New Diorama Theatre

ARTIST DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME 2016

www.newdiorama.com

Welcome

In 2015 New Diorama celebrated its fifth birthday.

We are marking this significant milestone by announcing our new Artist Development Programme: a host of opportunities and unique strands of support for theatre companies, that **aren't on offer anywhere else in the UK**.

New Diorama's 2015 Artist Development Programme is the culmination of everything we've learned in the last five years, and provides support to a wide range of groups: from brand new theatre companies who we've never worked with before, to groups New Diorama are already supporting, through to other organisations and theatres wanting to strengthen their own offer to emerging artists.

New Diorama has commissioned Eleanor Turney to deliver and publish a report later in 2016 investigating the impact of this new, daring scheme on the early career theatre companies we support.

We're publishing this document to encourage debate around the work we do, to find new partners for the programme from around the UK and to let our audiences know how work reaches the stage here at NDT.

I can't wait to hear your thoughts and feedback,

David By

David Byrne,
Artistic & Executive Director,
New Diorama Theatre, NW1
david@newdiorama.com / @mrdavebyrne

EVERY YEAR AT NEW DIORAMA WE...







in subsidy, support

& schemes for artists









FOR THEATRE COMPANIES WE HAVE NOT WORKED WITH BEFORE....

NSDF PICKLES FUND

With tuition fees and student loans at an all time high, many student theatre-makers from disadvantaged backgrounds are unable to access the platforms and opportunities crucial to showcasing their work and skills, and which are vital if they are to secure a future for their talents outside education.

Partnering with universities across the country, New Diorama will provide the funds for up to six talented student theatre companies each year to enter National Student Drama Festival.

In 2016/17, New Diorama will partner with Hull University, as well as Central School of Speech and Drama and East 15. The NSDF Pickles Fund, renewed each year, will provide each chosen group with the £98 entry fee for the festival and, if a supported group is selected, will source additional funds to help the company present their show at the Festival, which takes place each year in Scarborough. This is the only grant of this kind available to students in the UK.

CASE STUDY: Pub Corner Poets



Having seen their work, we provided National Student Drama Festival entry funds (£98) for Hull University company Pub Corner Poets in 2014.



Their show was seen by an NSDF selector and successfully chosen for the festival. But Pub Corner Poets couldn't afford to take their show to Scarborough.

