

CALL FOR WEST MIDLANDS THEATRE MAKERS – NEW PERFORMANCE IDEAS WANTED

Artist Brief for the Royal Shakespeare Company's PILOT Night

Part of the World Shakespeare Festival

Overview

The Royal Shakespeare Company's PILOT Night will be an evening of new devised theatre ideas, created by artists from the West Midlands.

The RSC has teamed up with PILOT to create a special evening of new performance that will offer artists a unique opportunity to show their work on a World Shakespeare Festival platform and give audiences an insight into how brand new theatre ideas are formed and staged.

We would like to invite artists to submit a devised, performance idea that responds to a provocation based on Shakespeare's relevance today and his legacy within everyday culture. The work created can be up to twenty minutes in duration and will be created to be performed somewhere within The Courtyard Theatre at the RSC in Stratford Upon Avon on the 12th July.

Submissions are by open application and the RSC and PILOT will be looking to select up to five artists or companies that are based within the West Midlands. Submissions will be short listed by a panel made up of RSC and PILOT staff and the five selected artists will each be offered expenses of £500 towards development of the work.

The RSC is keen to offer support to selected artists creating work and each artist or company will be able to access the following opportunities in addition to the financial contribution:

- A production meeting early on to see the space and meet relevant members of the RSC team to discuss technical and production requirements
- Access to a producer from the RSC to offer creative support for the development of each new piece of work
- A workshop weekend prior to the event where participating artists will be able to meet and share ideas and work alongside the RSC's voice and movement teams

Brief

The Royal Shakespeare Company and the region's best loved Scratch night - PILOT - would like to invite contemporary theatre makers from the West Midlands to submit proposals for an evening of new performance work.

The RSC PILOT Night will take place on the 12th July at The Courtyard Theatre at the RSC in Stratford upon Avon and is part of the World Shakespeare Festival, an international programme of productions, events and exhibitions celebrating Shakespeare as the world's playwright.



Since 2002 PILOT Nights have been giving regional theatre makers a platform to show untested extracts of new work in front of a lively, supportive crowd for the very first time. The RSC and PILOT have now decided to work together to mount a unique event that will ask artists how the work of the most established West Midlands based artist might inspire theatre makers based in the region today to create new pieces of performance.

Provocation

The RSC and PILOT are interested in seeing new performance ideas that explore how Shakespeare's work is referenced within contemporary culture and how his words, stories, characters and ideas have seeped into our everyday lives.

Responses to the brief can be wide ranging and could explore big thematic ideas or a single stage direction. Ideas can be dark, satirical, visual, humorous or irreverent. The performance should avoid using Shakespeare's text in a literal sense and focus instead on using his words, ideas or stories as a starting point for a new theatrical idea.

Criteria

The performance can be up to 20 minutes in length and should be conceived to be performed on either a thrust stage or one of the Courtyard Theatre's front of house spaces. Technical support may be limited and will need to be agreed in advance.

A contribution of £500 will be made towards expenses for each selected new piece of work. Applications should be submitted by email and include a short written statement about the proposal and details of previous work.

To apply for RSC PILOT Night please download the application form from www.pilotnights.co.uk/rsc

Send your completed application to info@pilotnights.co.uk

The closing date for applications is Monday 12th March 2012 at 12 midday.

For more information about the project go to www.pilotnights.co.uk/rsc

If you would like to discuss your proposal before submitting an application, please contact Lucia Hogg, Event Producer at the Royal Shakespeare Company on [01789 272 570](tel:01789272570), email lucia.hogg@rsc.org.uk

The World Shakespeare Festival is produced by the Royal Shakespeare Company for London 2012 Festival.

