

Green Phoenix Performance Commission

Supported by Fenton Arts Trust

Please read the following guidelines carefully before submitting your application.

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

To celebrate Exeter's Phoenix's 25th birthday we are offering a £1000 commission to early-career performance makers based in the South West (solo artist or theatre company) to make new work with an environment focus.

The commissioned performance will premiere at the [Green Phoenix Festival](#) on Sunday 6th July 2025; a day of creativity and action to inspire a sustainable future. The performance can either take place indoors at Exeter Phoenix or outdoors in Rougemont Gardens.

We seek to recognise new, fresh and inspiring ideas from a range of perspectives with performance makers who have already established their practice, but require the time, money and support to get new ideas fleshed out and onto a stage, in front of a live audience.

Our aims for the commissions are to:

- Support emerging talent within the South West.
- Connect performance makers and creative individuals to a wider cultural network in the region.
- Offer a platform and opportunities for work to be shared and seen.
- Celebrate work that actively engages with the objectives of our [Green Phoenix Project](#) and seeks to raise awareness of the climate crisis; inspiring people to protect our environment through creative performances engaging with nature and the world around us.

What we are offering:

- £1000 fee for a solo artist or theatre company to make 25-30 minutes of new material.
- A public-facing performance programmed as part of the Green Phoenix Festival on Sunday 6th July 2025.
- Support with inviting industry professionals to see your work.
- In addition to the £1000 fee, the successful applicants will receive in-kind support to the value of £1000, which will contribute towards the performance. This includes:
 - Free rehearsal space at Exeter Phoenix (subject to availability).

- In-kind mentoring support and guidance delivered by members of the Exeter Phoenix team, including marketing, fundraising and technical support.
- A guaranteed place at each of our free monthly Creative Hub professional development workshops running from October 2024 – January 2025, including Building Your Own Art Scene (2nd October), Legal issues - protecting yourself and your work (6th November), Marketing yourself and your work (6th December) and Approaching Programmers and Venues (16th January).
- Professional photographs and a recording of the performance.

Who we are looking for:

- **Early-career artists who have spent at least two years developing their practice** (this may include specialist training) and will now be at the stage where they are ready to take their creative practice to the next level and present 25-30 minutes of new work in the form of a performance.
- **Innovative work that showcases South West performance makers as being at the forefront of the UK talent development scene:** Artists who have their finger on the pulse of contemporary performance practice, seeking to push boundaries, interrogate the relationship between performer and audience, and deliver something meaningful within the current context of its subject matter; ultimately able to demonstrate *why now*.
- We are particularly seeking to support the development of original work that is bold, exciting, engaging, and accessible to diverse audiences.
- We particularly encourage applications from LGBTQ+, Global Majority, Disabled and Neurodiverse artists.
- Applicants must be able to prove they reside in the South West.
- Applicants must be aged 18 years or over.

How to apply:

Submit a short (max. 400 words / up to 4 minutes) written or video proposal using our web-form outlining your idea, including its tone, themes, genre and how it engages with the environmental theme.

Applicants will have the opportunity to attach up to 5 pieces of supporting material. This could be examples of previous work, photos, writing samples or visual aids.

As part of your proposal you might like to consider the following:

- A clear and concise description of your idea, such as the story you want to tell, characters, inspiration, different styles, design, movement, etc.

- Any sustainability targets. For inspiration please feel free to check out resources on [Theatre Green Book](#).

As part of the application process we also require you to complete our Equality, Diversity and Inclusion monitoring form. If you are applying as a company please ensure that every member has individually completed the EDI form.

Deadline: **10am, Monday 16th September 2024**

What happens next:

All applicants will receive a confirmation email to state we have received your application. Applications will be presented to the commission panel after the deadline.

The Exeter Phoenix team will review every submission and invite a small number of proposals to an informal interview. We will then select the successful artist / company.

We will aim to let all applicants know the outcome of the first stage of applications **by the end of September**.

COMMISSION TIMELINE

Applications open **Friday 16th August 2024**

Applications close **10am, Monday 16th September 2024**

Shortlist interviews will take place on **Monday 30th September** and **Wednesday 2nd October 2024**. All shortlisted applicants will be offered a place at the Building Your Own Art Scene talk on 2nd October, 3-5pm.

Companies / artists selected by **Friday 11th October 2024**

Creative Hub professional development workshops will take place on **Wednesday 6th November 2024, Friday 6th December 2024 & Thursday 16th January 2025**

Creation of work and Exeter Phoenix in-kind support from **November 2024 – March 2025 (negotiable)**

Final rehearsals and work-in-progress presentations to invited audience / industry delegates from **April – June 2025 (negotiable)**

Final performance to public at Green Phoenix Festival on **Sunday 6th July 2025**.

Decisions will be made by 11th October 2024. All applicants will be notified of the outcome via email.

If you are invited to pitch your application at an interview you will be asked to present your ideas to the panel and discuss them in more detail.

You will also be asked to provide the panel with a brief budget and examples of how your production will meet our aims and objectives outlined above.

Disclaimer

The offer of this commission is correct at time of launch. Exeter Phoenix reserves the right to amend or withdraw elements of the commission offer. The commissions are subject to terms and conditions as stated in the final contract, which will be presented to the successful applicants.

The Green Phoenix Performance Commission been made possible by the generous support of Fenton Arts Trust.