

PROCESS



“Intense, emotional - it pushed me but in the best way. I’m excited!”

“Powerful, insightful, emotional”

“I’ve connected with my identity more, through being in a room full of people ‘who get it’ and get me.”

Common Wealth workshop participants



Supported using public funding by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**



SHARING OUR PROCESS

Working with people and sharing our practice is at the heart of what we do.

Common Wealth endeavours to show that being an artist, making something, is central to us all, it's part of being human – being inventive, responsive, building, making, playing. Our workshops can last 1 hour or 12 days. Whatever the workshop length we have, the same essentials are at the core; working with our instincts and creating something from nothing.



We're open to lots of ways of working - from developing a 3-day residential with survivors of domestic abuse to making a site-specific play in 5 days with a cast of 25, to running workshops for artists and facilitators. We enjoy looking at different ways we can develop, learn and share our process as a company.

We love a provocation and are open to receiving new offers of things to explore, shape and create. Where possible we like to work as a company to facilitate, which means workshops can include electronic music, visual design and writing.



MAKING IT HAPPEN

- + AVAILABLE - from 2021.
- + PARTICIPANTS - up to 35.
- + DEVELOPMENT TIME - from 1 day to 4 weeks. We are open to longer processes depending on project needs.
- + CREATIVE TEAM - usually 2 to 3 people (artistic directors and other collaborators as required).
- + SPACE - we can work in any space, but we have a particular interest in responding to buildings and working site-specifically.
- + AGE GUIDANCE - suitable for all ages.
- + LANGUAGE - English or can be facilitated in a local language if translation is provided.

PREVIOUS PROCESS LED PROJECTS

TAKE YOUR PLACE

Take Your Place was a 3 week residency exchange in 2017 working with Albany Park Theatre, a youth theatre based in Chicago. We shared our practice, built techniques and approaches to creative intervention in public space, treasure hunts, and guided creative walks. The residency finished with a shared performance for an invited audience.

RADICAL ACTS TOOLKIT

Radical Acts can be 3 hours, 3 days or 3 weeks. This workshop brings together groups of people to look at the needs we have and the radical actions we can take to instigate change in our communities in creative ways.

CO-CREATION WORKSHOP

A practical workshop exploring how we lay the foundations for powerful, active, co-creation. Sharing unique starting points from Common Wealth's practice, celebrating lived experience, agency and how we discover our shared wealth. We delivered this workshop at the Co Creating Change Network gathering in Arncliffe and as part of an artist development programme Stage Directions for the Lowry. This workshop is 1-3 hours long and could be shared as co-creation training for artists or the voluntary sector, or as part of an away day for organisations.

ALL THE THINGS YOU EVER WANTED TO SAY

A 3 day workshop for survivors of domestic abuse working through 3 questions: all the things you've ever wanted to say to yourself: to your partner/ex-partner: to your future. We first delivered this workshop as a residential in Devon with charity Imalya. 12 mums and their children stayed for 3 days. During the daytime we would host theatre workshops whilst the children were looked after. In the evenings we would cook, make fires, sing and burn things together.

HOLD YOUR OWN

A two day self-development workshop for women exploring who we are, where we're from and what we'd like for our futures. Working as a group we discover ways of talking about the things that matter to our communities, to us and how we can reimagine the futures that we want. We work with theatre exercises that unlock our voices, bodies and confidence. The course has a strong focus on self and explores the importance of owning who we are, what we've got to say about the world and the importance of taking care of ourselves.



ALL OUT

Common Wealth worked with 50 people from across 5 community departments at Leicester Curve to create a site-specific play in 5 days. It was staged on multiple levels of the neighbouring NCP car park. The piece was devised with the groups and explored Leicester's recent surprise Premier League football win and what this meant for the city and its people.

[Find out more](#)

PRESS

“All the world’s a stage. And these women are radically changing that world...”

Kate Tempest, The Observer

<https://www.theguardian.com/music/2018/sep/02/common-wealth-bradford-political-theatre-women-anti-elite>

“Power has to be grasped’: British theatre is battling its class problem”

The Guardian

<https://www.theguardian.com/stage/2018/mar/13/british-theatre-class-problem>



COMPANY BACKGROUND

Common Wealth make site-specific theatre events that encompass electronic sound, new writing, visual design and verbatim. Our work is political and contemporary – based in the present day – the here and now. We make work that is relevant and addresses the concerns of our times.

We seek out places to stage our work that are right in a community; a residential house, a boxing gym, places where people who might not go to the theatre might come to instead. Our ideas are rooted in socialist politics, working class backgrounds, a keen interest in contemporary music/theatre/art/design, the people that we meet and an idealistic ambition to shift things. We see our plays as campaigns, as a way of bringing people together and making change feel possible.

GET IN TOUCH

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