space, artistic direction or scratch nights.

Spaces & Capacities

<i>Venue</i>	<i>Capacity</i>
Theatre	70-90

Seasons

Jan – Apr (Spring)
 May – Jul (Summer)
 Sept – Dec (Autumn)

How far in advance to contact us

6-12 months

We aren't interested in booking...

Non arts-events, tribute bands, mediums, clairvoyants.

The kind of financial deals we can offer

Usually a 70/30 split

We like artists to make initial contact by...

Email with programming in the subject title, telling us a bit about yourself, your work and why you think it would work well at The Edge.

We prefer artists to contact us:

By email	x	By phone		By post	
Send weblink	x	Send DVD			

If you approach us, you can expect...

Emails to info@edgetheatre.co.uk about programming will be looked at and, if of interest, will be responded to within 12 weeks. Unfortunately, we cannot respond to all the emails that come through this account due to the high level of proposals we receive.

Programmer's Contact Details		
Name:	Porl Cooper / Nick Hopwood	
Position:	Programmer / Head of Performance venues	
Tel:	0114 222 8889	
Email:	enableus@sheffield.ac.uk n.hopwood@sheffield.ac.uk	Enable Us – University of Sheffield

<h3>Artistic Policy</h3> <p>Enable US is a University of Sheffield Performance Venues initiative, which aims to offer creative experiences and development opportunities for Students, Staff and Sheffield audiences through performance, workshops, master classes and academic symposiums. The bi-annual Enable Us Festival (2 weeks each Spring and 2 weeks in Autumn) brings new and progressive theatre productions to Sheffield, providing a new platform for public engagement, and allows Sheffield audiences access to work that may not otherwise have been presented in the region. Enable US also provides support for the creation of new work by Students, University of Sheffield Alumni and local artists across the Northern Powerhouse regions, by providing space to create, to research and develop, and to access new audiences.</p> <p>Additionally the programme encourages opportunities for our Students to work alongside professional arts practitioners, to develop their own creativity and to grow as individuals. We also aim to develop work based learning programmes and internships within the cultural and creative professions. Enable US seeks to foster interdisciplinary practice and collaborations with academics and will present performance to stimulate and ignite debate and discussion.</p> <p>We Actively seek work that appeals to Faculties and Schools (beyond School of English), with themes and topics which resonate across other Faculties and Schools, a full list of which can be found here: https://www.sheffield.ac.uk/departments/faculty-departments</p> <p>Within that remit, we will prioritise:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International Work • Physical Theatre, Dance & Circus

- Work by midcareer artists (to balance the other local venues focus on the New and Emerging)

How we support artists

Single night programmed performances within the Enable Us festival periods
 Residency and R & D opportunities (subject to availability and mainly out of term time)
 Brokering relationships with academics, schools and faculties within the University, which may then inform the work being made.

Spaces & Capacities

Venue	Capacity
Drama Studio (main home of EnableUs programme)	177 seats, flexible formats
The Octagon	up to 1230 seats, 1600 standing, flexible formats
Firth Hall (concert venue)	380 seats

Seasons

2 weeks in the Spring (between Feb and April) and 2 weeks in the Autumn (between Oct and Dec)

How far in advance to contact us

As early as possible, but ideally 6-9 months in advance. We can consider productions in the short term under certain circumstances.

We aren't interested in booking...

Work that has already been presented in the region (as we have limited no. of performance slots)

Otherwise all approaches are considered.

We are always interested in work which resonates with the University Faculties

(list here <https://www.sheffield.ac.uk/departments/faculty-departments>) and that which has a specific interests to encourage engagement between the company, students and academics.

The kind of financial deals we can offer

All deals are negotiated

While we are currently working to 80/20% splits or first calls in the companies favour, for Autumn 2018 onwards we are also seeking external funding which will allow us to meet guaranteed fees (fees still in line with the potential yield of the space!)

We like artists to make initial contact by...

E-mail

Please try and include as much of the following information;

- Mobile number
- An invitation to see work
- Information about the work, press reviews, background info about the creative team
- Information of where the work has previously been presented
- Potential tour dates

We prefer artists to contact us:

By email	YES	By phone		By post	
Send weblink	YES	Send DVD			

If you approach us, you can expect...

A response within 7-14 days to tell them whether their dates or production fit into our programme or if we may be interested in future productions

Programmer's Contact Details

Name: Porl Cooper

Position: Programmer

Tel: 01423 502710

Email: programming@harrogatetheatre.co.uk



Harrogate Theatre

Artistic Policy

Built in 1900 and run today by Harrogate (White Rose) Theatre Trust Ltd, Harrogate Theatre is a typical example of a late Victorian proscenium arch venue built over five floors. The building has undergone several refurbishments, the last major one being between 2007-2011.

Harrogate Theatre is located on Oxford Street in central and has two performance spaces (a main auditorium that seats 500 and a studio space that seats 60), which allow for producing and presenting theatre, dance, music and comedy. It is also home to a number of community groups that regularly perform musicals and plays throughout the year. The organisation also runs a vibrant education and outreach department that delivers throughout the District from an adjacent building called Hive. The Theatre has undergone considerable artistic development in the past 10 years that has seen the organisation establish itself as a significant influence in the region, with a growing national profile.

Over the past three years the Trust has acquired programming responsibilities for a programme of live events at the Royal Hall (1,000 seats) and Harrogate International Centre (2,000 seats), allowing for internationally renowned companies and artists to be part of the eclectic artistic programme.

Our Mission Statement is as follows:

“Harrogate Theatres produce and present a programme of quality drama, dance, comedy, music and festivals that celebrate the diversity and richness of British and world cultures, whilst identifying opportunities to work closely with artists and practitioners that challenge and excite audiences. Harrogate Theatres works with all stakeholders to generate educational activities that encourage an

appreciation of the arts as participants or audience members. Harrogate Theatres acknowledge that activity within the arts sector contributes to the buoyancy of the local economy and therefore seeks to collaborate with other venues, cultural providers, funders and business partners.”

In addition Harrogate Theatre Scenic Services is operated by Harrogate Theatre, which sees the workshop construct and deliver sets for venues and companies all over the country.

How we support artists

Artist Development/Support

Previously Harrogate Theatre has developed an informal associate artist or partnership scheme that allows us to support and champion a diverse and varied range of new work by emerging and existing artists and companies.

As of 2020 we have taken on a new approach, to try to make the process as fair as possible and to allocate our available funds as equally as possible. Each year will have a call out (via the venue’s Social Network channels among other places) for 4 opportunities of seed funding, space, support in kind and up to a week of performances. We will select 3 companies that are “known to us” (either through previous support or simply programming previous work) and 1 company completely “unknown to us”.

The call outs will usually contain a specific provocation. One year it might be “how does your project meet the Creative Case for Diversity”, another year it might be “How does your project aim to engage XXXXXX (audience demograph)”. Successful applicants are selected by a panel of 4 and not just one programmer.

There are no strict criteria for who we work with but our priority is to ensure that we work with the most varied selection of companies as our resources allow and those hailing from the North of England, and Harrogate and District in particular. We actively encourage companies to make the work with us and have ongoing dialogues with all departments through that process.

Additionally:

Rehearsal space is available across the year at a very heavily subsidised rate.

There are bookable ‘Surgeries’ available with Producer across the year.

Ongoing workshops (free or discounted) and learning sessions for creatives throughout the year.

Please note that both our rehearsal space and studio performance space are not in step free spaces (our building is 120 years old) and we currently do not have a lift to either space. We are doing our best to remedy this and in the meantime continue to develop relationships with other more accessible spaces for performance and rehearsal.

We welcome proposals for work that can present in offsite, low tech spaces.

Spaces & Capacities

<i>Venue</i>	<i>Capacity</i>
Harrogate Theatre	500

Harrogate Studio	60				
Royal Hall Harrogate	1000				
Harrogate International Centre					
Seasons					
Sept – Mar Feb – Aug					
How far in advance to contact us					
As early as they can – but we do also occasionally book in the short term; so whenever suits the company.					
We aren't interested in booking...					
Clairvoyants. We have a strong amateur programme of musicals and some dramas, so we always have to be aware of the balance of work across the venues.					
The kind of financial deals we can offer					
For our Studio Theatre we prefer to work on split deals; across our other spaces we are happy to discuss guarantees against %.					
We like artists to make initial contact by...					
Email					
We prefer artists to contact us:					
By email	x	By phone		By post	
Send weblink		Send DVD			
If you approach us, you can expect...					
We will try to respond to enquiries ASAP but a nudge after a few weeks is always helpful. Happy to receive follow up phone calls. There are 3 in the programming team, but not full time programmer – we meet weekly to discuss options and working with companies; so we may take a while to get back to you.					

Programmer's Contact Details	
-------------------------------------	--

Name:	Kevin Jamieson	
Position:	Senior Producer	
Tel:	0161 212 3476	
Email:	Kevin.jamieson@homemcr.org	HOME, Manchester

Artistic Policy

We work with artists to produce questioning and ambitious artistic projects and involve audiences with new and extraordinary theatrical experiences.

We programme an exciting, eclectic mix of plays, and our focus is celebrating and commissioning artists with a unique theatrical language. Sitting so closely to the best of international, independent cinema and contemporary visual art has inspired us to have strong visual ambitions for all our work in the theatre.

Theatre at HOME has an international focus. We are a home for UK premieres of foreign language plays and celebrate many of the most inventive international theatre companies making work around the globe. Our annual ¡Viva! festival (April) joins together with our partner art forms in a venue-wide exploration of film, theatre and visual art from across the Spanish-speaking world.

Dance theatre, combining the raw emotion of dance with the narrative of theatre also has a new home in Manchester and we are working with international partners to commission and produce bold new work as well as host the best touring productions in this exciting medium.

Theatre 2 was launched in 2016 with a desire to explore the world around us through the lenses of the most exciting local, national and international companies. These companies are playful, questioning and challenging sharing unique viewpoints through daring performance practise.

Orbit (October) is Theatre 2's annual showcase festival and bring's together a collective of artists and performances from some of the world's best festivals as well as premiere productions into a two week celebration.

We continue to work with the best of Manchester's thriving fringe scene with our annual PUSH Festival (January), which is dedicated to supporting emerging artists, filmmakers and theatre makers to help them to develop, promote and showcase their practice.

To advise and oversee our programming and ensure we are kept abreast of developments, we work with an international network of dramaturgs and we are also delighted to welcome new Associate Companies 1927 and Mighty Heart Theatre and Associate Artist Katie West. They join existing Associates Quarantine, Manchester's leading experimental theatre company.

We also have a focus on developing the work and careers of emerging and mid career theatre makers. A programme of encounters, events and workshops – many lead by visiting practitioners of national and international standing – will provide the support, insight and platform needed to allow theatre's next generation to flourish.

How we support artists

We want HOME to be a creative hub for the region, where local and world-class talent of all backgrounds and disciplines are discovered, nurtured and showcased, and come together to create new experiences,

Emerging creatives can take advantage of one-off skills workshops, long-term development residencies, commissions and regular showcase opportunities, which support the professional development of theatre makers, visual artists and filmmakers at all career stages and connect our region's creatives with national and international practitioners making work for our stages, screens and galleries. HOME work on talent development across all five strands of the programme; visual art, film, theatre, community and young people, digital and creative.

Throughout the year we run a number of specialist skills workshops, masterclasses and in depth projects to support the professional development of artists at varying career stages. This varied programme aims to connect regional artists with practitioners/companies making work for our stages, screens and galleries.

Directors

HOME is working with the JMK Trust to offer a series of professional development workshops for Young & Emerging Directors in the region. Opportunities include regular meetings, in depth residencies and paid opportunities to assist on productions here at HOME.

Each September we also run an intensive introductory course in theatre directing, Stage Directions led by industry professionals for those curious to explore directing for the first time.

Throughout the year we provide a number of paid opportunities for directors to assist on a range of projects from staged readings, Made at HOME commissions and engagement projects.

Made at HOME

Is our research and development programme for mid-career theatre makers to experiment and explore cross-art form ideas and collaborations. A series of bespoke opportunities each year for mid-career theatre makers to receive a tailored package of support including financial investment to interrogate future ideas, productions and collaborations, mentoring by HOME staff and cross-art form practitioners in HOME's network, dedicated rehearsal space, and access to HOME's in-house dramaturg.

Mothers Who Make

Mothers who Make is a growing national network aimed at supporting mothers who are artists, working in any discipline and at any stage of their careers. It is a peer support group and creative exchange session for mothers who are artists – professional and/or passionate – writers, painters, actors, dancers, filmmakers, photographers...every kind of maker welcome, and every kind of mother. Please feel free to bring along your children, of any age, whether they are inside you, beside you or running round the room!

