



BRIEF – OUTDOOR PERFORMANCE COMMISSIONS

Do you have an exceptional idea for an original outdoor theatre production? If so, this commissioning opportunity may be for you!



Lyric Hammersmith, Greenwich+Docklands International Festival, Watford Palace Theatre and Latitude Festival have come together once again to offer exciting commissioning opportunities to theatre makers who want to create new and exciting work for outdoor spaces in 2016.

Over the last four years our organisations have collaborated on developing new outdoor performances together and this “open call” is to invite artists to put forward proposals for our 2016 commissions. The commissioned works will tour to:

Theatre in the Square (Lyric Hammersmith) Lyric Square is an urban space in the very centre of busy Hammersmith. With an audience made up from local workers and residents Theatre in the Square has become a staple in the summer events calendar for Hammersmith. Record numbers joined us in the blistering heat of 2015 to watch a variety of performances whilst eating their lunches or meeting friends for coffee.

Greenwich+Docklands International Festival GDIF is an established outdoor festival of free outdoor arts and spectacle. The commissioned artists will be presented in the context of GDIF's annual outdoor arts showcase in Greenwich Town Centre over the weekend of 24 - 26 June, which is attended by local and London wide audiences as well as visiting professionals. There are a variety of sites available including grass and hard standing, mostly located in heritage settings.

Imagine Watford Festival (Watford Palace Theatre) Imagine Watford is a festival of extraordinary outdoor moments. During this free festival Watford town centre is transformed into a playground of imagination and wonder. Across its 8 stages the public experience world class performances by national and international companies as they make their way down the high street.

Latitude Festival Now in its 11th year, Latitude is a multi-genre arts festival with 18 different stages and an audience of 35,000 people. Set within the beautiful surroundings of Henham Park, Suffolk spaces include the Outdoor Theatre in the Faraway Forest, Open grass within Pandora's Playground and the open air Waterfront Stage on the lake.

We've previously commissioned work from companies including Puppets with Guts, The Human Zoo, Tangled Feet, Rash Dash, Pins and Needles and Les Enfants Terribles. For 2016 we're particularly keen to see proposals with a strong element of design and physical content which will engage with a variety of diverse audiences across each festival.

Overall Dates

The selected artists should be available for performances weekly throughout June 2016 and for Latitude Festival July 2016.

Guidelines on production proposals

- The commissions must be suitable to a wide range of OUTDOOR spaces and to be accessible to a variety of audiences as detailed above.
- Commissions must have a strong visual element focussed around a strong staging of ideas.
- We are not looking for performances of formal plays or shows that are text based.
- Performances should be suitable for all ages – this doesn't mean they have to be for children but they must be as accessible as possible.
- Performances should be performed within any reasonable weather conditions – including rain.
- The optimum length of performance should not exceed 30 minutes.
- Productions should be able to be installed and struck on the same day.

Fee

Each of the commissions will receive a fee of £6000 for the delivery of the commission. This is an all inclusive fee that should cover any costs, artistic costs for rehearsals and performing, physical production costs, stage management costs and associated travel costs.

The following will be provided.

- Weekend performers tickets to Latitude festival
- Company meal vouchers at Latitude festival
- Coach style transportation from Lyric to Latitude festival
- Technical assistance as previously discussed pre-commission
- Transport of set items between the festivals
- A production team to assist get-in and get-out at each festival.
- Lyric will offer assistance in producing, wardrobe, development and marketing as necessary within a separate negotiation.

Proposals

If you would like to be considered please email Peter (Producer) at peter.holland@lyric.co.uk by **Monday 4 January** with a creative Proposal stating your idea and explaining how you would realise your production. Your Proposal should outline how your performance is suitable for outdoor audiences. Proposals should be no more than two sides of A4. Please note proposals that are longer or are submitted after the deadline will not be considered.

Please include in addition to the proposal:

- An expenditure budget demonstrating that you can create and deliver your idea with a commissioning fee of £6000
- A short biography (150 words) about you /your company.
- What other funding you would apply for in order to realise your production and how this would be reflected in your budget.

Interviews will be conducted in London in early January 2016