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# PAYDAY PARTY

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AVAILABLE FOR TOURING FROM OCTOBER 2022



## ABOUT THE SHOW

Payday Party is an immersive performance where you the audience join the party.

Six performers share their real-life stories about what it means to be a working-class artist today. Payday Party directly addresses the issues of our times. The production tackles racism, elitism, class and representation, the cost of living crisis and the effects of austerity.

Payday Party is part of the This is Wales in Edinburgh showcase supported by Wales Arts International and Arts Council of Wales.

This show can be toured in two ways:

- As performed in Edinburgh with the current Welsh cast
- Remaking the show with local performers, led by Common Wealth and Darren Pritchard with a local production team

## AUDIENCE RESPONSE

*"I could relate to all of the stories. From being a single parent, classism in education and low income. The level of talent surprised me. [As a result] I will sing more and maybe look to join a theatre group myself!"*

*"I can't think of anyone who I know who I wouldn't take along with me to watch that who would not enjoy it like, it's an eye opener as well innit. Stuart, love him, when he was telling his story, I wanted to run up to him and give him a hug.... I can't wait to hear about the next show and I can't wait to come"*

## PRESS

*"...explosive, techno-soundtracked assault on the military machine"*

★★★★ The Guardian on Common Wealth's I Have Met the Enemy (and the Enemy Is Us)

*"Fierce and Fabulous"*

★★★★★ The Stage on Darren Pritchard's Rent Party

# PAYDAY PARTY

## CONTEXT

This project was derived from an original show, 'Rent Party', co-written by Cheryl Martin and Darren Pritchard, produced by Jayne Compton, dramaturged by Sonia Hughes, commissioned by Homotopia, and supported through Javaad Alipoor as part of his Changemaker stint at Sheffield Crucible.

'Rent Party' was toured by the Moving Roots Touring Network a collective of arts organisations from across the UK: The Old Courts, Jumped Up Theatre, Common Wealth and Restoke and is supported by Battersea Arts Centre (London). Darren Pritchard worked with each partner to remake the show with local casts in Wigan, Peterborough, Medway (Lyric Arts) and Cardiff.

It has been refreshed and updated with the Welsh cast, Darren Pritchard and Common Wealth to become Payday Party for Edinburgh Fringe 2022.

## PAYDAY PARTY - THE SHOW

Food prices up. Fuel prices up. Water bills up.  
National Insurance up.

In a cost of living crisis, what do you do to survive? Eat, heat? Or throw a Payday Party!!

Six artists share their real-life stories and talents in the hope of getting paid by you, the audience. Payday Party is the most glamorous legal political party you will go to.

Song, dance, rap, spoken word and live music are thrown into the cauldron of despair to cook up a survival cake Marie Antoinette would be proud of.

## THE COMPANY

**Director** - Darren Pritchard

**Producer & Tour Manager** - Common Wealth

**Assistant Director & Show Host** - Stuart Bowden

**Performers** - Yasmin Goulden, Cat Razell, Jude Thoburn Price, Darnell Williams, Emilie Parry Williams

**Production Manager & Lighting** - Ethan Hudson





## **BOOKING INFORMATION - option 1**

*As performed in Edinburgh with the current Welsh cast*

**Availability:** From Winter 2022

### **TECH SPEC AND PRODUCTION INFO**

**Venue:** Anywhere, non-theatre spaces encouraged.

**Layout:** Show must be in thrust, not end on. Cabaret tables and flexible seating is encouraged.

**Technical:** Specific details will be discussed with individual venues. We operate lighting & sound from a control position off stage. We require sufficient 13 amp sockets at this position for control and sound. Full tech riders available on request.

**Get in:** 2 days (with first show on the second)

**Get out:** 2 hours, depending on access

**Running time:** 60 minutes, with option of a DJ set afterward

**Audience capacity:** From 30 – 150 (depending on the size of space)

**Age Guidance:** Recommended 16+

### **TOURING COMPANY**

1 x Director

1 x Assistant Director & Show Host

1 x Producer/ Company Manager

5 x Performers

1 x Production Manager

1 x Re-lighter (for the get- in periods)

[Watch the trailer](#)

# BOOKING INFORMATION - option 2

*Remaking the show with local performers*

This outlines the process of re-making Payday Party for a new place, led by Common Wealth and Darren Pritchard. The original Payday Party will serve as a blueprint, touring with the Creative Team and recreated with a Local Company. This is a more environmentally sustainable way to tour and builds on the cultural ecology of a place.

