

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

GALWAY THEATRE FESTIVAL

30th April – 8th May 2021

2020 has been a year without precedent. A year of cancellations and lost work, of reduced horizons and restricted movements. A year when our relationship with space and place was utterly re-made.

Galway Theatre Festival is looking ahead now to Festival 2021. A few things will be different – how we present work, where we present it, and how audiences will access it. What will remain the same is the sense of excitement, creativity and enthusiasm from the festival team, the artists, audiences, and wider GTF community.

Festivals are places of experimentation and inquiry. In the spirit of experimentation, we are looking for work that is innovative in its creation and delivery.

For Festival 2021, we are looking for artists, performers, creators to explore our understanding of performance, of space and place and time.

We want work that experiments with public and private spaces. Work that uses traditional performance space in new and unusual ways, in unconventional spaces, site-specific work, outdoor installations. Everything is welcome – entirely digital delivery, semi-digital work-incorporating technology in the presentation and in-person presentations. Performance experienced through headsets or computers, smartphones or 'in the flesh'.

If you have an idea that you would like to discuss with the GTF team before submitting, contact Sorcha (Festival Director) and Aoife (General Manager) on galwaytheatrefestival@gmail.com.

The deadline for applications is midnight Wednesday 9th December.

Applications must be sent to galwaytheatrefestival@gmail.com

Please follow the following format for labeling e-mails, application forms and supplementary materials:

E-mail Subject Line: GTF Submission – Name of Show _ Strand No

Application Form (Word / PDF doc): [*Name of Applicant*][*Name of Show*].Application

Supplementary Documents: [*Name of Applicant*][*Name of Show*][*Type of Document - image, budget, letter of support, CV, etc.*]

Every applicant will be required to submit a budget. This will allow the Programming Committee to assess the feasibility of the application, with regards to what audience capacity/reach, run length, and ticket price is required. Please use the budget template supplied.

Unlike previous years where the festival has operated a box office split, in 2021, the festival will pay a guarantee. This will be calculated based on the strand (full production or work-in-progress) venue, audience capacity and run length of each production.

Please note that all companies participating in the festival must have employers' and public liability insurance

Overall Criteria:

- artists/companies who are aiming to create work that is of a professional standard and high artistic quality
- artists/companies who are not established (i.e. are in existence less than 10 years¹), OR established artists/companies who are taking their practice/work in a new direction
- work which has not been presented in Galway (at the same stage of development) in 2020
- we encourage work in Irish, or a mix of languages.
- artists/companies based in Galway or the West of Ireland will be given particular consideration.

Strand 1: Theatre is Everywhere (Full Productions)

Strand 1 is a programme of selected productions that showcases the work of theatre-makers from Galway and around Ireland. These productions can be new productions, touring productions, or productions that were already staged in Galway prior to 2020. All forms and styles of theatre will be considered.

They will be professionally staged utilising the theatre venues in Galway, as well as online, and in unconventional spaces. Shops, streets, parks, abandoned buildings, even on water - we are interested in theatre that can take root in unexpected places in Galway city and county.

The Festival's aim is to provide local and national audiences with a programme of diverse, engaging, and innovative theatre of a high artistic and professional standard.

Applicants should indicate the type of space their production requires. The Festival Management Team may suggest suitable spaces; however, the applicant must take responsibility for working with the Management Team to obtain permission to use a space.

Additional Criteria for Strand 1:

- productions must be developed to a high level of completeness (by the time they are staged in the Festival)
- events that make theatre visible in the city will be particularly considered
- events that utilise spaces in key areas of the city (Salthill / West End / Latin Quarter / etc.) will be particularly considered. Events that increase the reach of the Festival outside of the city (ie into county Galway) will also be considered.
- selected artists/companies engage to attend a technical workshop and a marketing workshop facilitated by the Festival team
- Once selected, productions cannot be staged in Galway before the festival performances. Any production which is staged in Galway after selection will be pulled from the Festival programme. Selected productions that wish to hold a public development showing (e.g. work-in-progress / staged reading) before the festival should consult with the Festival Management Team before-hand.

Strand 2: Made-In Galway (Work-in-progress Productions)

Strand 2 is specifically open to theatre-makers based in Galway, and is focused on the development of work-in-progress.

The Festival is looking to support innovative work, and will prioritise applications that clearly demonstrate the need to test some aspect of the production, or try something new.

¹ This is a rough rule-of-thumb, and we realize that there may be other ways to measure this! If you feel you should be considered as not established for other reasons, please state these on a separate page in your application.

Applications must include a substantial engagement with the audience through presentations, direct feedback sessions etc.

The Festival's aim is to tap into audience's interest in the 'behind-the-scenes' view of theatre, and to develop audience's ability and confidence in offering critical feedback on theatre productions.

Each programmed WIP will receive one unique showing for an 'in-person' presentation. Digital or semi-digital works-in-progress may receive additional showings.

The Festival will provide support to the selected artists, including audience development and dramaturgical support. The Festival will also endeavour to ensure that the works in Strand 3 are attended by venue managers and funders, with a view to developing production and touring opportunities for the final work.

Additional Criteria for Strand 3:

- artist(s) should be based in Galway
- artist should show in their application how they will use the work-in-progress to engage with audiences
- artist should show in their application how they will use the work-in-progress to develop the piece and test/try something specific
- selected artists/companies engage to attend a technical workshop and a marketing workshop facilitated by the Festival team