PUSH Festival (January)

PUSH is HOME's annual festival dedicated to supporting emerging North West-based creatives to develop, promote and showcase their practice and create new networks. It's no secret that Manchester is a creative jewel

of a city, brimming with theatre-makers, filmmakers and visual artists pushing the boundaries of the way we make and perceive work. PUSH shines a light on that local talent and provides a platform for creatives from all art forms to showcase work that thrills, excites and challenges audiences. PUSH also aims to provide creatives with the skills to develop and push their practice further so expect workshops, panel discussions and networking opportunities.

ORBIT (October)

Our annual Orbit festival showcases some of the most exciting and critically acclaimed productions from the Edinburgh Fringe Festival and beyond. In tandem with the diverse programme of shows, visiting companies and artists deliver a range of open access workshops for local theatre makers.

T1 Commission

Responding to a national identified lack of opportunities for mid-career theatre makers to scale up to the demands of making work for a main stage, HOME has developed the T1 Commission. A bi-annual commissioning opportunity for mid-career practitioners to work with HOME and for the first time develop a new production for a main stage (T1). Over 18 months the practitioners will gain a bespoke residency (including national and international shadowing) concluding with a new commission.

Talent Development Beyond Theatre @ HOME

There are corresponding Talent Development programmes across our Visual Arts, Film and Digital strands. HOME runs the prestigious BFI Film Academy for young film makers, our Digital Creatives programmes supports development of creative digital skills for people from a range of artistic and media backgrounds. The Granada Galleries focus on exhibiting work by local visual artists. Feature Expanded is an E.U. funded in-depth training programme and professional development opportunity for visual artists moving into making feature length artist film.

For more information about Artist Development opportunities at HOME and how to apply, visit <https://homemcr.org/work/talent-development/> or contact: Jennie McCusker, Associate Producer jennie.mccusker@homemcr.org.

Spaces & Capacities

<i>Venue</i>	<i>Capacity</i>
Theatre 1	450 seats
Theatre 2	130 seats
Plus 5 cinemas and 2 Galleries	

Seasons

Sept – Feb
Mar – Aug

How far in advance to contact us

For all theatre 12-18 months. We always like to hear from artists at the earliest stages of their development so we have the opportunity to watch any work in progress or scratch sharing's that may be planned. This way we get a very good send of the work and the artist.

We aren't interested in booking...

We do not hire our spaces out to companies and all work must be curated by HOME

The kind of financial deals we can offer

We work on a variety of deals which we will discuss with the artist and will change on a show by show basis. We look for deals that make most sense to the artist/company and their needs.

We like artists to make initial contact by...

Email

We prefer artists to contact us:

By email	YES	By phone		By post	
Send weblink	YES	Send DVD			

If you approach us, you can expect...

Any personalised emails will always be answered and if shows are of interest they will be held on file. If the email is not personalised and the show is not of interest for HOME then we will not reply.

Programmer's Contact Details

Name:	Adam Pownall
Position:	Theatre Producer & Programmer
Tel:	01482488244
Email:	Programming@hulltruck.co.uk



Hull
Truck Theatre

Artistic Policy

Hull Truck Theatre is the flagship venue for Hull and the surrounding region presenting a theatre-led, mixed-disciplinary programme of produced and visiting work. We are a pioneering theatre with a unique Northern Voice, locally rooted, global in outlook, inspiring artists, audiences and communities to reach their greatest potential.

We are excited by work that is imaginative, compelling and reflects the diversity of a modern Britain through a focus on stories and people. We aim to present exceptional work across a broad range of theatrical forms and styles, to delight and inspire our wide range of audiences. The values which underpin our programme are: Innovation; Inclusion and Integrity.

The Heron

Drama is at the heart of our programming, and we have relationships with a number of key touring partners whose work we programme on a regular basis, including Northern Broadsides, The John Godber Company and Hull Jazz Festival.

Dance, music and comedy are programmed across both spaces and, as with the drama programme, we curate and promote work by companies of national repute.

Studio

Our Studio is a space for new and sometimes more challenging theatrical experiences. We are particularly interested in exploring the idea of a 'Northern voice', and of increasing the depth of our relationship (and that of our audiences) with artists making theatre in the North through supporting the creative development of work. The Studio is also a fully equipped cinema and we present a programme of live stream broadcasts and independent films with partners such as the Royal Shakespeare Company and Hull Independent Cinema.

Programming Strands

We are committed to presenting work that reflects the diverse communities and artists that populate our nation. We focus on the following strands to deliver thrilling and vital work that speaks of today:

Good Fit

This is the broadest of our strands, incorporating performances that make a good night out for diverse audiences and including everything from classical drama to jazz and stand-up comedy.

Innovative

Our primary focus for our visiting studio programme will be on developing and showcasing the work of contemporary UK artists and widening the pool of Northern based artists.

Through our partnerships with Venues North and artist networks, we will programme a diverse range of work from new writing from well established companies such as Graeae, Eclipse, Paines Plough, Sherman Theatre Cymru to spoken word, comedy and contemporary dance and circus.

Local to Hull & Yorkshire

As the largest producing theatre in Hull & East Yorkshire, we aim to represent and nurture the talent and experience local to Hull Truck Theatre. This work will either be made in Hull & East Yorkshire or have a clear link to the region (individual artists, stories that resonate etc).

Children & Family

We look to programme a broad range of work for families and children, from well-known titles to innovate and contemporary storytelling.

Hull Truck Theatre productions

This strand is solely for Hull Truck Theatre produced work, found mainly in the main theatre. You will find highlights in our theatre brochures and we have regular Spring, Summer and Autumn slots – as well as our Youth Theatre and family Christmas show.

How We Support Artists

Grow is our year-round artist development scheme for artists and companies at all stages of their career. Alongside a structured Supported Artists and actor training programme (the Regional Young Actors Ensemble) we provide artistic residencies through Be Our Guest, which provides artists with rehearsal space, accommodation, mentoring support and £1000. We also host our regular scratch night, First Time Out, which include structured feedback sessions.

In May we host our annual Grow Festival, which consists of workshops, conversations, performances of new work and creative networking opportunities.

Applications for residencies, scratch nights and other opportunities are advertised on our website.

Spaces & Capacities

Venue	Capacity
Main Theatre	429 seats (thrust stage)
Studio Theatre	135 seats (end on)

Seasons

Jan - July
Sept - Dec

How far in advance to contact us

6 - 12 months

We aren't interested in booking...

We will not book work that does not meet the overall values of the theatre or that does not reflect the diversity and inclusion of a modern Britain.

The kind of financial deals we can offer

Both spaces work mainly on a 70/30 box office split in the visiting company's favour; however we do a variety of deals dependent on the show, our audience forecast and our relationship with the artist or company.

We like artists to make initial contact by...

If the show is tour-ready, please send a tour pack to programming@hulltruck.co.uk with copy, images, reviews, and an indication of who the work is for. Please do not send a script or DVD unless requested. Please do be clear about how you think your work fits into one (or more) of the first three programming strands.

If the show is in development, please introduce yourself and your work and tell us why you are interested in working with Hull Truck Theatre and what your work offers our audiences. Let us know where and when we can see your work, and which other industry partners you are working with.

We rarely programme work by artists whose work we are not familiar with, so invitations to festivals, showcases and scratch performances in advance of tour booking are welcome. We also take recommendations from industry colleagues.

We prefer artists to contact us:

By email	x	By phone		By post	
----------	---	----------	--	---------	--

Send weblink	x	Send DVD		
--------------	---	----------	--	--

If you approach us, you can expect...

The programming email account is checked regularly, but due to the volume of proposals received it is not possible to respond to all. All proposals are kept on file until we are ready to programme: we hold programming meetings every couple of months and discuss as many proposals we've received as possible. We will get in touch with you if we think the show may be a good fit for us and are interested in exploring further. We try to see as much work as possible, so invites are always welcome. If you are coming to Hull Truck Theatre to see a show, please let us know and we will try to say hello in person.

Programmer's Contact Details		
Name:	Tom Jordan	
Position:	Producer	
Tel:	0113 263 8556	
Email:	programming@interplaytheatre.co.uk	
		Interplay Theatre

Artistic Policy	
Our venue is open to bringing a diverse programme of works across all art forms but in 2019 will be focusing on programming mostly theatre. As an accessible venue all of our events are open to audiences with a wide range of abilities.	
How we support artists	
We aim to offer support to emerging artists as becoming part of our programme and work with visiting companies to offer rehearsal space and advice on helping make the most of our venue and audiences as well as funding application support	
Spaces & Capacities	
<i>Venue</i>	<i>Capacity</i>
The Main Hall	80
Seasons	

Year round					
How far in advance to contact us					
6 - 12 months					
We aren't interested in booking...					
N/A					
The kind of financial deals we can offer					
We generally offer box office splits of 70/30 (Artist/Venue) but are open to discussions with artists and visiting companies on an individual basis.					
We like artists to make initial contact by...					
Email					
We prefer artists to contact us:					
By email	X	By phone	X	By post	
Send weblink		Send DVD			
If you approach us, you can expect...					
We aim to respond to programming enquiries within 2 weeks but during busy periods we may not be able to respond to all requests.					

Programmer's Contact Details		
Name:	Henry Filloux - Bennett	
Position:	Director	
Tel:	01484 484420	
Email:	programming@thelbt.org	Lawrence Batley Theatre, Huddersfield

Artistic Policy
We are a mid-scale theatre in the heart of West Yorkshire, housed in a Grade II* listed building which was once the largest Wesleyan mission in the country. Within the building there are three performance spaces – the Main Auditorium seating 477 people, the Cellar Theatre with up to 120 seats and the Attic Theatre, with up to 60 seats – as well as a number of meeting and function rooms, the newly opened

Gallery space and our café bar, The Courtyard. We are primarily a receiving house – with a mix of drama, contemporary dance, opera, music, comedy, film and family work – but we also produce and commission work. We have been producing our own pantomime for the last four years – which over 60,000 people have now seen – and over the last six months we have co-commissioned ThickSkin Theatre’s ‘How Not To Drown’, which won a Fringe First and co-produced the first ever stage adaptation of ‘The Krampus’ from Nikita Gill’s best-selling ‘Fierce Fairytales’. We have a longstanding and incredibly positive relationship with a number of amateur companies who regularly perform at the Lawrence Batley Theatre. In 2020 we shall also be co-commissioning two world premieres as well as launching a Talent Development programme at the theatre, focusing on drag and cabaret, producing and new writing. Participation is absolutely at the heart of the organisation, and we do a huge amount of work both at the theatre but also in Kirklees more widely – all of this work is seen through a lens of tackling isolation and ‘otherness’ as well as building a stronger sense of community.

How we support artists

Primarily we are able to support artists through our talent development programme, focusing on new writing, producing and drag and cabaret – more details can be found on the website.

Spaces & Capacities

<i>Venue</i>	<i>Capacity</i>
Main House	477
Cellar	70
Attic Theatre	40

Seasons

We have two brochures which typically land in November (covering December to August) and June (covering July to December).

How far in advance to contact us

As far in advance as possible

We aren’t interested in booking...

The kind of financial deals we can offer

We tend to offer splits, but can offer first calls on some work and guarantees on a very small number of shows depending on their scale and profile.

We like artists to make initial contact by...

By email. Please introduce yourself and your work and tell us why you are interested in working with the LBT, how your work fits into our programme and what it offers our audiences. Let us know when and where we can see your work and how we can find out more about what you do. There may be a delay in any response as we programme in batches.

We also attend festivals and showcases, meet artists, listen to recommendations from other professionals and go and see performances to help us identify people with whom we want to work.

We prefer artists to contact us:

By email	X	By phone		By post	X
Send weblink	X	Send DVD	X		

If you approach us, you can expect...

A speedy and supportive response

Programmer's Contact Details	
Name:	Wesley Bennett-Pearce
Position:	Senior Producer
Tel:	0113 213 7214
Email:	programming@leedsplayhouse.org.uk



Leeds Playhouse

Artistic Policy

Leeds Playhouse aims to be a hub for creative excellence – a great artistic beacon in the North.

Our mission is to create world class, relevant and compelling theatre and to transform people's lives by the power and vitality of our work. We aim to have a company, an artistic programme and an audience that reflects the diversity of the society we live in.

The Playhouse's creative ecology is made up of three interconnected and equally important parts: our programme of produced and visiting work; our Creative Engagement activity and our Furnace programme of artistic development.

How we support artists

We use the word Furnace to describe all of the work we do to generate and create new performance work and support and nourish our local creative community. In short, Furnace is Leeds Playhouse's development engine. It's where we develop audacious artistic voices and vital new theatre for the stage.

At the Playhouse, we develop:

People

We believe it's crucial to develop a diverse, highly skilled community of artists in Leeds and West Yorkshire. The Playhouse offers one of the most comprehensive artist development programmes in the country.

Unlike the development of new work, our artist development activity has no intended performance outcome. Rather, it recognises that creativity, experimentation and innovation flourish in pressure-free environments.

Projects

Project Development is the development of brand new theatre projects that are brought to us by independent artists. We provide a safe, receptive and open environment for artists and companies living and working in the North to explore new projects, to push at the boundaries of their creativity; to try, to fail, and to try again.

