



THE DRILL HOUSE RESIDENCY PROGRAMME - HOW WE WORK WITH ARTISTS

ABOUT SEACHANGE ARTS AND THE DRILL HOUSE

SeaChange are dedicated to the development of the circus and street arts sectors. One of our key focuses as an organisation is to work alongside artists and companies to develop work of the highest standard, and with the potential to succeed, long-term, in both the national and international markets. We are interested in artists that work in street arts and circus, but also those that work in other disciplines who are keen to work collaboratively with, or extend their practice into, these art forms.

The Drill House is home to SeaChange Arts - an International Creation Space primarily for Street Arts and Circus. The building consists of a 6500 square foot main hall with a folding acoustic partition that can divide this into two usable spaces – the North Hall and the South Hall. In addition there are ancillary spaces for workshops, meetings and fabrication, and accommodation, kitchen, shower and office facilities. The Drill House is fully riggable, heated, and has very good natural light. The North Hall also features a covered pit and truss for swinging trapeze.

The Drill House is based in the heart of Great Yarmouth and mixes artistic residencies with community and participatory activity and events. The Drill House is the only Creation Centre of its kind in the UK and works with an ethos that combines international level artistic development alongside engagement with local communities.

The Drill House is available to artistic companies and artists on a hire basis (at a preferential rate for artistic creation). However, SeaChange also work with artists through their Residency Programme on the development of work through partnerships based on a mutually beneficial exchange of in-kind/reduced cost activities.

HOW WE WORK IN PARTNERSHIP WITH ARTISTS THROUGH OUR RESIDENCY PROGRAMME

We have a number of different ways that we work in partnership with artists and companies, all of which are based on a strong, open two-way relationship. We are committed to working with artists to make their best work and fulfil their potential, but this has to be based on mutual understanding and shared expectations.

We generally prefer to work in partnership with artists on the development of work from its early stages. This helps us to ensure that work is developed in a way that gives the greatest potential to succeed in the UK and international markets.

There is no fixed formula to how a partnership might be established. Partnerships are designed and agreed through discussion on the basis of equitable benefit to both artists and ourselves as an organisation (which includes the local community).

We do not on the whole book work to present that we have not seen or do not have some kind of developmental relationship with. We do sometimes advocate and promote artists

through our extensive networks and projects, but usually if we have a relationship with the company.

A partnership is likely to consist of an exchange of our support in the creation and development of work, with artists in return, providing reciprocal benefits to both SeaChange and the local community. Whilst artist development is one of the main areas of our work, our role also includes working to further the cultural development of audiences of all kinds in Great Yarmouth, making outstanding experiences accessible to all and contributing to life and regeneration in the town.

Typical exchange activities include:

- Delivering workshops for a local group or audience
- Running classes for our Drillaz Circus School
- Running masterclasses for local emerging artists and professionals
- Performing at SeaChange events (eg the Out There International Festival of Circus and Street Arts which takes place annually in September)

It is very important that both the value of our support and equally the value of engagement activities provided is appreciated by both parties. Where possible we try to match the in-kind value of our support to the value of the activities provided by artists to ensure that both parties are mutually benefiting from the exchange.

TYPES OF SUPPORT

How we work together and what we can offer will be determined on a case by case basis. Examples of how we have supported artists previously includes:

- Residency space
- Mentoring and guidance
- Time with our Creative Team
- Assistance in developing project plans and grant applications
- Help in finding appropriate creative collaborators and partners
- Work-in-progress and showing opportunities
- Links to a wide range of networks and partners

On some occasions we are able to provide small amounts of funding, and very occasionally commissioning money. However in the majority of cases, artists will need to secure funding from other sources but may be able to use our partnership involvement to strengthen applications.

WHAT WE ARE LOOKING FOR

We are keen to work with artists who are interested in establishing a strong developmental partnership with us, and are committed to developing work of the highest standard and open to input and advice from early on in the creation process. It is essential that the artists we work with support the ethos of a mutually beneficial exchange that allows us to invest in and support them whilst also giving something back to the community in Great Yarmouth – this will form the basis of our relationship.

As long as this ethos is shared, all ideas are welcome!

From a sector development viewpoint, we are particularly keen to guide artists in the creation of quality work that can succeed in the market place with good prospects for a long and healthy touring life, to the benefit of both audiences and artists.

HOW TO WORK WITH US

You can contact us to talk about project ideas at any time during the year. We also actively seek out artists and companies whose work matches our interests. Projects will be discussed on a case-by-case basis, but there will be some specific information that we will always ask for. This will include:

- What stage of development is the work at?
- What is the idea behind / vision for the work? Can you provide a summary of what it might entail? Please include details such as:
 - Will it be an indoor or outdoor performance?
 - How long will the show be?
 - How many performers will be in the show?
 - What ideas do you have for the narrative of the show?
 - What disciplines/technical skills will be involved?
 - Who will the target audience be?
- What is the proposed timeline for devising, creating and touring the show?
- Have you / are you planning to approach other partners about the work? If so, who are they, and what will their involvement be?
- Have you developed a budget for what you would like to do?
- Are you planning to, or have you already submitted an application for Grants for the Arts funding?
- Are you planning to, or have you already applied for funding from other sources? If so:
 - Who have you / are you planning to apply to?
 - How much funding have you / are you planning to apply for?
 - have you received an outcome for any of these applications, or when are you expecting to hear?

It is important that we build the right relationship between ourselves and the artists that we work with, so conversations may take place over a longer period of time.

For further information contact Becca Clayton (Producer) on 01493 745458 or becca@seachangearts.org.uk.