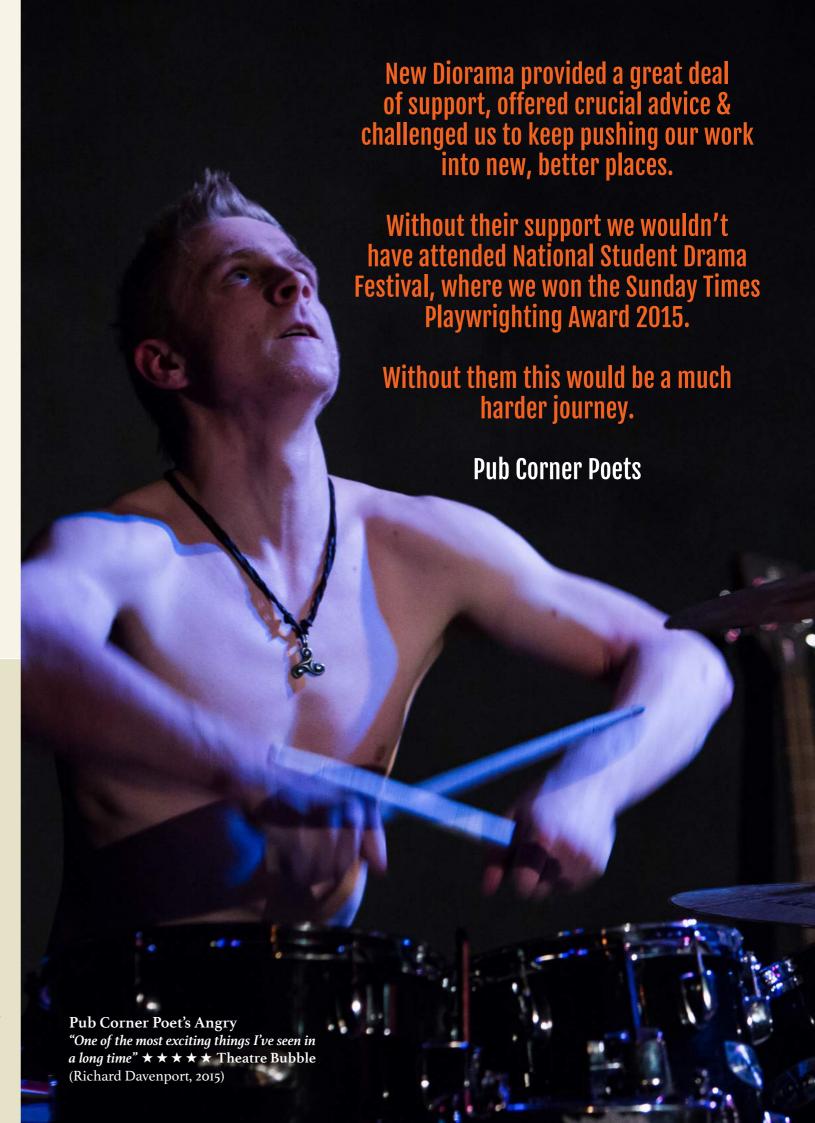


£800

We provided half of the needed funds (£400) and contacted our friends at the New Wolsey Theatre in Ipswich, who agreed to match-fund the last £400.



At NSDF, they won the prestigious Sunday Playwrighting Award & were offered an Edfringe run, where they recieved a Total Theatre Award nomination, later transferring to New Diorama.



GRADUATE COMPANIES PROGRAMME

Many talented theatre companies graduate from university each year without any contacts in the theatre industry or without the skillset and knowledge of how to make the difficult transition between education and working professionally.

New Diorama, working with HIIVE, will provide places on our Graduate Companies Programme for up to six promising young companies every year. Eligible companies will have graduated within the past two years.

The programme introduces these early-career theatre companies to industry professionals, while equipping them with the tools each need to continue making theatre. As well as attending talks on a wide variety of subjects, including funding, approaching venues, producing etc, the programme gives each company showcase performance dates at New Diorama completely free of charge, allowing the company to retain 100% of the box office as an investment into their work.

HOW IT WORKS...

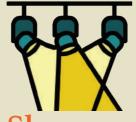


Graduates

New Diorama invite applications from promising graduate theatre companies from all over the UK, applying via a simple online form.



Working with industry experts & other artists, each group learn the skills needed to continue making work outside education.



Each of the groups have a performance at New Diorama & 100% of their box office takings to invest back into their work.



Once the course is complete, groups can use the knowledge they've learned and their new contacts to take their work forward.



TWO NIGHT STANDS

Even the most talented theatre companies working around the UK find it impossible to showcase their work in London. With a financial model incompatible with regional theatre, performing in the capital is becoming out of reach for a whole generation of theatre-makers.

Our Two Night Stand scheme allows the best regional theatre companies to perform at New Diorama, completely free of charge while also taking away 100% of the box office, as an investment into their future work.

As well as the theatre and two consecutive performance slots, New Diorama provides technical and marketing support, completely free of charge. Companies find that performing in central London is a unique opportunity to showcase their work to new audiences, potential programmers, funders, producers and press who otherwise would not get the chance to see their work.

One of the only o/100% box office deals in the entire country, companies who take part in this scheme regularly make close to £1,500 over the two performances – which is often the largest single investment each young company has received.

These opportunities are particularly focused towards groups based in areas of the UK with few or no opportunities for developing artists.

CASE STUDY: BREACH THEATRE



Two Nights

Warwick company Breach performed their Total Theatre awardwinning show The Beanfield as part of the Two Night Stand programme.



Audiences

The Beanfield sold out both performances very quickly and played to packed houses at New Diorama.



£1,350

Breach Theatre recieved 100% of their box office takings, just over £1,350 from the two performances.



Impact

Working with New Diorama, Breach used this investment to leverage their first successful Arts Council grant to tour The Beanfield nationally.