We create bespoke development journeys for projects, responding to an artist's needs and tailoring the way we nurture new theatre ideas accordingly.

Broadly, we support projects with time (meetings, advice, and producing / dramaturgical support), space (in our rehearsal rooms) and money (through seed funding and targeted investment).

Programme

Programme development activity is anything we do to support the evolution of plays under commission or ideas generated by our in-house directors. It allows our work to be rigorously tested, ensuring the highest possible quality across our programme.

Partnerships

We are committed to nurturing a resilient and sustainable ecology for artists to create new theatre in Leeds.

We want our building to be a prism that reflects the world around it and we believe that we are only as strong as the creative community we serve.

Please visit www.leedsplayhouse.org.uk/furnace for further information.

Spaces & Capacities

<i>Venue</i>	<i>Capacity</i>
Quarry Theatre	750
Courtyard Theatre	420
Brammall Rock Void	70-100

Seasons			
Jan – July Sept – Jan			
How far in advance to contact us			
<p>Artists can contact our Artistic Planning team via email throughout the year to say hello, talk about their work and invite us along to shows that they have coming up so that we can get an introduction to their work.</p> <p>If an artist or company wants to contact us about touring an existing work to the Playhouse, or discussing a potential co-production with us, they should get in touch at least eight months in advance.</p>			
We aren't interested in booking...			
We don't tend to programme live music, film or novelty acts like hypnotists or mediums. We also don't programme amateur companies because we have strong pre-existing links with established community companies, who perform annual at our Open Season.			
The kind of financial deals we can offer			
<p>We generally offer box office splits in the artist's favour or guarantees that allow them to ensure that their costs will be covered. These deals are negotiated on a performance by performance basis, taking in to account everything from scale of the production to estimated audience reach.</p> <p>These deals are also regularly part of a bigger support package - we often invite visiting companies to deliver workshops to our local artist network and we're open to innovative community engagement initiatives.</p>			
We like artists to make initial contact by...			
<p>Underpinning our Furnace programme of artistic development is the Furnace Social Club. It's a community, a conversation and a chance to come together, meet people and spark new collaborations. It's how we communicate information about any artistic development opportunities both at the Playhouse and at partner organisations across the UK. To sign up and for more information about the team, visit https://leedsplayhouse.org.uk/furnace/furnace-social-club/</p> <p>If you'd like to tour work to us, send an email to our Senior Producer Wesley Bennett-Pearce at programming@leedsplayhouse.org.uk, along with a tour pack, tech spec and video footage of the show if you have it."</p>			
We prefer artists to contact us:			
By email	x	By phone	By post
Send weblink	x	Send DVD	

If you approach us, you can expect...

We try to acknowledge the receipt of an email as quickly as possible if it's sent to our individual, personal email addresses.

Depending on where we are in our planning cycle, it could take anything up to two months to confirm touring dates and in the meantime, we endeavour to keep artists in the loop about the conversations we're having in-house.

Due to the volume of invites we receive on a daily basis, we might not always be able to respond to every invitation, especially if we cannot attend. If a member of the team is available to see work, we will get back to you.

Programmer's Contact Details

Name: Graeme Thompson

Position: Creative Producer

Tel:

Email: creative@live.org.uk



Live Theatre

Artistic Policy

Live Theatre is a leading force in the creation of new plays. It produces world class plays and discovers, nurtures, and develops emerging theatre makers. It creates high quality, contemporary plays that are both socially engaging, entertaining and steeped in the questions and issues of today. Live Theatre reflects the wide range of background and culture within the North East and champions work from this region. Live Theatre is the only in England, outside of London dedicated to the production of new plays. It has been doing this for 47 years.

How we support artists

The Plays We Produce

Live Theatre is primarily a producing house. This usually means producing around four new plays per year as well as festivals and specific programmes. As a company we often look to working collaboratively either through co-productions or partnerships.

Visiting Theatre

Live Theatre's visiting programme is made up of the best new plays touring nationally as well as a specific focus on new plays created in the North East by independent artists and companies. Live offers rehearsal and R&D space to North East independent artists and companies creating new plays as well as dramaturgical and producing support. Occasionally financial support may be available.

Live Elevator

Live Elevator is an ambitious artist development programme. It is dedicated to increasing the opportunity and support for early career theatre artists in our region of the North East and across the UK. It is an investment in theatre artists to create bold, diverse contemporary new plays to be seen in our theatre by our audiences. Live Elevator is specifically designed for long term, meaningful relationships with artists, enabling pathways into the sector and a stronger cultural landscape both locally and nationally. The Elevator programme is an accessible and inclusive home for new ideas, a community of support where artistic risk and experiment can take off. This includes:

- Annual Bursaries of £2000
- 10 Minutes to.. a short play event
- Scratch Nights
- Playwriting courses and events
- Workshops and Masterclasses
- Networking and peer to peer learning opportunities
- Elevator Festival, and annual showcase of new plays
- Playmakers Studio, space and developmental support to create new plays

Spaces & Capacities

<i>Venue</i>	<i>Capacity</i>
Theatre	152
Studio	60
Garden	Various

Seasons

April to September
September to March

How far in advance to contact us

6 - 12 months

We aren't interested in booking...

Live does not programme dance/ physical, historical or biographical plays.

The kind of financial deals we can offer

Live Theatre can offer a range of fee or split box office deals

We prefer artists to contact us:

By email	x	By phone		By post	
Send weblink		Send DVD			

If you approach us, you can expect...

We would like to know as much information about your production as possible including scripts and video links. We take all this into consideration when programming our seasons

Programmer's Contact Details		<h2>The Liverpool Everyman and Playhouse</h2>
Name:	Francesca Peschier	
Position:	New Works Associate	
Tel:	01517083720	
Email:	f.peschier@everymanplayhouse.com	

Artistic Policy

The Liverpool Everyman and Playhouse's mission is to inspire our city and reflect our community. We believe in change-making, socially impactful theatre that is representative of the North West. Across our two spaces we seek to program and produce work that Liverpool wants to see and to harness the power of theatre for good.

We love creative, inspiring and relevant theatre that speaks to diverse, contemporary Liverpool. We actively seek out new work from North West artists with embedded talent development a vital touchstone of what we do.

How we support artists

YEP

Our dedicated Young Everyman Playhouse department (YEP) provides opportunities for young people aged 14-25, no matter their circumstances. There are six strands to YEP; actors, directors, marketers, producers, technicians and writers. Programs run at a minimum of one year up to five (actors) and all members of YEP get access to £5 show tickets and free access to pre-show events and workshops.

Playwrights Programme

Each year, up to ten writers are invited to join our completely free Playwrights' Programme and work closely with our New Works Associate to hone their playwriting skills and knowledge.

The programme invites writers to explore the fundamentals of playwriting through a series of fortnightly workshops led by the New Works team, visiting writers, directors and other practitioners. The group receives a reading list, with access to our extensive script library and free tickets to all our in-house productions. There are also supported opportunities to share work in table reads and Scratch Studio.

The group sessions run in two terms: October to December and January to April. The programme meet fortnight on Thursday evenings between 6pm and 8.30pm. Applications open in July

New Works

Our New Works department work with supported artists offering tailored support and mentorship. This includes script notes, seed commissions, block-booked rehearsal space, RnD time, mentoring, supported sharings and table reads as well as custom events such as Bistro takeovers for cabaret artists and pop-up collaborations. We also program new work and host residencies from Liverpool artists in our Playhouse Studio. We try to start from a place of 'what can we do to help' and be responsive to artist needs.

The best route for becoming a supported artists is to let us get to know you. Invite us to your work through the newworks@everymanplayhouse.com address, send us something to read or take part in a Scratch Studio. Please note that supported artists and companies must be based in or originate from Merseyside.

Script Submissions

Our New Works department accept unsolicited script submissions from writers originally from or based in the North West. Please email your script to newworks@everymanplayhouse.com with an accompanying script submission form that can be found on our website.

Scratch Studio

Our monthly Scratch Studio session sees emerging creatives based in Liverpool share 10 to 15 minute extracts of work in progress and get feedback from the audience in a facilitated discussion. Tickets to Scratch studio cost £5 and include a coffee and a pastry. To submit something to a Scratch Studio email scratch@everymanplayhouse.com telling us a little about your work to date and a brief outline of what you'd like to share

Spare Room

The Everyman and Playhouse offer free rehearsal space to local companies and individuals depending on availability on a week by week basis. If you require a room or wish to register as a user for future instances, for rehearsals please get in touch at newworks@everymanplayhouse.com with Spare Room in your subject line. Please note that space cannot be block booked and is only to be used for none commercial activities (e.g. no paid for courses or workshops).

The Writers Room

The Writers' Room is a quiet, free space to escape to and work on your current play or dip into our extensive script library. You can bring your own laptop or book in advance to use one of our two desktop computers. The Writers' Room is open from 10am-10pm Mon – Sat apart from when in use by Playwriting courses.

Spaces & Capacities

<i>Venue</i>	<i>Capacity</i>
--------------	-----------------

The Playhouse	650				
The Everyman	405				
The Playhouse Studio	60 /70 (depending on configuration)				
Seasons					
Jan – July Sept - Dec					
How far in advance to contact us					
We are interested in hearing from artists all year round. If you would like us to come and see your work we require two weeks notice for shows in the Liverpool region and at least three for those outside of it. If you are making a programming or touring enquiry then we require 6 to 12 months lead in.					
We aren't interested in booking...					
We will not book work that does not speak to contemporary Liverpool or that does not reflect our core values of relevance, courage and compassion. We are also not interested in work that does not represent the diverse make-up of Liverpool communities.					
The kind of financial deals we can offer					
All deals are negotiated and include box office splits and guarantees. We do not hire out our performance spaces for shows although we do offer commercial hires for other events such as weddings and talks.					
We like artists to make initial contact by...					
Email					
We prefer artists to contact us:					
By email	x	By phone		By post	
Send weblink		Send DVD			
If you approach us, you can expect...					
All personalised email to the New Works email address will be replied to however we receive many proposals so this may take us up to two weeks, please bear with us. Due to the volume of emails, generic emails where the show is not of interest may not receive a reply.					

Programmer's Contact Details		
Name:	Mark Calvert	
Position:	Associate Director	
Tel:	0191 242 7205	
Email:	MCalvert@northernstage.co.uk	Northern Stage

Artistic Policy

Artistic Policy

Northern Stage makes ambitious, intelligent, enjoyable theatre. We do this by:

- producing new work for adults, children and families at our home in Newcastle and on tour around the UK
- collaborating with the most inventive regional, national and international theatre and dance companies and artists to present and celebrate their work
- encouraging and supporting audiences to take a risk with us
- creating the conditions for emerging and established theatre makers to develop their work
- inviting people of all backgrounds and ages to make theatre with us

We are committed to offering a programme of work which supports and offers a platform to the widest possible diversity of artists, in order to grow audiences for their work in the North East. All of our produced theatre is offered in accessible formats for Deaf and Disabled audiences including our groundbreaking integrated BSL performances.

Below is a rough guide to how we programme our spaces:

Stage 1: Contemporary and classic plays, adaptations and new commissions. We are increasing our produced and co-produced programme of work on this stage but will still present the most intriguing work from mid-scale touring partners.

Stage 2: A space for what comes next. An innovative, high quality, curated programme that invites visiting companies to bring ambitious new work to a fully technically resourced environment.

Stage 3: a low-cost, accessible, technically supported community/fringe space. Stage 3 operates on a shorter programming cycle and presents work from across a wide range of disciplines and for artists at differing stages

of their careers. It also functions as a community space and seeks to connect with a variety of local partners working within the social inclusion and creative development agenda.

How we support artists

Artist development is at the heart of what we do. It will fuel the programming of all our spaces.

Creative Team is our membership scheme for professional artists from a variety of disciplines. The website <http://www.northernstage.co.uk/take-part/creative-team> has further information about this and the forthcoming options which will involve a programme of workshops, masterclasses, performance opportunities and talks.

Spaces & Capacities

<i>Venue</i>	<i>Capacity</i>
Stage 1 – mid scale venue, 447 seats	
Stage 2 – small scale venue, 170 seats (flexible)	
Stage 3 – fringe/cabaret space, 80 seats but 100 capacity	

Seasons

Sept - Jan
Feb – June

How far in advance to contact us

Stages 1 and 2 is programmed a year to 18 months in advance. Stage 3 is more fluid and operates on a shorter programming cycle (approx 3-9 months)

We aren't interested in booking...

Tribute acts, bands and speakers. We also don't tend to book circus work or novelty acts i.e. hypnotists, mediums etc.

The kind of financial deals we can offer

Stage 1 is programmed on a variety of deals depending on the nature of the show and its length of run. This could take the form of a guarantee, first call or box office split. This is negotiated with the Programming Manager. Stage 2 residencies are tailor-made for each company but cash support is offered alongside in kind support from our technical, development, participation and communications departments. Stage 3 is programmed on a box office split basis.

