

DUETS

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

Building on more than ten years of successful partnership, Fishamble: The New Play Company, Irish Theatre Institute and Dublin Fringe Festival are joining forces again for DUETS, an artist development scheme that supports theatre makers in the creation of their own new 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.

This year we are opening applications for **one spot** on the DUETS scheme. Given the uncertainties faced by our industry last year, two of the three pairs of DUETS who were selected as part of 2020's DUETS scheme will be premiering their work as part of Dublin Fringe Festival 2021. These wonderful artists are Eoghan Carrick & Lauren Shannon Jones and Jane Madden & Sarah Morris. These exciting new collaborations are currently in development. You can find out more about these artists and their work below.

This year, we are looking for one pair of artists to combine their skills to create a piece of theatre that can be made and experienced remotely. That could mean digitally, through the airwaves, on the phone, in the post or anything else you can imagine! We are seeking proposals for inventive work that can meet audiences wherever they are. We're looking for projects with a spirit of liveness, of intimacy and a strong sense of theatricality. Although made and delivered remotely, we want to support a project that makes a meaningful connection between artist and audience.

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 as part of Dublin Fringe Festival 2021. Irish Theatre Institute will offer producing mentoring and broker connections with programmers most suited to presenting the show. The selected 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. This year we particularly encourage international collaborations and/ or remote collaborations. We encourage collaborations between experienced and early career artists. 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 and Irish artists living abroad of all gender identities, 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

The selected project will originate and lead on their own production, presented as a premiere as part of Dublin Fringe Festival, September 11 – 26 2021. The selected project will receive support through a combination of an idea development bursary of €5500, close artistic and practical 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/ continue to present 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 and invited to attend various workshops for programmed artists. You will receive a suite of marketing and PR supports from Dublin Fringe Festival that includes professional photography for brochure image and a professional videographer documenting your production (if the form of the work means that videography is not the best means of recording, we will work to accommodate).

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:

March	Interviews and selection for participation in Duets pilot scheme. We intend to hold interviews in the week of March 8th.
April/ May	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.
June/ July	Attendance at workshops for programmed artists in Dublin Fringe Festival. Further production and script development meetings.
August	Rehearsals in ITI and FRINGE LAB. Presenters run of your show for all Duets partners with feedback.
September	Performances as part of Dublin Fringe Festival. Sep 11 th – 26 th 2021. Information Toolbox networking session to secure touring opportunities.

THE FINANCIAL DEAL

- The successful project will 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, dramaturgy, promotional photography and marketing and video valued at over €20,000.

ESSENTIAL CRITERIA

All proposals must be:

- A true collaboration, a unique combination of the skills of the two lead artists.
- Shows that can be delivered to audiences remotely i.e. not in a traditional venue/ shared physical space.
- For projects that will manifest as paid, ticketed experiences.

PRE-APPLICATION INFORMATION SESSION

This will take place on Wednesday 10th at 1pm over ZOOM.

Please register through this [link](#).

MAKING AN APPLICATION

1. Read this Application Guide carefully.
2. Complete the expression of interest form [here](#) **OR** send a video submission via Dropbox to 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 (nothing bigger than 2MB please)

The deadline for applications is 10am GMT on Monday 1st March. Suitable applicants will be shortlisted and invited to discuss their proposal at a meeting soon afterwards.

About the 2021 DUETS Artists:

Lauren Shannon Jones

Lauren is a writer and theatre maker from Dublin. She wrote and performed Viva Voce in Dublin Fringe Festival 2018, which was nominated for a Fishamble New Writing award. In 2019 she was selected as one of six playwrights to be a part of the Abbey Works initiative, and was a resident Hot Desker at FRINGE LAB 2019/ 2020. She holds an MFA in playwriting from the Lir Academy. Other theatre work includes *Grow* (produced under The Virgin Eclectic in 2013) *The Assassination of Brian Boru* (commissioned by The New Theatre under UNESCO in 2014) *Pygmaskentein's Olympia* (an adaptation of E.T.A Hoffmann's *Der Sandmann*, 2015), *Pink Milk* (in collaboration with Algorithm Dublin, 2016), and *Fetch* (Dublin Fringe 2019). Work in print has been published in The Irish Times, The Irish Independent, IMAGE magazine, Banshee literary journal, and by the Rogue collective.

Eoghan Carrick

As a theatre maker, Eoghan works in Ireland and internationally, on new and canonical texts, with a focus on innovative interpretations and interdisciplinary collaboration. Since 2018, he has been an associate director with Landmark Productions and Irish National Opera, and from 2015-2019 was associate director with Corn Exchange Theatre Company. Recent directing credits include: *Bodies of Water* (Dublin Fringe Festival, 2019; Dublin Fringe Best Design Nomination), *Midsummer* (Project Arts Centre, 2019), *Theatre For One* (Cork Midsummer Festival, 2019; Irish Time Theatre Awards Nomination for Best Ensemble), *INFINITY* (Dublin Fringe Festival/Tour, 2018/19; Dublin Fringe First Fortnight Award, Dublin Fringe Best Design Award, Dublin Fringe Best Performer Nomination). Eoghan is on the steering group of the [National Campaign for the Arts](#) and a member of [IETM](#), [Theatre Forum](#), Dramaturg Network Ireland and the [Irish Society of Stage and Screen Designers](#). For more info and future projects visit eoghancarrick.com

Sarah Morris

Sarah graduated from the Lir Academy Of Dramatic Art in 2015, her most recent theatre work includes *Venus In Fur* at the Project Arts Centre, a Seeds production for Rough Magic theatre Company, *The Anvil* an Anu Production for Manchester International festival, *Torch*, an Anu productions co-production with Heart of Glass UK; *The Lost O'Casey* (Winner of the 'Best Actress Award' The Irish Times Theatre awards 2018) Anu productions co-production with The Abbey theatre for Dublin Theatre Festival; *CLASS* (The Bush Theatre London, The Traverse theatre Edinburgh, Edinburgh Fringe First Winners, Dublin Theatre Festival, Galway Arts Festival); *Tina's Idea of Fun* (Abbey Theatre); *The Bells Of* (Theatre Upstairs); *Lady Play* (Scene and Heard Festival Smock Alley); *King Lear* (Second Age Theatre Company). Lir Academy productions include *Tarry Flynn*; *The Living Quarters* and *Pornography*. Television work includes *Headcases* (Pilot for RTE 1), *Inspector Jury* (Octagon Films for ZDF). Sarah will next appear in the upcoming production of Druid's *The Galway Tour*.

Jane Madden

Jane Madden is a Dublin writer who holds an MFA in Playwriting from the Lir Academy of Dramatic Arts. Her play *Birdy* debuted at the Peacock Theatre in Dublin Fringe Festival 2017, winning Best Ensemble. Her first play *The Windstealers*, was supported by Fishamble: The New Play Company, debuted at Smock Alley Theatre in Dublin Fringe 2015, was programmed in Irish Repertory Theatre's 2015 Reading Series in NYC, and published in Oberon Press' compendium, Fresh Cuts. TV credits include *Fair City*. She is a selected participant of PUSH+, a Creative Europe artist development initiative and received the Pavilion Theatre Patron Donation Award 2020. Jane is currently under commission with The Ark; and separately with Dublin Fringe Festival as part of their DUETS scheme in

partnership with ITI and Fishamble: The New Play Company. In 2020, she won a Next Generation Artist Award from the Arts Council of Ireland.