INCOMING FESTIVAI

With festivals like Edinburgh getting more expensive year-on-year, there are few affordable opportunities for early-career theatre companies, from around the UK, to come together, en masse, to share work and audiences.

Partnering with A Younger Theatre, New Diorama annually hosts INCOMING Festival, a ten day celebration that sees over 20 early-career theatre companies performing in London, some for the first time, to sold-out audiences.

INCOMING Festival is great for theatre companies, with each receiving a fee of over £400 and half of their box office takings, as well as being excellent for new audiences, with all tickets priced at only £5. The festival has proved great at attracting new, hard-to-reach, audiences for theatre. In 2015, with the majority of productions selling-out, over 70% of those who attended each show had never seen work by those artists before.

In order to be programmed as part of INCOMING Festival, companies need to invite either New Diorama or A Younger Theatre to see their work.

Companies who do not currently have a relationship with New Diorama, after being introduced to us through INCOMING, have gone on to feed into our main programme and schemes of support.

HOW INCOMING FESTIVAL HELPS BUILD...



Companies

Each invited theatre company recieves a set £450 fee and 50% of their box office takings. They also get a chance to meet and see the work of other theatre companies.



Tickets are just £5 so audiences can take risks on new work. In 2015, most

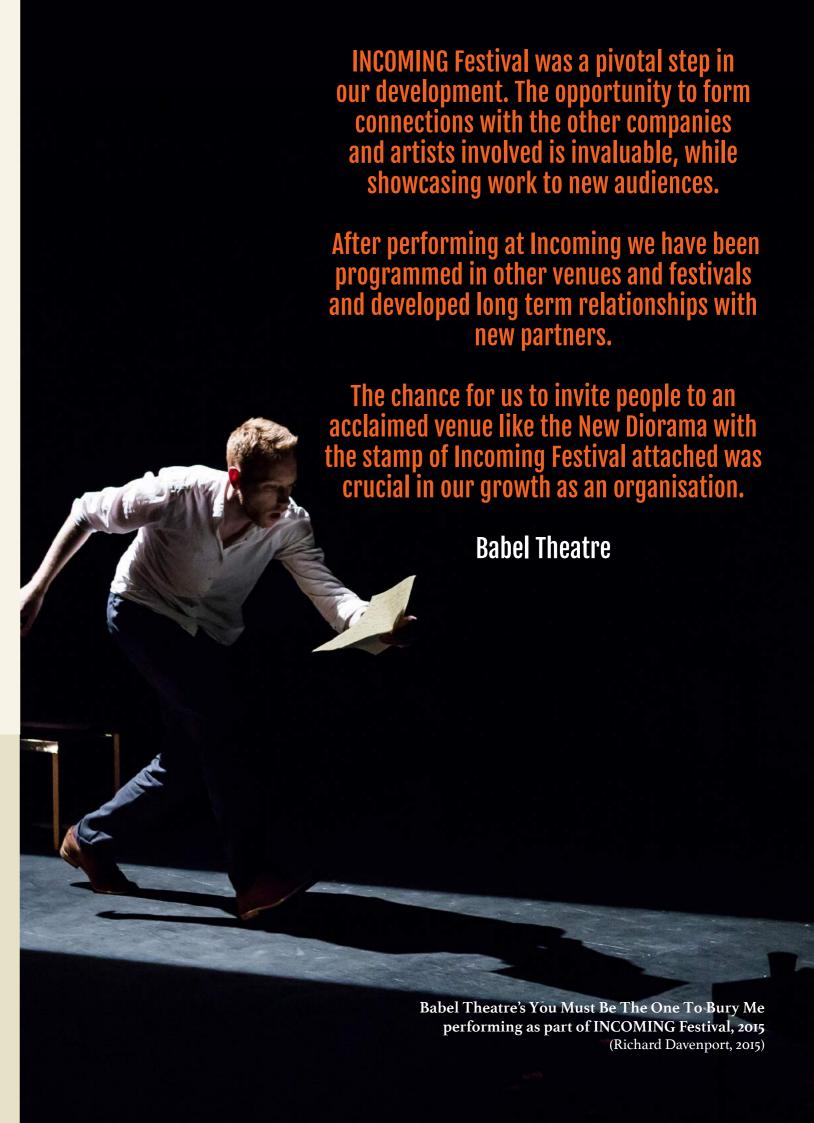
shows sold out & 70% of audiences members had never seen work from those groups before.