We prefer artists to contact us:

By email	x	By phone		By post	
Send weblink		Send DVD			

If you approach us, you can expect...

We have monthly programming meetings at which suitable work is discussed. If an approach is personally made i.e. addressed correctly, and written in a way that shows that the artist/company has researched Northern Stage and the various spaces, then a personalised response will always be given in due course. Generic emails will not be responded to

Programmer's Contact Details		
Name:	Catt Belcher	
Position:	Producer (Part-time)	
Tel:	01204 520661	
Email:	programming@octagonbolton.co.uk	
		Octagon Theatre Bolton

Artistic Policy

Artist development is fundamental to achieving our aims and evolving new work for audiences. It is an investment in culture and the long-term future of contemporary, relevant theatre in Bolton for existing and new audiences. We support, develop and present work from an emerging generation of artists, who are keen to experiment and develop new approaches to their work. Working with culturally diverse and disabled artists and local talent is important to us.

We have a flexible main house space (300-400) and a brand new studio theatre (~100) which are programmed at specific points during the year around our busy seasons of in-house work. We are particularly interested in work which will help us to reach new audiences, support new and diverse talent, and that will compliment our seasons of popular, bold and adventurous work for the people of Bolton and surrounding areas.

How we support artists

Actors

We are committed to working with local talent wherever possible, both for in-house productions and our extensive wraparound activity such as regular playreadings (First Bites). We host annual general auditions to meet local performers, with a view to upcoming projects. For us, local is defined as being based within 25 miles of the Octagon Theatre.

Writers

First Bites is our regular series of playreadings. This offers the opportunity for playwrights to have their plays read aloud by professional actors for a live audience, with a feedback session afterwards. We commit to reading plays by exciting new voices with varying levels of experience, and will read at least one brand new and/or local writer per year.

Residencies

We are always open to the idea of welcoming a company to the Octagon for a residency. Once we have settled into our brand new building in 2020, we will look to develop a regular series of supported residencies. In the meantime, do get in touch if you'd like to discuss spending some time with us. Our rehearsal spaces can be jam packed with in-house shows and engagement activity, but there are some windows available across the year.

Open Doors

Our door is always open, please do not hesitate to get in touch if you have a question, a brilliant idea or just want to grab a coffee to say hello. We have in-house staff with a range of expertise including marketing, fundraising, producing and theatre-making who would be happy to lend some advice. At times we can be very busy - if we don't reply within 5 working days, give us a nudge!

Other Opportunities

We programme an eclectic range of one off events each year including curated events for new musicians, spoken word artists (with Liverpool based 'A Lovely Word') and writers.

Creative Engagement

We have a substantial creative engagement offer including our Bridges company, Young Octagon, Artbeat and Women's group. Find out more here.

Spaces & Capacities

Main Auditorium	approx. 300-400, dependant on seating configuration
Studio	100

Seasons

Autumn/ Winter (approx. September - Feb), Spring/Summer (approx. March - Aug)

How far in advance to contact us

As early as possible, but ideally 6-9 months in advance.

We aren't interested in booking...

Tribute bands

The kind of financial deals we can offer

All deals are negotiated.

Financial deals for our studio theatre are likely to be on a box office split basis.

We like artists to make initial contact by...

Email. Your submission will be logged and discussed at our regular programming meetings. Please try and include as much of the following information as you can:

- Contact details
- An invitation to see work/ recording of the work.
- Information about the company, reviews, and any other useful background information
- Information of where the work has previously been presented
- Potential tour dates

We prefer artists to contact us:

By email	x	By phone	x	By post	
Send weblink		Send DVD			

If you approach us, you can expect...

We will notify you when your email has been received, and will discuss all submissions at a regular programming meeting.

We will respond with a decision within a reasonable time frame, and will be sensitive to a visiting company's deadlines.

Programmer's Contact Details	
Name:	Jamie Walsh
Position:	Programme Coordinator
Tel:	0161 785 7007
Email:	programming@Coliseum.org.uk



Oldham Coliseum Theatre

Artistic Policy

The Coliseum is a thriving, accessible producing theatre, creating and presenting high-quality performance based work. We also provide a far reaching participatory programme, that integrates all aspects of the company's work and engages the diverse communities of Oldham, Greater Manchester and further afield. The work of the Coliseum is informed by our values: creativity, inclusion, diversity, innovation, quality and an audience-focussed approach that encourages partnership working. We take a leading role in the social agenda of Oldham, driving the cultural offer and providing unique opportunities for professionals, audiences and different communities to come together and engage with the arts.

How we support artists

The Coliseum is committed to developing and supporting emerging artists and companies from across the region and beyond to explore the stories and issues that affect, reflect and inspire our local communities.

We offer a number of opportunities throughout the year:

- Cultivate – A week-long artist development festival featuring workshops, open auditions and industry insight opportunities.
- Main House Takeover – A week of small-scale work showcased on the Main House stage.
- Khushi – A brand new festival showcasing work made and inspired by Oldham's South Asian communities.
- Scripts & Scribbles - Weekly play-reading and writing groups (for all levels).
- Two Script Submission windows (January and July).
- Response shows - written responses to the themes from Main House shows, performed on the set for the production.
- Associate and Supported Artist programme – each year we commit to supporting a handful of artists to achieve selected goals.
- 100 Word Plays – an open call out for anyone to write and submit 100 Word Plays which are then displayed around the theatre.
- Rehearsal space – subject to availability.

The Studio programme runs alongside that of the Main House with a mix of new writing, visiting companies, rehearsed readings, bespoke and in-house productions. We can also arrange for companies to access and work with our community groups for R&D purposes

Spaces & Capacities

<i>Venue</i>	<i>Capacity</i>
Main House	505
Studio	50

Seasons

April-September / October –March

How far in advance to contact us

6-12 Months. We welcome invitations to Work in Progress/Scratch Nights in order to get to know your work.

We aren't interested in booking...

Large cast shows, we generally do not book adaptations of classic works					
The kind of financial deals we can offer					
Main House - Negotiable Studio – 70/30 box office splits					
We like artists to make initial contact by...					
Email					
We prefer artists to contact us:					
By email	X	By phone		By post	
Send weblink		Send DVD			
If you approach us, you can expect...					
During the programming cycle the Associate Director will aim to reply by email within one week, this may be longer if in rehearsal. Attaching a tour pack will enable us to determine any potential interest early on.					

Programmer's Contact Details		
Name:	Karuna Jaipal	
Position:	Library Development Officer	
Tel:	0161 770 8060	
Email:	Karuna.jaipal@oldham.gov.uk	Live@theLibrary at Oldham Libraries

Artistic Policy
Oldham Libraries' live@thelibrary offer aims to showcase a diverse programme of artistic and educational performances. These cover a wide range of art forms, from drama, new writing, comedy, storytelling, digital theatre to author events.
We also feature and encourage performances by emerging artists. Crucially, we will ensure that the programme reflects the interests and aspirations of the local community.

Our main performance space is located within Oldham Central Library however we are extending our cultural offer across our network of 11 community libraries as part of live@thelibrarylocal brand.

How we support artists

Our lead contact will liaise with artists, offering advice, time, space and technical support. (*charges for technical support will apply*)

We also are keen to work with new artists and touring companies as part of our Open Space festival to give them a platform to showcase their projects.

Spaces & Capacities

Venue	Capacity
Oldham Library – Performance Space	80
Community Libraries	30

Seasons

Jan - April
May - July
Sept – Dec

How far in advance to contact us

6 - 8 months

The kind of financial deals we can offer

We can offer a guarantee fix fee or a box office split of 70/30

We like artists to make initial contact by...

Please email us – providing information on the performance, target audience and costs

We prefer artists to contact us:

By email	x	By phone	x	By post	
Send weblink		Send DVD			

If you approach us, you can expect...

We will respond to all emails and follow up with phone calls for performances we are interested in.

Programmer's Contact Details		
Name:	Zak Khan	
Position:	Producer	
Tel:	0161 615 6707	
Email:	Zak.Khan@royalexchange.co.uk	Royal Exchange Theatre

Artistic Policy
<p>Situated in the heart of Manchester, the Royal Exchange is an award-winning producing Theatre with a history spanning five decades. Our overarching vision is to be an internationally recognised centre of excellence for theatre in the UK and a vibrant cultural centre for Manchester and the region.</p> <p>We inspire audiences by creating and presenting excellent work that brings together diverse approaches to storytelling with our unique spaces and developing different ways for artists, audiences, and participants to engage with our work locally, nationally and internationally. Known for producing classics such as William Shakespeare, Tennessee Williams, Oscar Wilde, Noel Coward, and Anton Chekhov, we're also one of the country's leading theatres for new writing.</p> <p>For 48 weeks of each year we produce and present theatre and participation/learning programmes over two seasons. Most of this is work created and produced in collaboration with freelance creative teams and individual artists, other theatre companies and communities. Some of it is work created by others that tours to the theatre as part of a national or regional tour. Our work also transfers and tours nationally and internationally. We run programmes for theatre artists and practitioners at different stages of their careers to learn and develop the skills needed for their craft.</p> <p>Each season we present a varied programme with a strong commitment to staging riveting revivals and championing new work. Our Studio is also home to work presented by the most distinctive and imaginative touring companies and where our pioneering work with communities in Manchester finds expression.</p>

How we support artists
<p>Nurturing new talent, supporting artistic risk and investing in new ideas is a huge part of what we do. Our artist development programme is built to reflect and enhance the quality and diversity of the Royal Exchange Theatre's current work; bold, inclusive shows for diverse audiences as well as new work created by the most exciting artists, writers and makers.</p> <p>We have created four interlinked programmes of artist development:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open Exchange • Writers Exchange • Directors Exchange • Actors Exchange

To find out more about these opportunities visit www.royalexchange.co.uk/creativeopportunities

OPEN EXCHANGE

Open Exchange provides a series of development opportunities for emerging artists in Greater Manchester of all disciplines, rooted in the belief that collaboration creates great art and brilliant theatre doesn't always begin with a script. At its core is the Network – a dynamic group of artists, musicians, directors, poets, performers, and makers, who are interested in investigating the process of creating theatre. Members can access a free programme of **masterclasses**, access to rehearsal space, support and mentoring, and applied-for opportunities to make theatre in collaborative and adventurous ways with **REACT** and **Co:LAB**. We also provide year-long bespoke residencies for up to three **Supported Artists** who are identified as promising emerging theatre makers.

The work of the Open Exchange also fuels our biennial **Hodgkiss Prize**, a prestigious award which enables artists and companies from across the North of England to produce new devised work at the Exchange.

DIRECTORS EXCHANGE

Directors Exchange is a new formal partnership with the **Regional Theatre Young Directors Scheme**. The Royal Exchange Theatre is the northern hub for this nationally acclaimed talent development programme, which complements our commitment to providing opportunities for next generation of directors at the Exchange.

With each season of shows and productions, the Royal Exchange Theatre also provides a unique opportunity for aspiring directors, theatre-makers and facilitators based in Greater Manchester through **Observer Mondays**. This allows directors to observe the journey of a production through rehearsals from the first day through to Press Night. They will receive mentoring from one of our Associate Artistic Directors, tickets to see the production and a one-to-one meeting with the director of the production.

WRITERS EXCHANGE

The Royal Exchange Theatre is dedicated to working with a diverse range of playwrights throughout their journey as artists. We oversee **The Bruntwood Prize for Playwriting**, Europe's biggest playwriting competition. Since its inception in 2005, nearly 13,000 scripts have been submitted, £208,000 awarded in Prize money to 22 winners, and 23 productions have been staged in 38 theatres across the UK. The Prize has developed an unparalleled reputation for unearthing the boldest new voices including Anna Jordan, Alistair McDowall, Janice Okoh, Vivienne Franzmann and Duncan Macmillan.

Alongside the Prize, we work with playwrights through a range of bespoke opportunities including mentoring, workshops, readings and unique projects such as **Come Closer** which enables us to engage with local, national and international playwrights to develop their craft, access support and networking opportunities and create new ambitious work for our iconic spaces. During our **Script Windows**, we welcome work by playwrights from across the North to send us their work for detailed feedback. Ultimately, we commission and produce work by playwrights who demonstrate the skill and ambition to rise to the challenge of writing for our unique spaces.

ACTORS EXCHANGE

Actors Exchange is a developing new strand of work which has begun in direct response to a recognised sector need, to support people who because of disability, ethnicity or socio-economic background are experiencing barriers to accessing quality acting training and skills development.

