Tender Specification

Project: Theatre Peace Building Project

Role: Socially Engaged Theatre Artist / Community Theatre Artist / Applied Theatre Facilitator

Location: The Playhouse, Derry-Londonderry and specific locations (to be decided) in Northern Ireland & the Border Counties of Ireland.

Responsible To: Project Producers, Playhouse CEO, Project Steering & Advisory Groups.

Project Background

The Playhouse’s Theatre Peace Building Project has received funding of €859k from the EU Peace IV for a programme of work starting in January 2018 – June 2020 that will be delivered in locations throughout Northern Ireland and the Border Counties of the Republic of Ireland (Donegal, Sligo, Monaghan, Leitrim, Cavan & Louth).

The Playhouse has a strong record of developing arts and peacebuilding initiatives in partnership with a wide variety of statutory and community / voluntary sector agencies with the aims of promoting a wide range of personal / social benefits including community relations development, conflict transformation, truth recovery, social inclusion & personal development.

Our previous work includes Theatre of Witness, which worked with victims and survivors of the conflict to produce live multi-media performances that explored the participant’s shared journeys towards reconciliation and recovery. More info here: https://derryplayhouse.co.uk/content/article/theatre-of-witness/10

The Theatre Peace Building Project draws from this previous work and, in partnership with Holywell Trust, Thomas D’Arcy Foundation and Queens University, will programme a range of nationally / internationally theatre artists with significant experience of using
The project will use Theatre as a tool to explore truth recovery & community relations issues in safe, accessible environments. It will facilitate significant cross community interaction amongst participants from diverse backgrounds who will work collaboratively towards common goals. This aims to result in meaningful, purposeful and sustained contact between persons from different communities with the aim of promoting positive community relations attitudinal and behavioural change.

The project will target those people and communities most affected by the conflict, including representatives from interface & segregated areas, historical atrocities, victims & survivors and public sector workers who were significantly involved / impacted upon during The Troubles.

**Tender Brief**

We are seeking to receive Tenders from [Socially Engaged Theatre Practitioners](#) who will deliver the National / International Residencies.

Each selected [Socially Engaged Theatre Artist](#) will be responsible for the delivery of three main items / phases:

1. **Scoping Study**
   
   The [Socially Engaged Theatre Artist](#) will work with communities and people most affected by The Northern Ireland Troubles. The [Theatre Peace Building Project](#) is particularly interested in addressing Northern Ireland’s historical events which fractured and divided communities, including bombings, shootings, paramilitary activity and allegations of collusion by State bodies.

   Potential participants include victims & survivors, relatives of those killed or injured, former paramilitaries, current / retired security service personnel, and other people significantly affected.

   The [Socially Engaged Theatre Artist](#) will meet a wide range of statutory and community groups, including victims & survivors groups throughout N. Ireland / Border Counties to gather ideas in order to design and devise a 6-month residency project which culminates in a theatre Production.
The scoping study will last approx. 3 weeks, and will include:

- Planning meetings.
- Taster workshops in theatre with specific communities and individuals.
- Selecting and identifying the specific historical event/s to be addressed through theatre.
- Identify the specific peacebuilding issues and needs of the community or individuals.
- Designing and proposing a 6-month residency culminating in a theatre production.

(2) **Residency**: Each *Socially Engaged Theatre Artist* residency will last for approx. 6 months, and will work intensively with approximately seven cross community participants from one or more communities. As outlined above, we expect these individuals to be victims and survivors of the conflict, including former paramilitaries, current / retired security service personnel, relatives of those killed or injured and other people significantly affected.

Each *Socially Engaged Theatre Artist* will use their creativity to address the social and political issues highlighted by the communities or participating individuals. Using the arts to explore contentious events and attitudes aims to highlight ways for resolution and positive community relations change.

There is scope for the *Socially Engaged Theatre Artist* to work alongside other creatives e.g. filmmakers, sound designer, director etc. The proposal for a six month residency that will be agreed with The Playhouse, and the project’s Advisory panel.