Not artists iust programmed into the festival benefit. Every Awards. Annually, three day there are a series companies are shortlisted of free practical and for the Peter Brook adminstative workshops Festival Award. The for artists to partake in.



INCOMING is partnered with the Peter Brook winner recieves a £1,000 prize.



BAMER COMPANIES PROJECT

There is a distinct lack of opportunities for BAMER artists in the UK today, and even fewer for BAME-led theatre companies who want to make and present new work

New Diorama's BAMER Project will provide free rehearsal and development space for Black, Asian, Ethnic Minority and Refugee led theatre companies for up to 30 weeks a year.

Working with new artists, there will be an open application process – making it easy and as quick as possible to access the free space.

HOW IT WORKS...



This project is directly targeting Black, Asian & Minority Ethnic theatre companies who want to develop and create new work in London, but don't have the resources to afford spcae.



Application

New Diorama have a simple form on our website with deadlines every few months. We review all the applications from groups, with preference given to those with no support elsewhere.



Space

Each year we will give up to 30 weeks of totally free rehearsal and development space for companies who apply through this scheme.





FOR THEATRE COMPANIES **WE HAVE A** RELATIONSHIP WITH...

EMERGING COMPANIES PROGRAMME

Many theatre companies who have initial artistic success then struggle with how to cultivate their work so they can keep making theatre in the long-term. Many universities and drama schools do not teach the nuts and bolts of running a company, which are much needed to secure their theatremaking for a long term, sustainable future.

Each year New Diorama work with six theatre companies who have shown exceptional artistic promise and take them on a crash course, teaching them all the entrepreneurial and organisational skills needed to run a successful company.

Each session is led by industry experts and augmented with speakers from successful early-career artists in order to give a balanced view — from the high level ideas to the day-to-day practical realities. This programme provides each with knowledge and skills that will stay with each artist for their whole career, while helping grow their contact book — growing a network that will benefit them long after the scheme has ended. In 2014 this popular scheme recieved over 400 applications.

HOW IT WORKS...



Theatre companies from across the UK apply to New Diorama - with travel grants provided, if needed.



The chosen companies attend intensive sessions on everything from fundraising to touring, producing through to registering as a charity.