Spaces & Capacities					
<i>Venue</i>		<i>Capacity</i>			
Theatre		750			
Studio		90			
Seasons					
Sept - Feb Mar - Aug					
How far in advance to contact us					
For Studio, 6-18 months					
We aren't interested in booking...					
Clairvoyants, wrestling, tribute bands, commercial musicals. We also don't hire our spaces to theatre companies for public performances; all work must be programmed into our artistic season. All work must be a Manchester - and ideally a North West - premiere.					
As we produce a lot of New Writing in the Studio in-house, we are often looking for contemporary performance/non-text led work to balance the programme in the visiting programme. We are also interested in residency models and visiting work which engages with our emerging artists and makers.					
The kind of financial deals we can offer					
Box office split against a guarantee					
We like artists to make initial contact by...					
Email					
We prefer artists to contact us:					
By email	x	By phone		By post	
Send weblink	x	Send DVD			
If you approach us, you can expect...					
Any emails personally addressed to Royal Exchange staff will be responded to, but we often hold emails on file until we start programming the relevant season, so replies may come weeks or months later. Generically addressed emails will be read but only responded to if we are interested in the work. Please note that any emails with attachments totalling over 4MB may be blocked by our servers.					

Programmer's Contact Details		
Name:	Helen Dobson	
Position:	Programmer	
Tel:	0114 249 5999	
Email:	programming@sheffieldtheatres.co.uk	Sheffield Theatres

Artistic Policy

One of the country's leading theatres, Sheffield Theatres is home to the world-famous Crucible, Lyceum, and Studio Theatre. Taking pride in creating bold, passionate and enriching work across our three stages, we have been recognised for our ambition in 2013, 2014 and 2017 when we won the Regional Theatre of the Year Award in the Stage Awards, as well as 5 UK Theatre Awards in 2019.

Across the three theatres, we produce a diverse programme of work spanning a range of genres. We present a range of work currently on tour in the UK and work with theatre artists locally and nationally to nurture and develop new creative talent. We are proud to be at the forefront of presenting theatre performances that are accessible to all, and have a longstanding commitment to equality and diversity on all our stages.

The multi-format Studio is used for presenting in-house work as well as programming a range of visiting work subject to season availability. There are normally between 4-6 spaces per season for visiting work. It is programmed on a season-by-season basis, and we have defined stages in the programming cycle to allow for a fair and transparent process. We have set criteria/objectives that we assess all submissions against, which are Artist Development; Audience Development; Creative Case for Diversity; Sales; Artistic Quality, and a successful submission will satisfy at least one of these criteria.

The Crucible is home to world class in-house productions. The stage is surrounded by seats on three sides and is used to showcase top quality productions made right here in Sheffield such as the award winning Everybody's Talking About Jamie, Standing at the Sky's Edge and Life of Pi. When available, this space is programmed on a rolling basis for single night shows, subject to our own producing schedules

With over 100 hundred years of history our largest stage, the Lyceum Theatre, presents the very best theatre productions from the West End and Broadway. The Lyceum is programmed on a rolling basis showcasing week long runs of drama, musicals and comedies.

How we support artists

In 2019 Sheffield Theatres launched The Bank, a talent development hub dedicated to supporting artists alongside an exciting programme of activity taking place across 2020.

The Bank is Sheffield Theatres' creative space for local artists and theatre-makers to develop work, skills, collaborations and careers with the support of the staff and creative teams at Sheffield Theatres. This will also be open to residencies for companies outside of South Yorkshire on a call-out basis.

The Bank is home to a 14-strong cohort of writers, directors and producers who are supported and mentored over 9 months in a programme culminating in industry showcases, seed funding for projects and opportunities to work on Sheffield Theatres' productions.

Information on the next Bank Supported Artist call out will be released in September 2020.

For up to date information about upcoming artist support schemes and details of how to get in touch please visit www.sheffieldtheatres.co.uk/for-artists

Spaces & Capacities

<i>Venue</i>	<i>Capacity</i>
The Crucible	925
Crucible Studio	In the Round – 389 Thrust – 274 End on – 182
Lyceum	1,077

Seasons

Our seasons and submission windows are typically as follows:

Spring (January-May)

Submissions to be received by June the year before

Summer (May-August)

Submissions to be received by October the year before

Autumn (September-December)

Submissions to be received by February the same year

How far in advance to contact us

6-12 months for the studio

We aren't interested in booking...

We don't programme tribute bands, hypnotists, mediums etc. We're unlikely to programme adaptations of classic texts. We also don't hire out the studio, and all work is part of our season of programmed or produced work.

The kind of financial deals we can offer

Deals are negotiated subject to a number of variables, but we aim to provide modest guarantees and/or box office splits. We do not offer travel/accommodation on top or, or as part of deals.

We like artists to make initial contact by...

Email. We are very interested to hear why artists want to bring their work specifically to Sheffield Theatres, and why it would be a good fit in our programme. Please provide as much detail as possible – a tour pack with images, reviews and a short tech spec is great. Also, if you have a production trailers or a full recording of the show or previous shows, it will be a huge help.

We prefer artists to contact us:

By email	X	By phone		By post	
Send weblink	X	Send DVD			

If you approach us, you can expect...

If emails have been addressed to someone personally at Sheffield Theatres, artists should expect a response via email once a decision has been made. Generically addressed emails will only be replied to should the work be of interest to us. Every submission received is considered, so it is only necessary to make contact once. Due to emails being filed by season of enquiry, there could be a wait of up to two months before receiving a response if outside the season currently being programmed. If a company's work is unknown to us, we may ask to be invited to see some of your work before making a decision.

Programmer's Contact Details

Name:	Alan Lane
Position:	Artistic Director
Tel:	0113 226 0808
Email:	info@slunglow.org



Slung Low – The Holbeck

Artistic Policy

A programme of progressive work which otherwise might not get to be seen in Leeds

How we support artists

Rehearsal or R & D space at The Holbeck is open access to anyone who has need of it and can be requested via a simple online form on our website.

Anything we support should be able to meet at least one of these criteria:

- If the support of the Holbeck would clearly be of benefit to the artist requesting the resource, and that benefit can be clearly demonstrated by the artists. Our primary role is to support young and emerging artists.
- If the support of The Holbeck would result in an audience experience that might otherwise be missing from the city. One of our roles is to contribute (often as an outlier) to the healthy diversity of performances that are presented in the city.
- If a specific project or performance would encourage a new (and unlikely) audience to The Holbeck. One of our missions is to make sure that people who wouldn't normally consider a theatre somewhere they might visit always feel welcome at The Holbeck.

Spaces & Capacities

<i>Venue</i>	<i>Capacity</i>
Main Performance Space	250 Seats (raked)
Lounge / Bar	45 – 50 informal seating

Seasons

Programme is all round.

How far in advance to contact us

At least two months.

We aren't interested in booking...

Everything is considered, although primarily it leans towards new work.

The kind of financial deals we can offer

All performances are offered as pay what you decide with audiences paying after they have seen the performance. 100% given to artists in cash on the night. Preferable (but not essential) that artists provide small quantity of print for internal and small local distribution.

We like artists to make initial contact by...

Marketing pack by email with links to work online rather than embedded. It is rare for us to “blind-programme” work so video clips, regardless of technical editing wizardry are always good to see.

It would be useful if artists could indicate something within the current or past programme which strikes a chord with the work they are looking to get shown, or some clear reason why their work should be shown in Leeds. Endorsements from programmers elsewhere are also helpful.

We prefer artists to contact us:

By email	X	By phone	X	By post	X
Send weblink	X	Send DVD			

If you approach us, you can expect...

A response within a couple of days, a kind welcome and a warming experience!

Programmer's Contact Details	
Name:	David McQuillan
Position:	Director or Programming Team
Tel:	01422 353073
Email:	, programming@squarechapel.co.uk



Square Chapel Arts Centre

Artistic Policy

At Square Chapel, we believe in magic: the magic that is created when people, ideas, creativity, expression, conversation and stories come together. We believe that groups of people, however small, can change the world for the better, and they're the only thing that ever will.

Providing a unique platform for a diverse range of high quality theatre, music, comedy, dance, food and film, alongside an extensive education and outreach programme, Square Chapel is Calderdale's hub for culture, community and creativity. Based in a beautiful Grade II* listed Georgian chapel that was bought for £26, rescued and transformed by a group of local volunteers almost 30 years ago, we are about to move into the next chapter for Square Chapel, having just launched our stunning new extension, funded by Arts Council England, Calderdale Council, multiple trusts and foundations and a hugely successful public campaign.

We believe that the best kind of art should be fearless, compelling and responsive to the community in which it is presented and it is our intention to work more closely with artists, companies and creatives at all different stages of development to offer access routes into the arts and progression opportunities beyond that. We are committed to building a more diverse network of artists and recognise that this needs to start at grassroots level. We are aware of our responsibility as a community venue to provide experiences and opportunities that children and young people may no longer find in schools, and are rising to the challenge. We believe in life-long learning and skills-sharing across art-forms, sectors and generations. We welcome anyone and everyone through the doors of Square Chapel and invite you to take ownership of the space, but we also know that the work we do outside of our four walls and inside our local communities is equally important. We want to facilitate an ongoing dialogue between artists and audiences to inform the way in which new work is made and challenge the people who make it. We advocate curiosity, experimentation, a sense of ambition and a willingness to fail; and understand that there is far more to 'value' than finance, and greater 'success' than an end product. We are a home for human creativity.

How we support artists

Square Route: Talent Development at Square Chapel

Square Route is Square Chapel's talent development programme, providing opportunities and support for artists, companies and creatives at various stages of their career, based in West Yorkshire and beyond. The programme is broken up into four strands: *Connect, Present, Evolve and Create*; with the aim to provide our creative community with the networks, platforms, residency and commissioning opportunities that are needed to grow a thriving cultural ecology for Halifax.

Spaces & Capacities

Venue	Capacity
Red Brick Auditorium	220
Copper Auditorium	115
Workshop / Rehearsal / Meeting Space	25
Sunderland St. Satellite Residency Space	15

Seasons

Autumn (Sept – Dec)
Spring (Jan – Mar)
Summer (Apr – Jul)

How far in advance to contact us

There is no set timescale as we programme and work with artists in different ways all year round – sometimes planned up to 12 months in advance, and others on a much tighter timescale. For programming alone, we tend to say 6-9 months in advance; and for R&D / artistic residencies we ideally need at least a 3-month turnaround – but in terms of building a meaningful relationship (which might not necessarily mean immediate programming), it is never too early to start a conversation.

We aren't interested in booking...

We programme a wide range of work to suit our different spaces. We avoid booking tribute acts and although we are open to programming dance and live art, we tend to feature less of it due to lower audience demand. As well as new work and contemporary performance, we do book more traditional theatre shows and adaptations of classic texts, but we always like to see innovation and new ideas within the work.

The kind of financial deals we can offer

Our deals completely depend on the type and scale of work and depth of engagement. For artists coming to perform in our studio space, we try and offer a small guarantee against a 70/30 split. For larger scale shows that are more technically complex, we might expect to pay a higher fee, or for those more commercially successful shows, a simple 70/30 split will often suffice.

We like artists to make initial contact by...

For artists wanting to develop a relationship with Square Chapel, we would ask you to get in touch by email – introduce yourself and your work, tell us who your work is made for and why you think it is a good match for Square Chapel's ethos, programme and community. Let us know of any opportunities to come and see your work (we try and get to as much as we can but it is impossible to attend everything, so also be prepared to send us any text, visuals or video footage that would help us build a picture) and any timescales you have for research, development and touring.

We prefer artists to contact us:

By email	X	By phone		By post	
Send weblink	X	Send DVD			

If you approach us, you can expect...

Emails to our general programming account (programming@squarechapel.co.uk) will be looked at and, if of interest, will be responded to within 12 weeks. Unfortunately, we cannot respond to all the emails that come through this account due to the high level of proposals we receive. Emails directed to a specific member of the programming team will be responded to as soon as possible but due to the level of enquiries we receive this can sometimes take time, so please don't be afraid to follow up. We will try, wherever possible, to see work we are invited to (within geographic reason) and strongly encourage artists to come and see work here (and let us know if you are, so we can say hello!).

Programmer's Contact Details

Name: Amy Fisher or Fleur Hebditch

Position: Creative Producer, Assistant Producer & Literary Coordinator

Tel: 01723356646

Email: programming@sjt.uk.com



Stephen Joseph Theatre

Artistic Policy

Bold relevant and surprising theatre which inspires and entertains. As well as being a producing theatre we programme a variety of work from one-nighters to week long runs. Our main house is in the Round, which can also be sold in a 3 sided configuration. The McCarthy space is proscenium which also doubles as a cinema. We programme, theatre, comedy, music, dance and variety.

How we support artists

We offer a variety of development opportunities. We support artists by offering rehearsal space for development, showcasing new work to industry professionals and the public, play readings and support for R&D projects. We also co-produce and run an open submission policy for new writing.

