

*Tales Of Two Cities* is an artist development programme for very early career theatre artists – an international partnership between Cork Midsummer Festival and The Everyman in Cork, Ireland and MAYK and Bristol Old Vic in Bristol, UK.

*Tales of Two Cities* is aimed at very early career theatre artists – ie with a maximum of three years professional practice. It's for individuals or groups of artists interested in making theatre and developing their practice in forms other than playwriting, for artists who are finding their voice and figuring out how to articulate and focus their vision. Artists must be from or based in Cork. We want to support a new cohort of theatre makers to develop their practice in Cork city and county.

Central to the programme is the opportunity to see international work, develop international networks and receive guidance from international practitioners. The programme will involve travelling to Bristol to experience work, meeting artists based in Bristol and attending workshops by artists based in Bristol. Participating artists will receive a fee to cover their time for travel, workshops, mentorship, and development sessions. Additional flights and accommodation will be provided for time spent in Bristol.

Artists will also develop the beginnings of a new idea or project throughout the programme, supported by Cork Midsummer Festival and The Everyman, and mentored by professional practitioners. The work will be developed without the pressure of having to present anything to a public audience. This is an opportunity to assimilate, to dream, and to begin to create something, whilst being influenced or excited by the work of international practitioners.

We welcome applications from all early career theatre artists based in Cork and we would like to encourage applications from members of groups who are underrepresented in the arts sector, including Asian, Black people, People of Colour, people with disabilities, neurodiverse people, members of the D/deaf community, members of the Traveller community, LGBTQI+ people, to apply. We would also like to encourage those who identify as female or non-binary to apply.

### **Application Criteria - Who Can Apply?**

- You must be from or based in Cork, and in the first three years of your professional practice as an artist (not counting 2020 and 2021 due to ongoing restrictions).
- You must be over 21 and not currently in undergraduate or postgraduate education.
- You can be from any performance discipline – theatre, dance, music, circus, socially engaged practice, combined arts.
- If you are from a theatre discipline, this programme is specifically for theatre makers and artists who wish to develop a form other than playwriting.
- You must have availability for the key dates in the programme, and be happy to travel to Bristol if government guidelines allow.
- You must be curious, open and excited about learning from other artists in order to develop your own practice and networks.
- You can be working individually or as part of a group (one application per group).

### **How do I apply?**

Send a CV (2 pages max) and a one-page cover letter explaining how you fit the criteria, a little about your practice as an artist, why this opportunity will help you to develop your practice, and what you would like to get out of the six-month programme. We'd also like to hear about an idea that you would like to develop as part of the programme.

Alternative to a cover letter, you can also send us a 3-minute video explaining the above.

If you need any additional support with the application process, please contact us at [twocities@corkmidsummer.com](mailto:twocities@corkmidsummer.com) and we can help you out.

Please send your application to [twocities@corkmidsummer.com](mailto:twocities@corkmidsummer.com) by midday on **Monday 13 February**.

Late applications will not be accepted.

### **Key Dates and Timeline**

**Monday 13 February** 2023 (Noon) – Application Deadline

**Monday 20 February** 2023 (Afternoon) – Interviews for Short-Listed Candidates

### **Part 1 – Seeing Work, Soaking Up Ideas, Meeting New People**

April 2023

– Programme starts: key meetings with other artists and CMF / The Everyman teams

May 2023

– Artists assigned a mentor; initial meeting with mentor to establish goals and outcomes, including setting the direction for Research & Development days

Week of 22 May 2023

– Trip to Bristol to see work, meet local and international artists.  
(This will be 2–4 days during the week of 22 May 2023)

12–25 June 2023

– Focussed time at Cork Midsummer Festival (including hosting visiting artists from Bristol first weekend of the festival) to meet artists, see national and international work, and host Bristol artists in Cork

### **Part 2 – Putting learning and experience into action – thinking about a new project**

July–September 2023

- Research & Development days (time to think, research, work as a group to put ideas together) to be facilitated by The Everyman & Cork Midsummer Festival
- Mentorship sessions & development week
- One development week in a studio space

Late September / early October 2023

– Return trip to Bristol

November 2023

– Final meeting, bringing together all of the participants for a final sharing of thoughts, ideas and next steps