

CREATIVE HUB

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OCTOBER EDITION

Welcome to your monthly update on all things creative in Exeter. In our October edition we have an opportunities roundup, with loads of great callouts for all creative disciplines, plus some great chances to further your skills with some free professional development workshops. Plus, we announce our October Scratch artists, who will be presenting their works-in-progress later this month.

What have you been up to this month?

Have a piece of creative news or an opportunity you'd like to be shared? Send us a message on our social media channels and we'll include what we can in future editions.

Want more updates, opportunities and creative news?

Follow us @exeterphoenixcreativehub on [Instagram](#) and [Facebook](#).



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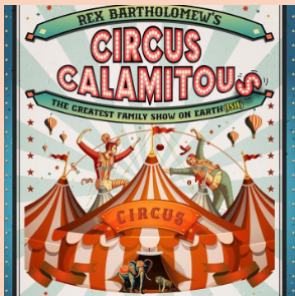
Recommended events



October Scratch Night Commissioned Artists

Throughout 2024 we have offered micro-commissions to support the development and presentation of new performance work for our three annual Scratch Night performances which happened in January and May, with our final Scratch Night of the year happening in October.

Our aim is to identify, support and nurture fresh talent by giving artists the support, space and opportunity to develop work-in-progress pieces. Below we are introducing our successful artists for the October Scratch, and what they will be performing on the evening.



Stewart Wright:

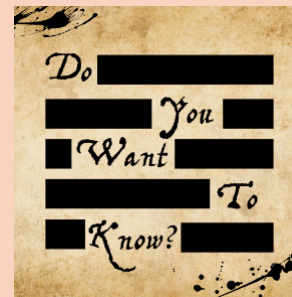
Circus Calamitous

The 'World's Greatest Showman' (his words) Rex Bartholomew brings his internationally-renowned award-winning world-famous circus to the grandest of venues. Except that he doesn't because a clerical error means the circus performers have gone to the wrong address and are 100 miles away. The only people left in the company are Rex himself and his put-upon stagehand Darren...so the two of them will have to put on the show themselves.

The Show Must Go On (especially as Rex is contractually obliged to

provide one). Rex and Darren need to do all the juggling, fire-eating, lion-taming, bullet-catching, the lot. They are also struggling with their own relationship as the long-suffering Darren resents being constantly ordered around by the arrogant Rex.

There's mishaps, squirting water, custard pies, audience participation and a cameo from the only member of the circus troupe that remained on site....Leslie the Lion. The circus performers never do make it on time but Darren blossoms into a fine circus artist with the encouragement of the children...and he feels he can move on in his relationship with Rex on a more equal footing. The 'World's Greatest Showman' (still his words) Rex Bartholomew learns that it's not a bad thing to be a little humble now and then.



Timespun Theatre:

Do You Want To Know?

Kate wants to shake up the world of museum curation. Ben wants to be left alone with his copy of the complete works. When they get the chance to pitch a new exhibition about Shakespeare's life and secure their dream jobs in the process, it seems like they're the perfect duo.

But the internet's been around since Henry VIII; Voltaire's tweets, Newton's Reddit threads and Byron's dick pics are all sitting in an

archive. Do you really want to know about Shakespeare? How will Kate and Ben even begin to decide on what to focus on?

For Ben it's easy: the plays – does anything else really matter? But Kate doesn't think it's so simple. When their research into Shakespeare's online presence unearths a shocking revelation, they're forced to confront their own beliefs about separating the art from the artist and how much they're willing to jeopardise in order to reveal (or hide) the truth.

Do You Want to Know? takes in the extinction of secrets in a post-internet age, to ask: what if the greatest literary mystery of our time was not a mystery at all? Is more information always better? And how will we be remembered by future generations?



We're All Friends Comedy:

The Quest for Love, Murder and Revenge in Space

The Quest For Love Murder and Revenge In Space is a fantasy adventure showcasing the epic- oh, wait, no! It's actually a dramatic romance demonstrating the power of- oh, still wrong? That's right, it's a murder mystery in which- Wrong again? A rollicking western, perhaps? A sci-fi saga?