**Availability:** From Spring 2023

## THIS PROCESS WILL:

- Employ local working class artists and technicians
- Practice excellence in care of participants
- Include stories that are relevant to issues people are facing in your place
- Make sure local people can access and feel at home in the venue
- Make sure all activity is accessible
- Be receptive to new ways of rehearsing and presenting work, around people's lives, responsibilities and schedules
- Make sure schedules and contracts work around how freelancers work
- Practice a grassroots process for a professional show
- Make sure everyone is paid properly and generously
- Make sure the role of Community Producer is integral to this project, that they are embedded in the local arts community, hands on and flexible



## MAKING THE SHOW

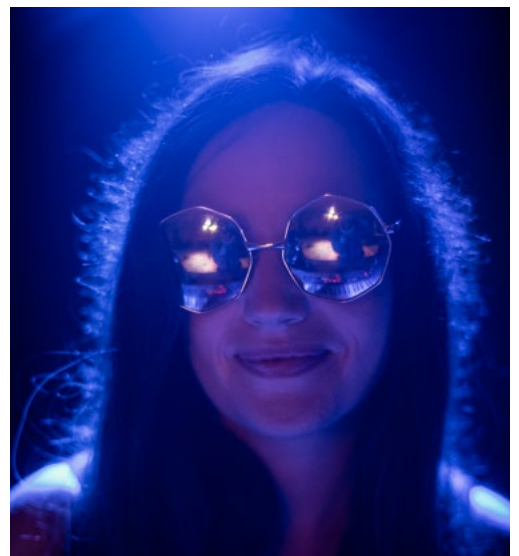
- Common Wealth will deliver a two-day workshop exploring practice & co-creation methodologies for the host partners and their community
- Common Wealth will mentor partners on approach to casting, co-creation and audience development
- Community Producer will lead on the process of casting local artists
- Shortlist of artists selected by Community Producer and Darren Pritchard
- 2 x 1-to-1 Zoom sessions with each selected artist and Darren and/or Assistant Director
- 1.5 weeks of rehearsals in person
- 1 day technical fit up (depending on venue)
- Show runs for 4-10 days
- Creative reflection day led by Common Wealth

## TOURING CREATIVE TEAM

**Director** - Darren Pritchard  
**Producer & Co-creator/ Process Lead** - Common Wealth  
**Assistant Director & Show Host** - Stuart Bowden

## LOCAL COMPANY

1 x Community Producer  
5 x Performers  
1 x Musical Director  
1 x Lighting Designer  
1 x Production Manager





## WANT TO KNOW MORE?

Contact Common Wealth for information about the show, process, budget and to check availability.

Email: [info@commonwealththeatre.co.uk](mailto:info@commonwealththeatre.co.uk)

Phone: +44 7895 030 922

Contact Darren Pritchard (Director) for information about the show.

Email: [houseofghetto@gmail.com](mailto:houseofghetto@gmail.com)

## MORE ABOUT US

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 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 – we aim to make theatre for people who don't usually think it's for them, we're bored of theatre being for the middle classes and those that can afford it. We see our plays as campaigns, as a way of bringing people together and making change feel possible. [www.commonwealththeatre.co.uk](http://www.commonwealththeatre.co.uk)

  [Common\\_WealthHQ](#)  [CommonWealthTheatreCo](#)

Darren Pritchard a native Mancunian, currently is a director, producer, choreographer and Vogue House Mother. Darren has 20 years of experience in the fashion, theatre, TV and performing arts industries. Darren trained at the Northern School of Contemporary Dance before going onto dance with Wayne Mcgregor's Random Dance company. He has choreographed for Spice Girl Mel C, opened for Janelle Monae with his group Ghetto Fabulous, danced and provided performers for Defected Record's Glitterbox as well as choreography for BBC and CBBC.



Cyngor Celfyddydau Cymru  
Arts Council of Wales



**MOVING ROOTS**



**ARIENNIR GAN  
Y LOTERI  
LOTTERY FUNDED** 

**CHAPTER**

 wales arts international  
celfyddydau rhyngwladol cymru