Spaces & Capacities

Venue	Capacity
The Round	400
The McCarthy	165
The Bar	80

Seasons

Summer (Apr – Oct), Winter (Oct – Jan), Spring (Jan – Apr)

How far in advance to contact us					
We're looking 12 months ahead at the visiting programme. So ideally you should get in touch 1 year in advance but that shouldn't stop you contacting us as we sometimes are able to programme work within shorter periods.					
The kind of financial deals we can offer					
We offer a variety of deals dependent on the show and audience forecast which will be negotiated with the artist. This could take the form of a guarantee, a box office split, first call or a guarantee against a box office split.					
We like artists to make initial contact by...					
Email					
We prefer artists to contact us:					
By email	Email	By phone		By post	
Send weblink		Send DVD			
If you approach us, you can expect...					
If your show is something that we would be interested in we will contact you either by email or phone. Due to the volume of enquiries we are not always able to respond to everyone, however, we do keep a record of all enquiries.					

Programmer's Contact Details		
Name:	Helen Green	
Position:	Head of Performance at Sunderland Culture	
Tel:	0191 515 5501	
Email:	Programming@sunderlandculture.org.uk	Sunderland Stages

Artistic Policy
<p>Sunderland Stages is Sunderland Culture's performing arts programme within its Citywide programme. It has a varied remit that produces events, programmes touring work and supports sector development in the city.</p> <p>It programmes touring theatre, dance and spoken word into mainly found and non-traditional spaces in Sunderland as a way of raising engagement in the arts in the city. Spaces used in the past have included Sunderland Minster, Sunderland Museum and Winter Gardens, Sunderland Central Library, The Independent (nightclub), The Peacock & Dun Cow public houses, St Mary's car park, students union venues, Sunderland College, The Royalty Theatre, Roker beach and many more.</p> <p>Whilst Arts Centre Washington's programme focuses on work for children and more traditional theatre for adult audiences; this programme is prepared to consider more innovative subject matter and</p>

approaches to performance. We programme theatre, dance and spoken word for all ages that resonates with our audiences and will be a good night out.

Touring productions need to have the flexibility to perform in non-traditional spaces. We tend to programme single nights for adult work and 2 or more performances for children and family audiences.

How we support artists

Sunderland Stages Writers Project – supporting new writers for the stage in Sunderland

Scratch nights

Mentoring and fundraising advice

(Residencies and rehearsal space is usually provided at Arts Centre Washington)

Spaces & Capacities

<i>Venue</i>	<i>Capacity</i>
Various	From 50 - 350

Seasons

Autumn Season (Sept – Dec), Spring/Summer Season (Jan – August)

How far in advance to contact us

6 months – 1 year

We aren't interested in booking...

Wrestling, clairvoyants, commercial theatre

The kind of financial deals we can offer

Mainly splits (70/30) and occasional guarantees

We like artists to make initial contact by...

Email

We prefer artists to contact us:

By email	x	By phone		By post	
Send weblink		Send DVD			

If you **approach us**, you can expect...

Owing to capacity we cannot reply to all submissions personally. We will contact artists by email if interested in booking their work

Programmer's Contact Details		
Name:	Karen O'Neil	
Position:	Chief Executive	
Tel:	01524 598502	
Email:	koneil@dukes-lancaster.org	
		The Dukes, Lancaster

Artistic Policy

The Dukes' mission is to bring the best in live performance and cinema to the communities of Lancashire in our venue and other spaces. To create and actively support the opportunities for communities, individuals and artists to develop their own creative work and its delivery. We aim to present a diverse collection of storytelling through a range of art forms that delivers excellence, inspiration and challenge.

Through our touring programme our goal is to present a programme of exciting, diverse and progressive work.

Our touring programme is divided into two seasons, Autumn and Spring.

We are interested in:

Drama

Split weeks of titles with name recognition, usually re-told with a twist and northern voice (eg classic novels in new adaptations, Shakespeare, well-loved plays).

We are especially interested in Productions created for and performed in The Round.

Contemporary Work in MoorSpace

In 2019 our Creative Learning building was renamed Moor Space and given a new identity and purpose and is now our home for contemporary theatre.

The contemporary theatre programme at Moor Space is an expansion of the current delivery of The Dukes and will allow us to present more diverse stories and provide a home for emerging local artists to

experiment and explore their work. These artists and their work are reflective and focus on issues of wellbeing, mental health or present a conversation about the challenges with our society.

Contemporary Dance

In 2019/20 and 20/21 we will be working to develop a small-scale contemporary dance offer at The Dukes.

Family Work

Our offer to children and families focuses on small-scale monthly work for the under-5s and large-scale work twice a season for the over-5s.

Our monthly under-5s offer presents small-scale puppetry and storytelling-based theatre to provide an accessible and intimate first theatre experience for children and families. This work is presented in our Round theatre.

Theatre, comedy and dance are programmed into all three spaces.

We are interested in new work and also in production partnerships.

How we support artists

MOOR SPACE

The newest performance space in Lancaster, Moor Space is a place of cultural democracy where artists are invited to present their work in partnership with the Dukes. Focused on contemporary and new work Moor Space is a place to develop ideas, practice and present work.

WORKSHOPS

The Dukes workshop programme is delivered by artists in response to artists.

OPEN SPACE

R & D space, time and support is available at the Dukes throughout the year. We are keen to support both local and regional artists and emerging companies. For more information please contact Lauren.

ARTIST MEETS

Artist Meets are events curated by the Dukes to bring artists together to discuss ideas, issues and learn from each other. Held at the Dukes quarterly, these events are an open door to meet other local artists and create connections. Please check back for an update about the next Artist Meet.

RESIDENT COMPANIES

Are you a creative company in Lancaster or Morecambe looking for a home and the support of an established creative organisation? If so please contact Karen.

CREATIVE COLLABORATORS

Creative Collaborators work with The Dukes across its diverse output from programming to creation of place to creative learning. We work closely with these artists to embed them in The Dukes and share our skills, knowledge and access to support their work.

Spaces & Capacities

<i>The Rake</i>	313
The Round	240 Full n the Round or 120-140 in thrust
Moor Space	40 end on (Can be flexible)

Seasons					
Spring – Jan – May Autumn – Sept - Dec					
How far in advance to contact us					
Autumn Splits December-January One-Nights: January-February Programme Finalised: March					
Spring Splits July-August One-Nights: August-September Programme Finalised: September					
We aren't interested in booking...					
Tribute bands, musical tributes, mediums, clairvoyants, choirs. We are unable to present live theatre June-August due to technical resources committed to our annual outdoor show.					
The kind of financial deals we can offer					
We can offer splits, minimal fees and guarantees but are willing to negotiate					
We like artists to make initial contact by...					
Email					
We prefer artists to contact us:					
By email	X	By phone		By post	
Send weblink	X	Send DVD			
If you approach us, you can expect...					
We shall respond my email.					

Programmer's Contact Details		
Name:	Claire Symonds / Matthew Eames	
Position:	Senior Producer: Artist Development / Senior Theatre Programmer/Producer	
Tel:	0161 876 2160/2102	
Email:	claire.symonds@thelowry.com Matthew.eames@thelowry.com	The Lowry

Artistic Policy

The Lowry is a large arts centre in Salford, Greater Manchester with three theatres programming a wide range of theatre, dance, circus, musicals, comedy, digital and cross arts performance. Our Lyric and Quays theatre programme regularly features the latest productions from nationally and internationally renowned partners such as the National Theatre, Rambert, Birmingham Royal Ballet, Opera North, The Royal Court, Matthew Bourne's New Adventures and Clod Ensemble as well as the very best touring commercial theatre.

Alongside this, we welcome the freshest and most exciting work being made by emerging and mid-career theatre makers in our contemporary theatre programme. Newly created, cutting-edge, contemporary performance is seen across all scales - Lyric, Quays and Aldridge Studio - encompassing and challenging all theatrical forms. Productions are often multi-disciplinary, featuring emergent physical, visual and digital practice; stories old and new are told in innovative ways embracing linear and non-linear narratives and diverse cultural practice beyond the Western tradition. Contemporary circus, new writing, site-specific/responsive and immersive theatre, new music theatre and the most experimental cross-arts practice are all celebrated in the context of the programme. The Lowry is able to offer audiences and artists/companies a through-line in bold, innovative theatre that leads from the newest, bravest artists touring at the small-scale, to the nationally renowned companies working at the mid-scale, to international auteurs in the Lyric.

We find work by seeing as many performances as we can, sharing recommendations with programmers and producers, meeting artists and considering approaches made by email though we're less likely to book work from artists we haven't previously seen.

We also commission between eight and twelve companies a year through our artist development schemes and the premieres of their work form an important part of our programme throughout the year. Every two years we also present WEEK 53, our major cross-arts festival which is a major focus for contemporary theatre commissions and presentations.

We also partner with theatre company Paines Plough on its landmark Roundabout project since 2015 with the aim of bringing the thrill of live performance into the heart and fabric of Salford communities where there is little access to or tradition of engaging with new theatre writing.

How we support artists

The Lowry's Artist Development Programme is one of most innovative and respected initiatives for artists and companies in the UK. It nurtures their talent and provides bespoke pathways to present their bold, dynamic and innovative work to audiences not just at our home in Salford, Greater Manchester but at venues across the UK and internationally.

ARTIST NETWORK

Artist Network is a free drop-in scheme for those who aspire to work creatively within the industry. Members are offered workshops, training, advice surgeries, ticket discounts and the opportunity to meet like-minded peers.

Who is it for?

- Early career artists and companies.
- Creative producers and administrators.
- Anyone with an aspiration to work creatively in the performing arts industry.

Register as a member by visiting the website to fill in the application form and equal opportunities form: thelowry.com/artist-network

DEVELOPED WITH THE LOWRY

Through Developed With, we offer five companies or artists a year-long package of support to help them move forward in their practice. We provide financial, technical and marketing support and space to support the production and premiere of a new show, and to help them secure a future life for the piece by advocating to our partners and hosting an annual showcase. Alongside this, we offer each company or artist a bespoke package of professional development support, with ringfenced funding to support them in developing their wider practice and processes through a range of activities such as placements, training courses, go-see trips, masterclasses or workshops with more established artists, mentoring sessions and attending conferences. We recruit companies we would like to work with throughout the year and will approach them directly to see if there is a good opportunity for us to work together. We will occasionally put out open calls for more specific opportunities – these are publicised through our Artist Network newsletter and website, Twitter, ArtsNews and through the networks of our partners in the industry.

CLASS OF

Class Of is an annual cohort of Greater Manchester-based artists looking to build their understanding of the business of theatre. This year-long scheme is aimed at providing a deeper understanding of the performing arts – industry, production and general survival – for a select group of artists and producers.

Over the course of the year (from September to August), the Class Of cohort will be taken on a dedicated learning path designed to dig deeper into their understanding of their practice, going beyond introductory workshops. As well as committing to monthly training sessions, the Class Of cohort will benefit from additional offers such as Class Trips to go see and discuss interesting new work, scratch opportunities and mentoring support from the Artist Development team at The Lowry. Class Of is also a fantastic opportunity to join a close-knit peer support group who can benefit from each other's' experience, develop new working partnerships and gain insight into people at a similar stage in their careers who work across different platforms and disciplines.

UNTITLED RESIDENCY

Untitled is a response to artists who needed dedicated time away to really delve deep into an idea in its early days – be it exploring a new collaboration across art form (including non-arts based); or across diverse artists or disciplines; or experimenting a new way of working or going rogue and disrupting a common practice and see what comes out of it. Giving artists the freedom to innovate by only focusing on the process – the messy, the mistakes, the warts and all – and not outcome.

We offer week-long residencies and small pots of seed funding through this programme, with the application windows normally falling in Spring and Autumn each year.

Untitled Residency have been awarded to artists who are exploring:

- Ideas/Projects that are in the very early stages of development that will benefit from experimentation rather than rehearsal
- Work and/or way of storytelling that is made in an unusual way or different collaborative approaches that would benefit from investment in-kind (space) and seed funding in order to strengthen a R&D funding application
- Artists/theatre makers who are underrepresented in terms of ethnicity, disability, sexuality, socio-economic backgrounds and any others who might need a different kind of courage to overcome historical barriers or perspectives.

Art forms that currently have a regional gap in artist development support: dance and contemporary circus

Spaces & Capacities

<i>Venue</i>	<i>Capacity</i>
Lyric	1600
Quays	450
Studio	140

Seasons

Jan to Apr, May to Aug, Sep to Dec

How far in advance to contact us

We programme finished touring work between nine months and a year in advance.

We are open to discussions about new projects from an early stage – please contact us once you have a plan, a creative team and a clear sense of what you need to take the next step.

We aren't interested in booking...

We don't take hypnotists, magic shows, tribute acts or ice shows. We are less likely to book productions of well known titles in the Studio as these are well represented on our other stages. We do programme new writing productions but we don't provide development opportunities or commissions for playwrights because as a receiving house, we don't have the resources needed to take a script through to production ourselves. We encourage writers to explore the excellent work of our neighbouring venues The Octagon Theatre, Bolton and The Royal Exchange.

The kind of financial deals we can offer

We offer a range of different financial deals from fees through to guarantees and splits depending on the needs of the work, our relationship with the artist or company and how confident we are that there is a strong audience for the work.