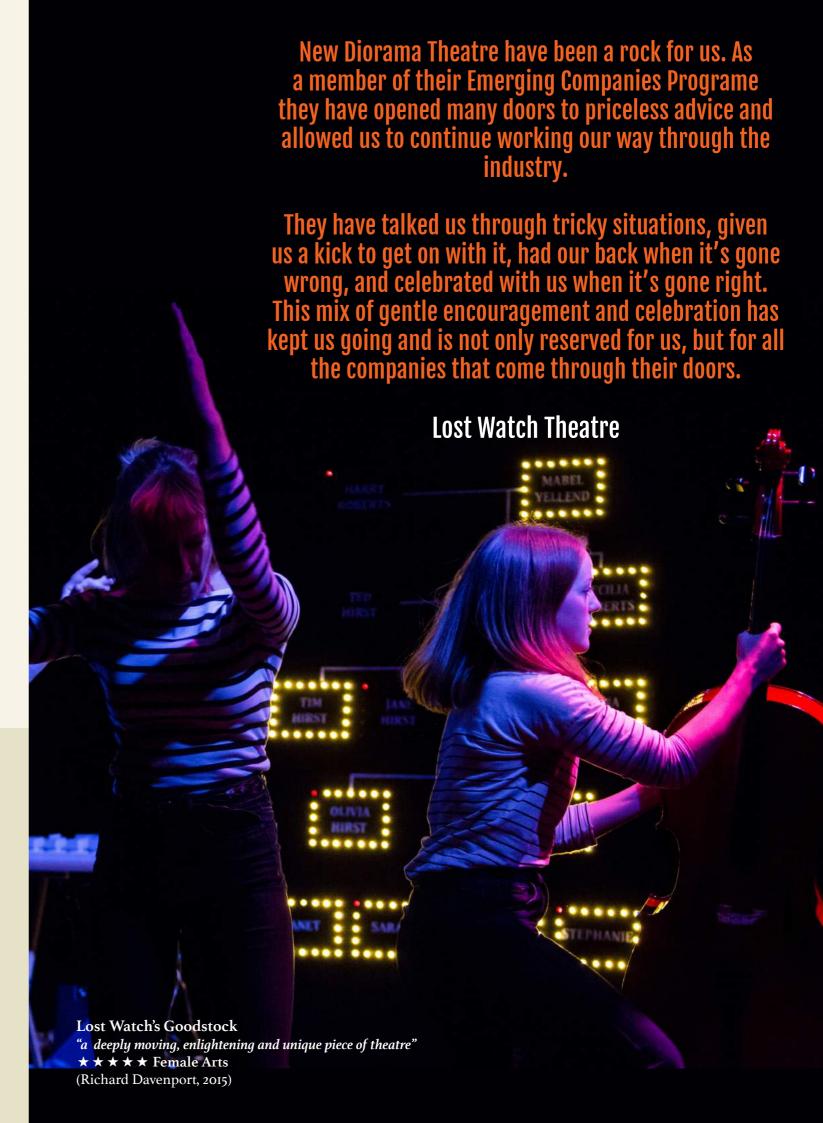
Showcase

Each of the six theatre companies also get performance opportunities at New Diorama, for which they receive £200 and 100% of their box office takings.



Contacts

Groups then use the knowledge they've learned and their new contacts to take their work forward. Groups are often prorgrammed at New Diorama.



GIFTED WEEKS

Theatre companies based in London and across the UK who want to take the step towards a longer run in London, are often unable to do so because of the crippling theatre rents in the capital. At the beginning of their careers, these theatre companies are unable to take the risk and miss out on the vital opportunities that performing in London can provide.

Each season, New Diorama identify two of the best companies we are working with and provide each with one Gifted Week. During a Gifted Week, the chosen company can use the theatre for performances and rehearsals for new work completely free of charge.

Each company also receive 100% of the box office from their week of performances, as well as free press support (from Borkowski Ents and PR), technical support and marketing help.

The result is that companies can develop brand new ideas in a central London location, making potentially thousands of pounds from box office sales to invest back into their work.

CASE STUDY: Rhum & Clay



Location

Rhum & Clay perform across the UK with their highly-physical, captivating theatre but can rarely afford to make and develop work in London.



Space

By providing a week of rehearsal and technical space for free, worth close to £1,000, they are able to develop work and try out new technical ideas.



Audiences

Every evening, Rhum & Clay showed their developing show to paying audiences and took 100% of the box office takings, which was thousands of pounds.



Impact

Their show, 64 Squares, went on the receive support from Arts Council England, tour the country to sold out audiences, and returned to New Diorama for a full performance run the next season.



CASH FLOW FUND

Since opening, New Diorama has seen, time and again, talented groups presented with opportunities that they are unable to take advantage of because of a temporary lack of funds; common in any new company early in their career. Whether the opportunity is presenting work at a festival or touring nationally, when the income from a project is only available after the expenditure has taken place, so many companies are forced to turn down career-changing opportunities.

New Diorama is pioneering a new fund especially to help NDT supported companies overcome these short-term hurdles. Our Cash-Flow Fund, the only fund of it's type available to early-career theatre companies, will see New Diorama lend funds of up to £4,000, interest free, to groups, guaranteed against later income.

This fund has already helped companies take smash-hit shows to the Edinburgh Festival Fringe, tour to venues where performance guarantees are provided after actor salaries need to be met, and has bridged the gap when funding is secured but provided after a project has been completed.

CASE STUDY: Kill The Beast



Opportunity

Kill The Beast were desperate to showcase their new production, He Had Hairy Hands, at the Edinburgh Fringe but needed £4,000 to finish the show, pay creatives, rent accommodation and put down a deposit on a a venue.