The truth is it's none of them...and all of them! Each night our cast arrive to find that, despite perfectly reasonable instructions from the director, the show hasn't quite been settled on yet. One wants a romance while the other wants sci-fi and, in the end, it's easier to let the audience decide. So, we let you!

Pick the genre, and the title, and see yourself at the helm of disastrous plot choices as we take you on a fully improvised journey where we'll learn the true meaning of friendship and love, who the fastest gunslinger is in all of western delta quadrant 4, and, most importantly, whodunnit?



**Christopher Hill, Grace Bowyer & Parker Register:
Compulsion**

A dynamic and mesmerising theatre piece inspired by works from Edgar Allen Poe & Vincent Van Gogh.

Want to find out more about Scratch Nights, or want to give it a go yourself? Head to our [Scratch Night](#) page, book to watch the [October Scratch Night](#), or join us at [Little Scratch](#) - our relaxed platform to show work in its early stages.

Creative Growth - FREE Workshops



This programme of FREE Professional Development Workshops for artists is designed to support our creative community to develop relevant skills, expand knowledge and grow professional networks. Focussing on the business of being a creative practitioner, the programme aims to equip artists with the skills that they need to grow their careers. Each session will be followed by a chance to informally hang out, meet and chat with fellow attendees in our cafe bar. Find out more about the upcoming program below and book your space [here](#).

Legal issues – protecting yourself and your work

Wed 06 Nov, 3pm - 5pm

Protecting yourself, your work and your ideas is important for any small business owner, but especially so for artists and creators. This accessible and informative session will provide an overview of legal issues affecting artists, from trademarking your brand and copywriting your ideas, to ensuring that you know the rules around using others' work.

Marketing yourself and your work

Fri 06 Dec, 4pm - 6pm

So – You've made your show! You've painted your masterpiece! Your EP is ready to drop! But how does your art find its audience in an age of content overload?

Experienced marketers Kelly and Christina will be ready to offer practical advice to help you connect your work with an audience from the ground up, and how to help a marketing team (if you're lucky enough to be working with one) to help you!

Approaching Programmers and Venues

Thu 16 Jan, 2pm - 4pm

Join Exeter Phoenix gallery curator Matt Burrows, film programmer Claire Horrocks and performance programmer Katy Danbury, alongside Northcott Theatre's Creative Director Martin Berry, and learn about the best ways to start and develop a relationship with an arts venue. During this session you will be provided insight into what programmers look for and how to approach them, as well as advice about what makes a successful proposal, the do's and don'ts of pitching, and how to find the right venue for your work.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

This programme is made possible thanks to the support of the Fenton Arts Trust.

Peninsula Producers Network 2025

Deadline: Mon 14th October, 5pm



Screen Cornwall and Exeter Phoenix are pleased to partner with BFI NETWORK South West again to create a fourth iteration of the Peninsula Producers Network, a development programme designed specifically for new and emerging producers in Devon and Cornwall. This programme will run in parallel with our New Writers Network.

The Peninsula Producers 2025 cohort will receive support and guidance, in a series of events held both online and in person, to develop their producing skills and expand their knowledge of distribution and audiences for primarily scripted content, although creative documentary and immersive content makers are also welcome. The final session will be an in-person event at the Two Short Nights Film Festival at Exeter Phoenix in February 2025.

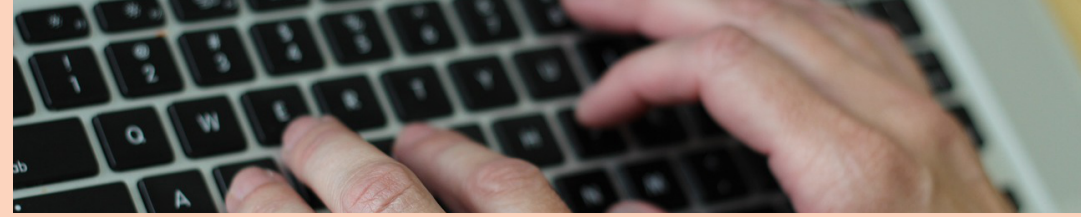
How to Apply

For a detailed overview, programme timeline and eligibility criteria, please see the Peninsula Producers Network Brief and to apply please complete our short Application Form [here](#).