We like artists to make initial contact by...

We always prefer email to phone contact so that we can spend some real time considering your project when we won't be disturbed or working against other deadlines.

If you have a finished show, send us:

- Tour pack including images, reviews, short tech spec (if you have them)
- But please don't send documents larger than about 4MB because our inboxes are small.

If you are looking for support for a new show, tell us about:

- Your company and your experience to date
- Your proposed project and its audiences
- How the project will move forward your practice

What kind of support you will need, bearing in mind that often we will be more able to give support in kind than cash.

We prefer artists to contact us:

By email	x	By phone		By post	
Send weblink		Send DVD			

If you approach us, you can expect...

Any emails personally addressed to The Lowry staff will be responded to; generically addressed emails will be read but only responded to if we are interested in the work.

Programmer's Contact Details		
Name:	Zoe Bailey	
Position:	Associate Producer	
Tel:	017687 72282 ext.258	
Email:	zoe.bailey@theatrebythelake.com	Theatre by the Lake

Artistic Policy	
To programme a wide variety of touring theatre on the small or mid-scale, children's work, dance, music, film and speakers to complement our top quality home-produced theatre offer.	
How we support artists	
We can offer R&D opportunities, free rehearsal space (when available), showcases and support and advice to companies. For programmed work, our committed Marketing team will do everything they can to promote shows.	
Spaces & Capacities	
<i>Venue</i>	<i>Capacity</i>
Main House	389
Studio	65-100 depending on format
FOH spaces	40ish – can work for participatory events/children's performances
Seasons	
Spring Season of visiting work, Feb – May. One-nighters (usually Sundays) in Main House July – Nov. Limited Autumn Season of visiting work, November.	
How far in advance to contact us	
Approx 1 year, although slots sometimes come up with less notice!	
We aren't interested in booking...	
n/a	
The kind of financial deals we can offer	
We prefer direct splits or calls on box office if possible, especially in the Studio, but can sometimes offer guaranteed fees depending on the show.	

We like artists to make initial contact by...

Email or phone

We prefer artists to contact us:

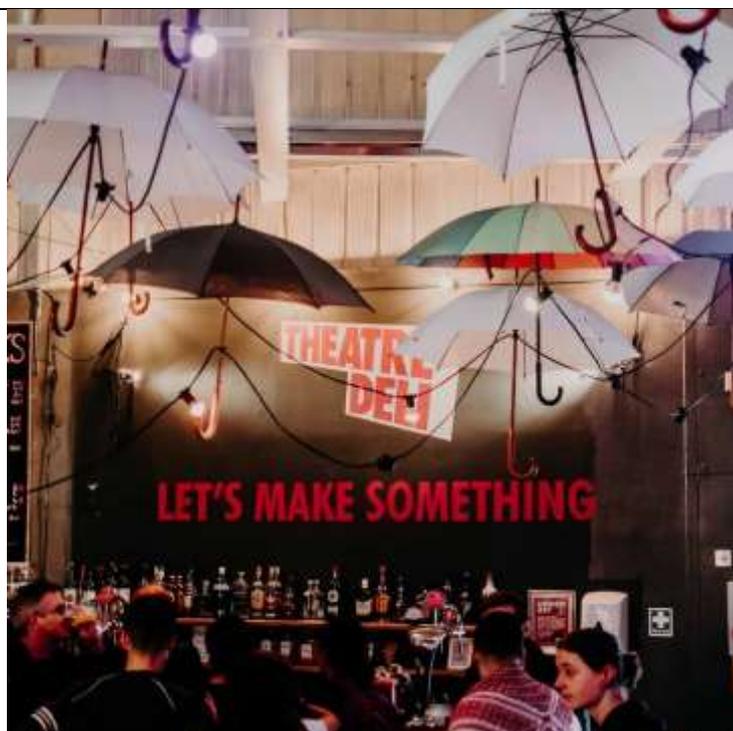
By email	X	By phone	X	By post	
Send weblink		Send DVD			

If you approach us, you can expect...

We like to think a warm reception! We'll make an effort to fit in the show if we like the look of it, we have space and it fits with the mix of events we have in that period.

Programmer's Contact Details

Name:	Sara Hill
Position:	Producer Programmer
Tel:	0114 278 6500
Email:	sara@theatredelicatessen.co.uk



Theatre Deli Sheffield

Artistic Policy

Theatre Deli transform space and inspire artists. We offer space for emerging artists to experiment with performance ideas. Our aim is to have busy buildings full of activity. We love non-traditional theatre but support all ideas where we can. Our programmes and spaces are always changing, and we are committed to supporting pioneering performance ideas.

Theatre Deli support artists at every stage of their careers, and helps early-career individuals and

companies alongside more established theatre makers, take the next step in their artistic development and process. By creating buildings that host a community of theatre makers, Theatre Deli are paving the way/facilitating a bouncing board for collaborations on new boundary pushing theatre work.

We see artists' careers holistically - whilst we have tailored support schemes for emerging artists, we also work artists at every stage of their career.

How we support artists

Residencies – we offer four two week residencies per year currently in January, March, September and November. Applications open on our website. The residency includes fully subsidised rehearsal room space for two weeks (Monday to Friday), 1-2-1 time with our staff to work on marketing materials or funding applications and a £300 seed grant.

Scratch Nights – Meze Mix is once a month and applications for a slot are on our website. The event is PWYF and all donations are split between the four performers and we coordinate bespoke feedback for each slot.

Scratch Afternoons – Hop! Skip! Jump! Is our regular scratch afternoon specifically for children and family work. As above but artists can test their ideas with the intended audience.

Deli Drop Ins – Every Tuesday from 11am to 4pm we run a drop in session where artists can come for a chat about any aspect of their work whether for advice, to pitch an idea or ask us anything.

Spaces & Capacities

<i>Venue</i>	<i>Capacity</i>
Main space	120 in thrust, 80 end on. Can go up to 150 if budget to hire more deck.
Rehearsal room	60 in thrust, 80 end on

Seasons

Our two main seasons run from February to June and September to December. However we are starting to programme more outdoor and family work over the summer months too

How far in advance to contact us

We programme our main space 9 – 12 months in advance, but that doesn't mean we don't have the odd free night at short notice, it's just less likely. For the rehearsal rooms, 2-3 months in advance is ideal.

We aren't interested in booking...

Spiritual events
Traditional texts done in traditional ways (e.g Shakespeare done in period costume etc)

The kind of financial deals we can offer

We normally offer a ticket split in the artist's favour and can sometimes offer guarantees or fees if it is part of a funded festival or programme. Normal ticket price is between £8 – 12, depending on show, normal split is 70/30 where costs allow.

We like artists to make initial contact by...

Email is best and if you can send as much information as possible that's great. If you have a tour pack, video or images that give us an idea of your work that is perfect.

We prefer artists to contact us:

By email	x	By phone	x	By post
Send weblink	x	Send DVD		

If you approach us, you can expect...

That you might have to send a follow up email - this is nothing about you but emails are sometimes easily missed in a big inbox, but we would love for you to follow up to check. If you can give us a call to remind us then that also helps, but if not we will definitely try our best to get back to you when we can (sometimes 4-6 weeks if we have a big project or festival on). We're trying to be honest here, as we do really want to hear from you but are an extremely small team at present!

Programmer's Contact Details	
Name:	Jyothi Giles
Position:	Senior Producer
Tel:	01274 233200
Email:	j.giles1@bradford.ac.uk



Theatre in the Mill

Artistic Policy

At Theatre in the Mill, we are committed to presenting, developing and supporting socially responsible work that engages with the environment within which we are situated. We strive to create spaces that promote dialogue and art that represents the narrative of the people, the city and the region around us. We believe in the need for our audiences to see themselves represented in contemporary culture and that we have a responsibility to be a mirror that reflects the lives of those around us. We are also excited about the future and welcome work that is innovative in form, practice and technology. We commission and support work which we think reflects these values and beliefs.

Theatre in the Mill commissions and supports artists across a range of artistic forms, and we are keen to continue expanding the group of artists we work with to include new, diverse voices. We are excited by practitioners who approach their work with curiosity and rigour, are interested in creative and thoughtful approaches to accessibility in their work, and whose reasons for wanting to work in Bradford are clear. We prefer to engage with artists early on in the development of a new work, or new way of working, and we expect all artists to be willing to exchange with other creatives, engage with our audiences and help us to create an ethos of shared learning and resource.

How we support artists

We don't have a one size fits all policy and so each relationship we have with an artist is developed around their needs both artistically and emotionally. We are interested in supporting both artist and project development, which we do through the offer of cash commissions (between £1,000 – 4,000), residencies, advice, advocacy and more. We have a small but talented core team who can offer artistic support and feedback, as well as setting up work-in-progress sharings. We often write letters of support to accompany ACE project grant applications for artists we are supporting, and provide support and advice as they write funding bids.

We also put them in touch with other creatives who we think it would be great for them to chat to or work with. We also want to provide artists with the opportunity to access the expertise that is at home at the University of

Bradford; we are able to broker relationships with academics and departments where we can see that this engagement will be mutually beneficial. Operating within the University also gives us access to cutting-edge technological resources and expertise, so please chat to us if you're interested in that.

We also support artists by being flexible and prioritising their needs; we never demand a visible output at the end of a residency, and we are always happy to adjust plans in response to artists' wellbeing needs.

Spaces & Capacities

<i>Venue</i>	<i>Capacity</i>
Theatre in the Mill (main space)	80
TiM Below	35
TiM Square	50
Gallery	50

Seasons

We present work as part of Weekenders: themed long weekends where all of our spaces are used to create micro-festivals of around 8-10 pieces of work that are connected by a theme. That theme may be form (eg live art), identity-based (eg queer work) or circumstantial (eg work heading to the Edinburgh Fringe). As part of our artist development drive, we programme these Weekenders in response to the work developed by artists we're supporting, and the work presented will be from artists we have an ongoing relationship with (whether long-standing or new). Performing alongside other artists making work with a connection with yours, we hope, will spark dialogue - perhaps artistic collaborations, perhaps sharing audiences in exciting new ways. In short, we want everything we do to be about support and growth - including presenting work.

How far in advance to contact us

We are particularly interested in chatting to artists at early stages of R&D; we can book in last-minute rehearsal space or residencies but would ideally have at least 6 weeks of lead-in time in order to better support you. When programming our Weekenders, we primarily look at work we supported the development of; however, if you're interested in an ongoing relationship with us and would like to be programmed as part of that, we programme Weekenders 3-6 months in advance.

We aren't interested in booking...

Since we do not define as a new writing theatre, and do not have a literary department or similar support for script development, we are not looking for new plays. Similarly, as a theatre whose largest space is an 80-seater studio, we are unable to offer rehearsal or performance for larger-scale work. Finally, we are also not looking for artists remounting existing productions as we are committed to the development of new work. However, if you're unsure about whether your project aligns with our values and aims then get in touch and we can talk it through.

The kind of financial deals we can offer

We offer between £1,000 and £4,000 per commission, dependent on the scale, remit and context of the project. The more closely it aligns with our core values and relevance to our context here in Bradford,

the more likely an offer is. Artists programmed as part of our Weekenders receive a flat rate of £500 per performance, and we try to offer multiple performances per Weekender.

We like artists to make initial contact by...

Emailing us, dropping by, chatting to us at an event here or elsewhere. Wherever you come across us, have a chat and we'll follow up by email.

We prefer artists to contact us:

By email	x	By phone		By post	
Send weblink	x	Send DVD			

If you approach us, you can expect...

Any emails personally addressed to Theatre in the Mill staff will be responded to; generic emails will be read but only responded to if we are interested in the work. We try and meet with all artists who wish to meet who we believe reflect the type of work we value and support. We are a small team with limited capacity so we cannot always respond immediately to requests.

Programmer's Contact Details		Unity Theatre, Liverpool
Name:	Gordon Millar	
Position:	CEO	
Tel:		
Email:	info@unitytheatre.co.uk	

Artistic Policy

We produce and present innovative combined arts that challenge the status quo. We are Liverpool's home for the combined arts and more details can be found at www.unitytheatreliverpool.co.uk

How we support artists

Rehearsal and R&D space is available to hire. In addition we have a free creative membership with benefits including subsidised tickets and workshops.

Lab time – artists can apply to for up to a week's free time in our venue.

We also run annual artist development programmes details of which can be found online

Spaces & Capacities

Unity 1	150
Unity 2	88

Seasons

All year except January and August

How far in advance to contact us					
9 months					
We aren't interested in booking...					
Everything is considered, though prefer to new work to established texts, and prefer work that is innovative and challenges the status quo					
The kind of financial deals we can offer					
Fees, splits and hires					
We like artists to make initial contact by...					
Email					
We prefer artists to contact us:					
By email	X	By phone		By post	
Send weblink		Send DVD			
If you approach us, you can expect...					
Within two weeks but please be aware we are inundated with requests so can take some time					

Programmer's Contact Details		
Name:	Programming: Andrew Aughton Artist Development (Theatre): Ross Carey	
Position:	Programmer	
Tel:	07983 281256 (Andrew) 0161 912 5616 (Ross)	
Email:	andrewaughton@cbits.net commissions@watersidearts.org	
		Waterside

Artistic Policy
Waterside is a vibrant destination for performance, culture and events. Opened in 2004, the venue houses live theatre and event spaces, galleries, bar & coffee house and workshop studios.