£4,000

New Diorama Theatre provided an interest-free cash-flow loan to cover these costs and were paid back from the festival box office takings later in that year.



Future Life

As a result of having performances as part of the Festival, Kill The Beast booked an eightweek UK-wide tour and recieved their first ever grant from the Arts Council.



Impact

The production went on to win the 2014 Peter Brook Festival Award and a Manchester Theatre Award. The production later completed a sell-out run at New Diorama in our main theatre programme.



FEMALE LEADERSHIP FUND

While the inequality gap between the genders is narrowing, there is still a pronounced lack of female Artistic and Executive Directors running theatres and companies across the UK.

Training and championing the major theatre companies of the future, New Diorama will address this imbalance by investing in female leadership amongst our supported companies. Providing the funds for female leaders of early-career theatre companies to develop and grow their leadership skills on courses such as Clore Leadership Programme's Emerging Leaders Course, we hope to make possible opportunities that otherwise would have been unaffordable or unattainable.

When Idle Motion Artistic Director Kate Stanley wanted to consolidate her leadership skills and thinking, she secured a place on the highly competitive Emerging Leadership course with Clore Leadership Programme. New Diorama lent funds to help Kate pay for the training. Seeing the difference the course made to Kate, one of our most promising directors, has inspired this strand of support.

HOW IT WORKS...



Opportunity

Three times a year New Diorama will advertise a deadline for female producers and artistic directors from our supported companies to apply.



Investment

We will review the applications & provide successful applicants with the funds required to undertake leadership training.



Impact

The renewed confidence and new leadership skills and thinking will help each successful applicant's theatre company, and their work, for years to come.



EUROPEAN THFATRE TRAVEL GRANTS

Europe creates the most vibrant, exciting and daring theatre in the world. However, so few earlycareer artists can afford the opportunity to visit our European counterparts to learn, gain inspiration and new ideas from the wealth of culture on offer over the Channel.

New Diorama is providing travel grants for theatre companies who would significantly benefit from travelling within Europe to see an international company who would not normally tour their work to the UK. New Diorama will buy travel, accommodation and tickets for NDT supported companies who can clearly demonstrate how such a trip would impact their work and practice in a deep and meaningful way.

As well as seeing work, New Diorama will attempt to set up meetings so that visiting companies can get a greater insight into how theatre is made and functions in the country and venues they visit.

HOW IT WORKS...



Application

New Diorama supported companies can apply three times a year for travel grants to see work in Europe essential for their development.



New Diorama's grant support will provide flights for selected company members and accommodation for the visit.



This travel grant will Where possible, New also cover the cost of the performance tickets required for the successful companies.



Diorama will broker meetings with the European venues, so companies can get insights into how they function and both create and present artistic work.

These invaluable introductions enabled us to learn the approaches and systems required to run a European-style ensemble, which has always been the vision for our company.

New Diorama then helped us to bring that knowledge back and to adapt what we had learned to our scale. The inspirational experience has revolutionised our practice, as individual practitioners, as an ensemble, and as an arts organisation.

It simply would not have been possible without the support and strategic leadership of New Diorama who are the only people I know who champion emerging ensembles in this way.



SAFETY NET FUND

In a difficult and deeply competitive funding climate, early-career theatre companies can struggle to secure funding for risky, adventurous work.

To ensure that the very best theatre companies we support are able to continue making their work, New Diorama has started the Safety Net Fund. This emergency find is there to support theatrically ambitious projects that are, for whatever reason, struggling to attract help from elsewhere. The companies supported will be making high quality work we have a strong belief in and need critical help to get their work onto the stage.

Working with a range of partners from across our sector, New Diorama have opened this fund with the generous support of arts and entertainment charter accounts **Breckman and Company**, our neighbours and rehearsal space providers **Diorama Arts Studios**, lighting and technical specialists **White Light** and through donations to our **NDT Supporters Scheme**. Each of our partners and donors, by supporting theatre-makers at the start of their careers, is investing the future of our industry.

New Diorama will fundraise for this scheme on an ongoing basis.