Please be aware that you can only apply for Peninsula Producers Network 2025 or New Writers Network 2025 – applications to join both programmes will not be accepted.

New Writers Network 2025

Deadline: Mon 14th October, 5pm



Are you a Cornwall or Devon based writer with a compelling short film idea?

The New Writers Network is opening again, offering aspiring screenwriters the chance to develop their short film scripts under the mentorship of experienced script editor Laura Jayne Tunbridge, as well as building their creative networks in the region. Screen Cornwall's New Writers Network programme, supported by BFI NETWORK South West, runs in parallel with Peninsula Producers Network 2025.

How to Apply

For a detailed overview, programme timeline and eligibility criteria, please see the New Writers Network Brief and submit your treatment or early draft of your short film script [here](#).

Please be aware that you can only apply for Peninsula Producers Network 2025 or New Writers Network 2025 – applications to join both programmes will not be accepted.

FILM OPPORTUNITIES

Two Short Nights 2025 pre-selection panel | Deadline: Fri 04 Oct

Exeter Phoenix's Two Short Nights Film Festival is looking for volunteers to take part in its pre-selection panel for Two Short Nights 2025 - taking place on Thu 06 & Fri 07 February 2025.

Two Short Nights is proud to show the best international short films alongside incredible local filmmaking talent, so whatever your cinematic taste there will be something for you.

Pre-selectors will help to shape our programme for the 23rd edition of Two Short Nights by reviewing a selection of short film entries online. Films are reviewed and rated online allowing pre-selectors to watch films at a time and place that suits them.

Our submissions can be of any genre and are no longer than 20 mins in length. No experience is necessary but we would value applications from individuals with an interest in filmmaking, curation and critiquing.

This is a volunteer role. As a member of our preselection panel you'll receive:

- A Two Short Nights Festival pass
- Access to further festival opportunities
- Experience using FilmFreeway
- Knowledge of film festival curation and programming

[Apply here](#)

Screen Devon roles | Deadline: 5pm Monday 21 October

Screen Devon is the new screen agency for Devon.

It is looking for a [FILM OFFICER](#) and a [GENERAL MANAGER](#) to shape its aims of increasing the prosperity of the county while raising the profile of Devon as a location for film production and increasing the screen and creative skills within the area.

Call out for Photographers and Filmmakers at the Big Dreams Live - Interactive Reading | Deadline: Fri 11 Oct

Laura Loft Music is hiring paid positions for the following roles:

Photographer - to come and take photos of set up and workshop/performance.

Filmmaker - to come and film the performance and some voc pops for audience feedback.

Dates: Saturday 1st February, 2025. Deliverables by Saturday 8th February 2025.

[Find out more and apply](#)

FILM
OPPORTUNITIES

Arts and Culture Exeter: Leaside Arts Commissions | Deadline: Monday 21 October, 5pm

We are currently seeking expressions of interest from two South West based creative practitioners (individuals, partnerships, or collectives) to lead on to two new Arts Commissions (one in Devon and one in Cornwall) exploring people's values assigned to nature around protected sites.

Budget: £40,000 per commission.

LOCATION 1: Challacombe Farm, Dartmoor (x1 Commission).

ARTFORM 1: Creative writing (broad definition encompassing prose, poetry, playwriting for screen, radio and stage, podcasts).

THEME 1: Peatland and Bogs.

LOCATION 2: Camel Estuary, Cornwall (x1 Commission).

ARTFORM 2: Visual/Performance (all forms of visual and performing arts, including 2D/3D, moving image, installation, durational, music, dance, theatre).

THEME 2: River, Catchment and Estuary.

[Find out more and apply here](#)

Barnstaple Town Centre Public Art Commission | Deadline: Mon, 18 Nov, 5pm

Are you an artist who is passionate about making public art that engages with local heritage, addresses modern needs, and is valued by the community and its visitors? Flourishing Barnstaple is seeking accomplished public realm artists to create iconic works for Barnstaple town centre.

