

# DUETS

**An artist support initiative for pairs of artists from the creators of Show in a Bag**

**Building on ten years of successful partnership, Fishamble: The New Play Company, Irish Theatre Institute and Dublin Fringe Festival are joining forces again for the sophomore edition of DUETS, an artist development scheme that supports theatre makers in the creation of their own tourable productions.** This initiative is aimed at professional theatre makers from any discipline working in pairs to tell an undeniable story through the unique combination of their skillsets. DUETS provides a supportive framework in which artists can lead and create their own tour-ready show.

DUETS is an artist support initiative that champions singular stories told using the unique combination of skills of the two artists involved. The three partner organisations will provide support as the artists create a piece of tour-ready new work. Selected projects will receive dramaturgical mentorship from Fishamble's Gavin Kostick throughout the creation process. Dublin Fringe Festival will provide the supported platform for the work to premiere in Bewley's Café Theatre as part of Dublin Fringe Festival 2020. Irish Theatre Institute will offer producing mentoring and broker connections with programmers most suited to presenting the show in their venue/ festival. Each project will also receive an idea development bursary of €5500.

## WHO SHOULD APPLY

YOU! Every artist has a peer or colleague they are particularly inspired by. Are you a pair of would-be collaborators just dying to make a show together? Have you been dreaming of performing a duologue, riffing together and sketching an idea, waiting for the right moment? This is it! Fishamble, ITI and Fringe will offer support and mentorship as you develop and create your very own new work together.

We invite applications from pairs of artists who are compelled to create a unique performance that only they together could make. We are seeking joint applications from actors, designers, directors, playwrights— a creative duet of any configuration that is integral to the story they wish to tell. At least one of the applicants must be a performer. We encourage collaborations between experienced and early career artists. We encourage applications for projects that will feature two performers on stage. We are interested in new stories and new ideas – traditional adaptations of existing works are not eligible to apply.

The partners are committed to creating a diverse programme of work and we welcome applications from Ireland-based artists of all genders, nationalities, races, cultural backgrounds, ages, religions, languages, different abilities, sexual orientations, socioeconomic statuses or geographic regions. We welcome applications from projects in the Irish language.

Tá fáilte roimh aisteoirí iarratas a chuir isteach má tá suim agat dráma nua a dhéanamh. Má eiríonn le d'iarratas, tabharfaidh na comhpháirtithe DUETS tacaíocht duit dráma a dhéanamh trí mheán na Gaeilge.

## HOW IT WORKS

Two selected projects will originate and lead on their own production, presented as a premiere as part of Dublin Fringe Festival 2020. Each project will receive support through a combination of an idea development bursary of €5500, close mentorship and a supported presentation platform.

You will be in control – this is YOUR show. The initiative is aimed at artists working in pairs to self-produce a show, with the ambition to tour the work after its premiere. The two project originators will lead the creation process and deliver a show with the support, advice and resources from partner organisations. This commitment is integral to the scheme.

Selected applicants will be invited to work closely with Fishamble's Dramaturg Gavin Kostick to develop the project. A specific schedule and timeline will be created for each project, which will include access to FRINGE LAB and ITI facilities and meetings with mentors. You will be given a slot in the Dublin Fringe Festival schedule (a two-week run of shows at Bewleys Café Theatre) and invited to attend various workshops for programmed artists. A professional photographer will shoot an image for the Dublin Fringe Festival brochure and a professional videographer will also document your production.

Leading up to the presentation, Dublin Fringe Festival and Irish Theatre Institute will provide mentorship and guidance with regard to direction, budgeting and production plus advice on how to promote your show to presenters and negotiate contracts for future performances. Irish Theatre Institute will be working to make sure the national venue and festival presenters most suited to presenting your show will see it and meet you at the annual Irish Theatre Institute Information Toolbox networking event. Dublin Fringe Festival should only be the starting point in the life of your show. Previous works from both the DUETS and Show in a Bag schemes have enjoyed incredible touring success, earning remounts in Dublin, tours across Ireland and playing to audiences in Europe, North America and Australia.

The DUETS partners will support your individual artistic process. A sample timeline is outlined below:

<b>Feb/ March</b>	Interviews and selection for participation in Duets pilot scheme.
<b>April/ May</b>	A series of meetings with ITI about producing your show.
A week-long studio development week with playwright/ dramaturg Gavin Kostick to develop ideas and move the creation process forward.	
	Photoshoot and preparation of marketing materials.
<b>June/ July</b>	Attendance at workshops for programmed artists in Dublin Fringe Festival. Further production and script development meetings.
<b>August</b>	Rehearsals in ITI and FRINGE LAB. Presenters run of your show for all Duets partners with feedback.
<b>September</b>	Performances as part of Dublin Fringe Festival. Sep 5 – 20 2020. Information Toolbox networking session to secure touring opportunities.

## THE FINANCIAL DEAL

- Successful projects will each receive an idea development bursary of € 5,500.
- For performances in Dublin Fringe Festival, a guarantee will be provided against a box office split of 75 / 25 in favour of the artist.
- Additional in-kind supports for this pilot artist development scheme include: mentoring, rehearsal space, venue rental, dramaturgy, promotional photography and marketing and video recording valued at over €20,000.

## PRE-APPLICATION INFORMATION SESSION

Jan 28<sup>th</sup> at 8pm, FRINGE LAB, Sycamore Street, Temple Bar, Dublin 2. Unfortunately our building is not accessible - please let us know if you have any access requirements.

## MAKING AN APPLICATION

1. Read this Application Guide carefully.
2. Complete the expression of interest form here: [LINK OR](#) send a video submission via Dropbox to [programming@fringefest.com](mailto:programming@fringefest.com). Video submissions should be no more than 2 mins long and include all of the information detailed in the online form.
3. Email CVs and headshots to [programming@fringefest.com](mailto:programming@fringefest.com) (nothing bigger than 2MB please)

The deadline for applications is 5pm GMT on Friday 21st February. Suitable applicants will be shortlisted and invited to discuss their proposal at a meeting soon afterwards.