Waterside is currently going through a period of significant change, evaluating everything that we do, in order to provide resilience and a sustainable future.

We are inviting audiences, theatre makers, practitioners and peers to contribute towards our artistic vision to create a place to inspire and nurture creativity at all ages and supporting the creation of new and engaging work.

We want to facilitate deeper relationships with our audiences, to encourage a sense of ownership from the community.

Our main house, The Robert Bolt Theatre is a flexible space for performance, music, events and immersive theatre. Our studio, The Chambers is a stunning art-deco space, suited to intimate performance, development work, comedy and music. An additional performance space (the Plaza) on the banks of the Bridgewater Canal, is located outside the venue and is ideal for seasonal programming. The venue also utilizes the nearby Walkden Gardens to present outdoor theatre.

Waterside also has a number of exhibition spaces, including the Lauriston Gallery, presenting professional works, both of regional and national importance. Waterside is the home of the Cosgrove Hall Films archive.

In addition, there are multiple spaces used for workshops, conferencing and artist development.

As part of Trafford Council, Waterside presents work with Creative Industries Trafford, providing opportunities, support and participation for theatre-makers, emerging artists, writers and practitioners.

Waterside's year-round programme includes:

Theatre: combining classic texts with work for schools & young people, new writing, professional work from local artists, ballet, contemporary dance, multi-form theatre (such as genres incorporating circus techniques, or which fuse dance & drama) and occasional experimental work. We also work in partnership with other Greater Manchester venues and organisations to present work on various festival themes, including Black History, LGBT and Science, among others, to include in our own programme.

Comedy including familiar and not-so-familiar stand-up names, a monthly Buzz Comedy club and famous names on the cabaret and music-in-comedy circuits. We also support the region's annual Women in Comedy Festival with performances at Waterside.

Music: a live programme across a wide range of genres, from jazz and folk to contemporary rock, acoustic & pop, including new and emerging names from both the regional and national scenes.

Children & Families (around 20 to 25 productions per year, for pre-school to teens, in both the Chambers and RB Theatre). We regularly welcome companies such as Half Moon, Lyngo, tutti frutti, Zest, Little Angel and Action Transport, among others, plus a major 4-week winter production each year, presented during December and over the Christmas holiday period. We work in partnership with the other members of the Big Imaginations consortium (administered from Z-Arts in Manchester and funded by Arts Council England) to identify and support the best and most original new productions for children, families and young people available, regionally, nationally and internationally.

Refract is our annual ten-day festival presenting experiential performance, music and events. The spirit of which is to challenge our audience to 'see things differently'. Held in July, Waterside hosts around 30 performances and participatory events both inside and outside the venue. The programme provides a platform for artists that are new to Waterside, or a familiar face with a piece of work that is somewhat jilted from convention.

How we support artists

Creative Industries Trafford (CIT) provides artists and creatives with professional development opportunities in partnership with Waterside, Trafford Council with support from Arts Council England.

We aim to nurture artists and theatre makers, supporting the creative process with the outcome of delivering high-quality artistic work, whilst providing the tools to help build sustainable careers in the arts and broadening their skill sets.

CIT presents a calendar of events, including workshops, opportunities, networking sessions, talks, conferences and masterclasses from leading practitioners across a number of fields including theatre, visual arts, literature, animation, craft & design.

CIT events draw creatives from across the UK and welcome participants from outside of the borough.

To keep up to date with CIT projects signup at creativeindustriestrafford.org

Theatre

Our seed commissions have been highly successful, providing important first steps for companies such as Mighty Heart, Thick Richard, Four Shadows Theatre and Square Peg Theatre. We've also supported artists such as The Knotted Project, Jackie Hagan and Kate O'Donnell with residencies. More recently, we've worked in an exciting partnership with the National Trust to commission 5 theatre-makers, celebrating the Regency Era at Lyme Hall in Cheshire.

Our theatre-makers development scheme is having a refresh and our brand new opportunities will launch in the Spring 2018.

Example opportunities include performance platforms to test out new work, masterclasses and workshops, seed commission opportunities, financial investment, mentoring and residencies.

Please visit our website to find news on our upcoming CPD and commission opportunities.

For any enquiries, questions or just to say hello, please contact commissions@watersidearts.org

Spaces & Capacities

<i>Venue</i>	<i>Capacity</i>
Robert Bolt Theatre	321 – 342 seated. 500 standing.
The Chambers	60 – 110.
Waterside Plaza	Varies depending on event. Outside performances only.

Seasons

Three:
Jan – Apr (Spring)
May – Jul (Summer)
Sept – Dec (Autumn)

How far in advance to contact us

6 – 9 months.

We aren't interested in booking...			
Tribute acts are rarely selected for the programme. We do not programme clairvoyants or sports events.			
The kind of financial deals we can offer			
Case by case basis, box office splits, flat fees and guarantee depending on the work.			
We like artists to make initial contact by...			
E-mail all relevant information, no large attachments. Trafford Council's systems are unable to access Dropbox and other file sharing platforms.			
We prefer artists to contact us:			
By email	X	By phone	By post
Send weblink	X	Send DVD	
If you approach us, you can expect...			
We will take a careful look at your proposal, including any previous work you can direct us to. We always consider two options for all proposals we receive:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • presenting the new work, in either The Chambers or RB Theatre, as part of our year-round programme or as part of our 10-day immersive event – Refract – each July; or • forging some other form of partnership around the new work, such as co-producing, commissioning, free space, artist support, etc. We also have a more formal route to theatre commissioning work through our Creative Industries Trafford programme (creativeindustriestrafford.org). 			
Please note that our programming team are not always office-based. Depending on the time of year, we may not be able to consider proposals immediately, and some submissions may be saved for future consideration.			

Programmer's Contact Details	
Name:	Thom Freeth
Position:	Producer
Tel:	01904 658162
Email:	programming@yorktheatreroyal.co.uk



York Theatre Royal

Artistic Policy

York Theatre Royal vies with Bristol Old Vic for the title of the oldest producing theatre in the country. We have been producing great drama in the city of York for over 250 years. Each year the venue entertains over 200,000 people with its wide variety of performances, events and activities, with a balanced and diverse programme of artistic and educational activity across all art forms. The main focus is on theatre, dance, music and comedy.

How we support artists

As part of our artist development scheme, we have many exciting opportunities across the season to get involved. We are committed to supporting new artists and companies in the region, by developing their ideas and work with us at York Theatre Royal.

TakeOver Festival was launched back in 2009. It was set up to be an annual festival run entirely by 12- to 26-year-olds who, with support from York Theatre Royal staff, would programme, prepare and produce a festival of theatre and events. In the last six years, more than 700 young people have been involved in running brilliant and well-received festivals.

SLATE supports and develops black theatre professionals working in the north by increasing access to local, national and international networks and creating new opportunities for Black artists. Led by Eclipse Theatre Company, with a consortium of cultural organisations, including York Theatre Royal and Pilot Theatre.

Artists can join our open network at artistdevelopment@yorktheatreroyal.co.uk to be first to hear about all further opportunities as part of York Theatre Royal's Artist Development Scheme.

Spaces & Capacities

<i>Venue</i>	<i>Capacity</i>
Main House	763
Studio	100

Seasons

Jan – June / July - Dec

How far in advance to contact us

6 - 9 months

We aren't interested in booking...

Sporting events, Magicians, tribute acts

The kind of financial deals we can offer

Guaranteed fee (or against a 70/30 split) in the Studio

We like artists to make initial contact by...

Email/phone

We prefer artists to contact us:

By email	X	By phone	X	By post	
Send weblink	X	Send DVD			

If you approach us, you can expect...

Its worth noting that our programming is looked after by a team, all suggestions will be looked at, but we may only be able to get in touch if the team feel your show is right for our programme.
We would love to know what you're up to, in particular if you are a local company, let us know what you're doing and we'd like to come and see!

Programmer's Contact Details

Name:	Zoe Pickering
Position:	Head of Programming and Big Imaginations Manager
Tel:	01612261912
Email:	zoe@z-arts.org



Z-arts

Artistic Policy

Z-arts are Manchester's venue for children and families and only programme work for that audience, although it is possible to hire the venue for other work. We also lead and coordinate the Big Imaginations network of venues across the North West and west / South Yorkshire, who all share a commitment to bringing brilliant touring children's theatre to the region.

How we support artists

Z-arts mission is to inspire and enable generations of young people from Manchester and beyond to utilise creativity to maximise their potential.

Artists are nurtured and supported by Z-arts to make excellent, contemporary theatre, performance and arts activities for children and families, through three strands:

- a) an association scheme for established artists
- b) Bespoke artist support, across the Big Imaginations network for 22 venues across the North-West / Yorkshire
- c) commissioning new work for children and families.

If Artists are making work for children then we will always look at what support we can offer across the Big Imaginations Network.

Spaces & Capacities					
Venue		Capacity			
Z-arts Theatre		225			
STUN Studio (Z-arts)		80			
Other Big Imaginations organisations:					
Burnley Youth Theatre / The Boo / Citadel Arts / Cheshire Rural Touring Arts / Creative Scene / Kirkgate / Manchester Libraries / Oldham Libraries / Turnpike / Theatre Deli, Sheffield Touchstones / Culture Tameside / Waterside / Wild Rumpus / The Grand, Clitheroe / Whitby Hall / Waterfront / Spot On Lancashire / Lancaster Arts / Unity / Dukes					
Seasons					
Jan-July / Sept-Dec					
How far in advance to contact us					
As soon as you have something to talk about or share. Invite us to any R&D, tours – we need to see the work.					
We aren't interested in booking...					
Anything that isn't for children and families.					
The kind of financial deals we can offer					
We offer all of our companies a fee.					
We like artists to make initial contact by...					
Email					
We prefer artists to contact us:					
By email	x	By phone		By post	
Send weblink		Send DVD			
If you approach us, you can expect...					
An email response. We will let you know what further information we need.					

	Dance	Contemporary Theatre	Classic Theatre	Spoken word	Music	Comedy	Family	Film
ARC, Stockton Arts Centre	x	x		x	x	x	x	x
Arts Centre Washington		x		x		x	x	
Brewery Arts Centre, Kendal	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Cast, Doncaster	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Contact, Manchester	x	x		x	x	x	x	
Harrogate Theatres	x	x	x		x	x		
HOME, Manchester	x	x					x	x
Hull Truck Theatre		x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Lawrence Batley Theatre, Huddersfield	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Live Theatre, Newcastle		x	x		x	x		
Northern Stage, Newcastle	x	x	x	x		x	x	
Royal Exchange Theatre, Manchester	x	x		x	x	x	x	
Slung Low's HUB		x				x		
Theatre by the Lake, Keswick	x		x		x	x	x	x
Theatre in the Mill, Bradford	x	x			x		x	
The Civic, Barnsley	x	x	x					
The Lowry, Salford	x	x		x		x	x	
Unity Theatre, Liverpool		x						
West Yorkshire Playhouse, Leeds	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	

	Scratch Nights	Mentoring	Associates/ Resident companies	Residencies/ Free space	Commissions, Co Commissions & Bursaries	Producing support	Professional Development Workshops	Artist membership scheme
ARC, Stockton Arts Centre	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Arts Centre Washington				x	x			
Brewery Arts Centre, Kendal		x		x	x			x
Cast, Doncaster		x	x	x	x		x	
Contact Theatre, Manchester	x	x		x	x	x	x	
Harrogate Theatres	x	x	x	x			x	x
HOME, Manchester		x	x	x	x		x	
Hull Truck Theatre		x	x	x			x	
Lawrence Batley Theatre, Huddersfield	x	x	x	x		x	x	
Live Theatre, Newcastle	x	x		x	x		x	
Northern Stage, Newcastle	x	x	x	x	x		x	x
Royal Exchange Theatre, Manchester		x	x	x	x		x	x
Slung Low's HUB		x		x				
Theatre by the Lake, Keswick	x	x		x	x			
Theatre in the Mill, Bradford		x		x	x	x		
The Civic, Barnsley	x	x		x	x			
The Lowry, Salford		x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Unity Theatre, Liverpool	x	x		x	x	x		
West Yorkshire Playhouse, Leeds	x	x	x	x	x		x	x

This edition of *Routes In: A guide to getting new work programmed in the North of England* was published by Venues North in January 2020.

We hope you have found it useful. If you have any questions, suggestions or comments about how we can improve it, please email:

annabel.turpin@arconline.co.uk