Each residency produced by the *Socially Engaged Theatre Artist* should culminate in a multi-media theatre based live performance, which will be performed in the area in which it originates, and at The Playhouse.

(3) Each *Socially Engaged Theatre Artist* will be responsible for mentoring two locally based Artists / Theatre Facilitators. The local Artists / Theatre Facilitators will develop and deliver their own smaller scale multi-media theatre productions.
**Timescale**
We will deliver four National / International Residencies in total:

- 2 to complete by December 2018
- 2 to complete by February 2020

**Staffing & Support**
The following Playhouse staff will work on the project:

- 1 x Project Producer: National / International Residencies
- 1 x Project Producer: Local Projects
- 1 x Project Administrator (0.5)

Other Playhouse staff will also contribute to the project including Artistic Director, Theatre Producer, Marketing Officer, CEO and Financial Manager. Our project partner’s Thomas D’Arcy Foundation and Queens University will assist with the devising, delivery and evaluation of the project.

**Budget**
Each Residency has a budget, excluding the fee of the **Socially Engaged Theatre Artist**, of approx. €40k including participant subsistence / travel costs, venue hire, AV design, stage management and other production costs.

**Socially Engaged Theatre Artist Fee**
The Playhouse will provide:

- **Socially Engaged Theatre Artist’s Fee - Scoping Study**: In the region of €3,000 + travel / accommodation.
- **Socially Engaged Theatre Artist’s Fee – Residency & Mentoring**: In the region of €22,500 + travel / accommodation.

**Selection Criteria & Weighting**
Tenders will be evaluated against the following criteria:

- The tender demonstrates understanding of the sensitivities of working with victims & survivors of the Troubles in Northern Ireland / Border Counties, or similar context in a conflict / post-conflict country / situation. Weighting **30%**
• The tender demonstrates ability to use artistic processes to promote understanding, empathy and reconciliation amongst individuals / communities from opposing viewpoints. Weighting **30%**
• The tender demonstrates evidence of ability to produce high quality artistic outputs. Weighting **30%**
• Price. Weighting **10%**

**To Apply**
If you are interested in working with us to deliver a Scoping Study and Residency, please send us:

• your CV
• a letter, maximum of four A4 sides, outlining your:
  o Skills and experience.
  o Artistic methodology you apply to community relations theatre projects.
  o Vision for the project, outlining how you would utilise the scoping phase, your vision for the six-month residency and theatre production.
  o Understanding of community relations issues in Northern Ireland / Border Counties and / or similar international settings.
  o Experience of working in Northern Ireland / Border Counties or other conflict / post conflict settings.
  o Availability to complete the scoping study and residency within the project’s timescale.
  o Proposed fee.
  o Outline your availability within the timescale to undertake (1) a 3-week scoping study followed by a six-month residency.
• Visual evidence of your work e.g. YouTube links, footage, photos and press reviews.
• The names and contact details of two referees.

We expect the selected **Socially Engaged Theatre Artist** will be resident in Northern Ireland / Border Counties for the duration of the Scoping Study and Residency. If you wish to propose other arrangements, please attach an additional statement outlining how you expect to manage your time.
The Playhouse will apply to the UK Border Agency to gain a Certificate of Sponsorship for International **Socially Engaged Theatre Artists**, should a VISA be necessary to work in the UK. If The Playhouse cannot obtain a Certificate of Sponsorship for the **Theatre Artist**, then the artist will not be offered the role of **Socially Engaged Theatre Artist**.

The project will involve travel throughout Northern Ireland / Border Counties. Please state if you possess a valid driving licence.

Should you not be eligible to work in EU / UK, please attach an additional statement outlining that you have performer international status, for example, press cuttings, awards, publicity material, television/radio interviews or programmes.

Please send your application to **elaine@derryplayhouse.co.uk**

The deadline for Tenders is 12noon (UK Time) on Friday 23rd February 2018.

The selected artists will be notified by 5th March. Their appointment will be subject to references and eligibility to work in the UK.

A project supported by the European Union’s PEACE IV Programme, managed by the Special EU Programmes Body (SEUPB).