

RADICAL ACTS

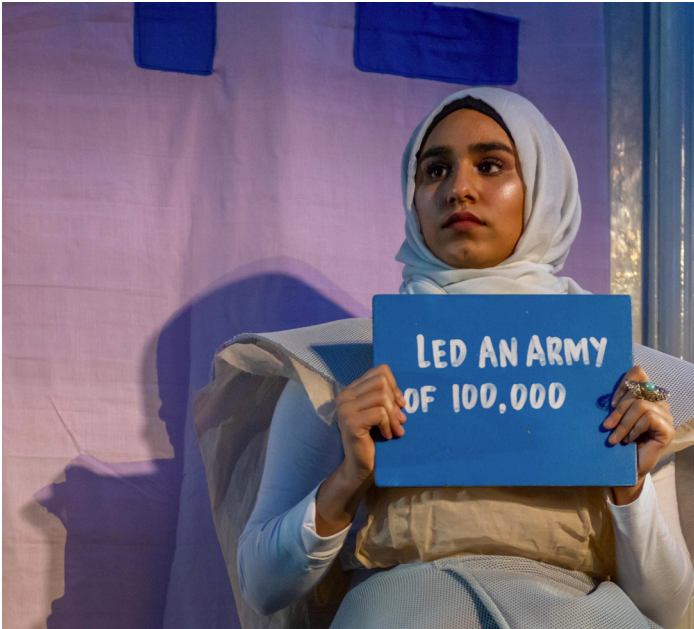


"All the world's a stage.
And these women are radically changing that world..."
Kate Tempest, *The Observer*



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**ARTS COUNCIL
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“TO MAKE THIS WORLD
A BETTER PLACE,
IT TAKES A LOT OF
STRONG WOMEN WITH
STRONG VOICES TO MAKE
A STRONG CHANGE.”

Audience member

Radical Acts is a celebration of the disobedient action women have taken to make change happen throughout history and in the present day. At the heart of it is the question:

WHAT RADICAL ACTION DO WOMEN AND GIRLS NEED TO MAKE TODAY?

Intimate, transformative and fantastical, **Radical Acts** asks us to come together to be honest, open and brave. It celebrates what has come before and asks what we can do now to make change happen.

Performed by 10 women of many experiences, the show is an encounter, a galvanising of people, an installation, an action. Staged with the audience and performers seated together around tables, a set of rituals evoke the past and allow us to imagine a future together.

Come to share, come to laugh, come to dance, come to sing, come for a good night out and then go away and make some more radical acts of your own.

VIDEO

TRAILER: <https://youtu.be/dFvCfEjuUIY>

PRESS

“A work that defies genre. Spoken word, movement, music in English and Arabic all have a role. It’s an installation and it’s a community action... **Radical Acts** is not the kind of event where a viewer can sit quietly at the back. It’s an action, not a performance.”

★★★★★ Culture Vulture

“Common Wealth know how to make communities ... there’s a certain openness, a certain generosity, that reaches outward to the audience.”

Catherine Love, Exeunt

“Encourages individuals to consider their own worth and power to create change, both within themselves and on a community or global scale.”

★★★★★ Susan Darlington, Morning Star



MAKING IT HAPPEN

Radical Acts is recreated anew in each location by close collaboration between the host, Common Wealth and local people.

- + **AVAILABLE** - from 2021
- + **PERFORMERS** - 2 existing performers plus 10-30 cast locally: women who are new to performance. Common Wealth can share appropriate casting pack.
- + **PERFORMANCES** - up to 8.
- + **TOURING** - 7 people. 2 performers, 2 artistic directors, production manager, designer, collaborator/chef.
- + **WORKSHOPS AND TALKS** - available on request.
- + **PERFORMANCE SPACE** - 18m x 16m. Ideally a space that has traditionally been a 'male' space. This could be a City/Town Hall space, a Members Club or other space with local significance. Can also be performed in a theatre or other non-performance space, a community centre, etc.
- + **ACCESS TO A KITCHEN** - to prepare food for rehearsals and performance.
- + **SHOW DESIGN** - 1 week build and installation, including bespoke elements.
- + **REHEARSALS** - 3 weeks rehearsal (to be designed around needs of the cast).
- + **RUNNING TIME** - 1 hour approx, with 30 min post show discussion (if required).
- + **AGE GUIDANCE** - suitable for all ages.
- + **LANGUAGE** - English with BSL incorporated into the action. It can be performed in a local language if translation is provided and local performers recruited to core creative team.
- + **SURTITLES** - available.

PROCESS

Bringing Radical Acts to a new place involves a collaboration between Common Wealth and the host organisation lasting a least 3 months. Culminating in a 3 week residency, up to 8 performances take place in the final week.

The process begins with a visit by artistic director Evie Manning or Rhiannon White along with a production manager to establish the project framework, casting process and the suitability of the performance space. The host will provide the project with a locally-based Project Coordinator, responsible for recruitment of local performers.

To help recruit performers in the initial run we hosted **Radical Snacks**, a series of workshops bringing women together to share food, experiences and take part in confidence-building exercises. Although not essential, Common Wealth would support the design and delivery of **Radical Snacks** if desired.

We tour with artistic collaborator and Indian vegan chef Sonia Sandhu. Sonia has a deep understanding of Radical Acts and will cook meals for rehearsals and performances. She is open to collaborating with a local chef.

SHOW BIBLIOGRAPHY

Radical Acts was first performed at the Bradford Club in September 2018. It was supported by 3 other performance interventions (radical acts).

The Wedding of the Year – July 2018.

A mass wedding in the Banqueting Suite, Bradford City Hall where 38 women married themselves.

Mums Work Hard on the Train/ End the Benefit Cap – August 2018.

Hope Rising Action Group sang their own version of Food Glorious Food a busy commuter train from Leeds to London to raise awareness of hunger over the school holidays.

Peaceophobia – September 2018

A car rally to protest against the rise of islamophobia across the world and more locally the racial profiling of drivers in Bradford.

Common Wealth are very open to devising new performance interventions in public space with the host company in addition to the show itself.



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

Evie Manning	Artistic Director
Rhiannon White	Artistic Director
Camilla Brueton	Producer

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