Breckman & Company www.breckmanandcompany.co.uk



Diorama Arts Studios www.diorama-arts.org.uk



White Light www.whitelight.ltd.uk



Friends of New Diorama www.newdiroama.com



UNIVERSAL BENEFITS

Studio theatres in London are getting more expensive year-on-year. With many spaces similar to New Diorama's now only available to artists who can afford rents in excess of £2,000 a week and theatres charging mandatory extras in order for groups to stage a production, such as press, marketing and technical support, groups are either unable to produce work in London or are bankrupting themselves in the attempt.

Through extensive fundraising New Diorama have found ways of investing funds to universally benefit all the artists presenting work at New Diorama.

ALL NEW DIORAMA SUPPORTED ARTISTS BENEFIT FROM...



70k Subsidy

New Diorama provide For shows that run one a 50%+ subsidy on our theatre space, over £70,000 a year. This means companies can afford to pay their actors, designers & creatives. They use our support and investment to leverage funds elsewhere. This subsidy means, by paying a small contribution, each group gets a more beneficial deal than a box office split, and this contribution can be taken from the final box office with no funds required upfront.



Marketing

week or more, we produce and distrubute a brochure with each show receiving a double page spread

We also provide AI posters to be displayed around the theatre, promotional digital newsletters and social media marketing for each show. All of this is completely free of charge for visiting companies.



We are partnered with Borkowski Ents and PR.

meet with their team, who write press releases and invite press to New Diorama provide performances on their behalf. This press and PR service is free of charge to all supported groups.



Access

Ensuring that audiences are able to attend work here at Each supported company New Diorama is really important to us.

> our supported theatre companies with captioning STAGETEXT access training. We also cover the cost of captioned performances, which take place throughout our main season, which regularly sell out thanks to our regular access audiences.





FOR OTHER THEATRES, VENUES AND ORGANISATIONS...

PARTNERING ON ARTIST DEVELOPMENT

New Diorama works with theatres and producers across the UK.

Working with each of our partner venues, we want to make sure that brilliant artists from all over the UK have the chance to access our ladder of support. Together we will share new ideas around artist development and provide a substantial, nationwide network to benefit our earlycareer artists.

New Diorama's 2016 Artist Development Partners Are:







































Fellswoop Theatre's Ablutions

★ ★ ★ ★ WhatsOnStage (Richard Davenport, 2015)

"This production shows life warts and all but with real humour"







unitytheatre



New Diorama's offer to emerging artists is a unique and clearly highly valued one, and a model of best practice in the industry.

Not only do they have their finger on the pulse when it comes to exciting and talented young / emerging artists, from London as well as further afield, but also their understanding, experience and reputation for high quality delivery of artist development work was extremely attractive to us.



EDUCATION & UNIVERSITY PARTNERS

Currently New Diorama work in partnership with Central School of Speech and Drama, East 15 and Hull University Drama Department. Through this, New Diorama visit student work twice a year, give career and CV advice to under-graduates and provide support and money through our Pickles NSDF fund.

We are looking to grow the number of university partnerships we have. If you would like your educational institution to partner with New Diorama, please get in touch.

New Diorama's Education Partners Already Include:

CENTRAL
SCHOOL
OF SPEECH & DRAMA
UNIVERSITY OF LONDON





New Diorama has played a vital part in the support of emerging artists graduating from my Central School of Speech and Drama course by programming bold and innovative devised work co-created by final year students and recent graduates.

New Diorama is uniquely positioned to develop innovative devised work and as such is a great partner to the way we train actors and theatre makers. It has been a fruitful relationship that I would recommend other schools and colleges to investigate.

Catherine Alexander, Complicite Associate Director



CONSULTING ON FUNDRAISING & ARTIST DEVELOPMENT

New Diorama's Artistic and Executive Director is regularly invited to talk to groups about our fundraising strategy, how we raise money for the work we do and how we build our Artist Development Strategy.

We also are willing to talk about the general challenges and hurdles we face running a small arts organisation in the current climate.

New Diorama has spoken and/or given consultancy for Clore Leadership Programme, Arts Marketing Association, Theatre Deli, Pleasance Theatres, Tobacco Factory Theatres and for Arts Council England's philanthropy partner Cause4 in London, Newcastle and the Midlands.