The total budget for all the commissions is £200,000, to be divided between the selected works. This could involve a single large commission or several smaller ones - please come up with your best ideas.

We welcome applications from artists at all stages of their careers, including students and recent graduates.

[Apply here](#)

Libraries Unlimited - Cultural Credit Scheme | Deadline: Fri 25 Oct

Libraries Unlimited are looking for innovative artists working across all disciplines to work with our libraries during our creative programme which will run from April 2025 – March 2026. This programme will offer unique, high quality, thought-provoking workshops, performances, and creative discussion panels, events and activities to library communities.

[Find out more here](#)

**ART
OPPORTUNITIES**

PERFORMANCE OPPORTUNITIES

BEAM - Pitching slots in Exeter | Wed 30 Oct

BEAM is the largest showcase of new musical theatre in the UK. This is a biannual event held at Birmingham Hippodrome on 15th and 16th May 2025. Before the showcase, we hit the road and travel across the UK for the BEAM pitching days to meet hundreds of artists with ideas for a new musical. There is a pitching day in Exeter on October 30th and bookings are now open to pitch your show to be considered in the showcase.

These pitching slots are completely open access and free! You will get ten minutes to pitch your musical idea to a panel of industry guests. If selected, your musical will be alongside other emerging talent at one of the respected showcases in the country.

[Book your slot here](#)

Literature Works - TLC Free Reads | Deadline: Sun 01 Dec

Literature Works are offering low-income writers in the South West the opportunity to get free professional, constructive feedback on their writing via The Literary Consultancy, the UK's leading editorial consultancy. The scheme is open to writers across all forms and genres and is a brilliant opportunity to progress with your writing.

[Apply here](#)

TAKE PART IN THE DEAD POETS SLAM | Deadline: Mon 14 Oct



Ever wanted to see Bukowski, Byron, Plath & Poe going head to head and toe to toe? Well now's your chance! Six famous poets will rise from the dead, brought to life by six contemporary artists for one night only! They'll battle it out in a chance to win everlasting life, plus a cash prize of £100. Using a mixture of their own poetry, the work of their alias, and some stuff they make up on the night. Expect punches, pithy remarks and pure fire, in the ultimate graveyard smash.

Want to take part?

To apply, and for the full list of rules, email Spork! On

sporkpoetry@gmail.com.

Just let us know:

- Where you're based
- Who you'd like to play, and why
- A couple of sentences about yourself & any previous experience

The competitors will be announced on Thursday 24th October



Networking



- [Playwrights Cafe Exeter](#) | First Thursday of the month | Exeter Phoenix | £6 OTD
- [Sketchbook Sessions](#) | Tues 15 Oct, 5.30pm – 8pm | Sacred Grounds Cafe

Professional Development

- [Elevate Festival](#) | 14 - 19 Oct | Exeter Northcott (Barnfield Theatre)
- [DOCLAB - Development Lab](#) | Wed 23 Oct, 7pm - 9pm | Exeter Phoenix
- [Little Scratch Night](#) | Wed 23 Oct, 5.30pm – 7.30pm | Exeter Phoenix
- [Legal issues - protecting yourself and your work](#) | Wed 06 Nov | 3pm - 5pm | Exeter Phoenix
- Physical Theatre & Dance Exploration with South West Dance Hub | Tuesdays, 3.30pm - 5pm | [Find out more](#)

Have a piece of creative news or an opportunity you'd like to be shared? Send us a message on the [Creative Hub Facebook page](#) and we'll include what we can in future editions.

Recommended Events

- [Bloomberg New Contemporaries 2024](#) | 28 Sep - 07 Dec | KARST, The Levinsky Gallery and MIRROR (Plymouth)
- [Scratch Night](#) | Mon 14 Oct, 7.30pm | Exeter Phoenix
- [Exeter Contemporary Open exhibition tour](#) | Sat 19 Oct, 1.30pm | Exeter Phoenix



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BRADNINCH PLACE, GANDY STREET, EXETER, EX4 3LS01392 667080EXETERPHOENIX.ORG.UK