

## **ARTIST Call out:**

### **Strike A Light, Everyman Theatre Cheltenham, Hawkwood and Lives of Colour Commission**

**We are offering a unique seed commissioning opportunity for a Black artist or Black led company to develop a piece of touring work.** The commission aims to support a piece of performance to be an example of excellence in touring that has the potential to reach a diverse audience.

#### **The Commission**

##### **The commission will include:**

- £3,000 cash investment to develop the work
- Two residencies: one with Everyman Theatre studio on 2nd - 7th September and one with Strike A Light at Hawkwood on 23th - 27th September 2019 to develop the work.  
Hawkwood residency will include rehearsal space, accommodation and full board for up to 5 artists.  
Everyman residency will include rehearsal space and a £500 contribution towards travel/ accommodation/ food costs.  
Please note additional artistic fees will not be offered for these weeks.
- Opportunities to share the work in progress with audiences at Strike A Light festival in October 2019 and the potential for previewing or programming finished work with Strike A Light in Spring 2020.
- 3 days face to face support from Strike A Light / Everyman producers in the lead up to and during the residencies
- 3 half days of fundraising support from the Strike A Light team
- Support in engaging industry professionals in the development and sharing of the work
- Opportunities to engage directly with diverse audiences and explore and test wraparound activity

#### **Commission Criteria**

We want to support a black artist or black led company who are interested in making ambitious, accessible work for new audiences. We are working with Gloucestershire communities to engage underrepresented audiences, including black audiences. We are keen to hear from artists who want to explore making work for audiences across a diverse spectrum.

We're looking to support work that can be flexible to different types of theatre spaces, and non-traditional spaces such as community halls, and lends itself to moving easily between the two.

We're looking for an artist or company who are open to and would benefit from support from Strike A Light and Everyman Theatre with their expertise of festival and studio programming, producing touring productions and engaging audiences.

We are interested in working with an artist or company who would embrace the process of scratch to develop their work. Scratch is about sharing an idea with the public at an early stage of its development, asking people questions and considering their feedback.

The applicant should have some understanding and experience of touring, and be looking for the opportunity to learn from Strike A Light's experience and understanding of touring work into areas of low engagement.

Please note that this is a seed commission, and as such we would expect and support the artist/company to apply for match funding to develop the project. We will provide advice and support on any fundraising bids in the form of three half days of dedicated support from the Strike A Light team.

## **Timeframe**

For applications:

- Deadline for applications: **21st April 2019**
- Shortlisting with panel of Strike A Light, Everyman Theatre and Lives Of Colour producers: week commencing 22nd April
- Final offer made: week commencing 29th April

For successful commission:

- May - October 2019: 3 x half days of support from Strike A Light producers; advice with match funding and developing the idea for the project;
- September 2019: 2 x residencies with Strike A Light & Everyman Theatre studio
- October 2019 - Strike A Light Scratch night
- November 2019 - February 2020: 3 x days of support from Strike A Light and The Everyman to consider next steps for the work
- Spring 19 Strike A Light platform finished work

## **How to Apply**

We would love to hear from you if you identify as a black artist or black led company with an idea you're looking to develop. We are interested in working with curious, collaborative artists who are open to this process and

excited about working in partnership with the commissioning partners and their expertise.

You can apply by submitting a completed application form to [info@strikealightfestival.org.uk](mailto:info@strikealightfestival.org.uk) with 'Commission' in the subject line. Please note: we will not accept CVs. If you have access needs and would like to apply in a different format please contact us.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss the commission before making an application please email [info@strikealightfestival.org.uk](mailto:info@strikealightfestival.org.uk)

Deadline for applications is **21st April 2019**

## **The Partners**

**Strike A Light** create events that people never imagined would or could happen in their city. We tell people's stories through performance and producing and present world class touring theatre and dance in the heart of communities.

Gloucester is a diverse city and the people we work with, the shows we programme and the companies that we support reflect this. We believe that the arts can change lives and that all, regardless of background and circumstance, should be given opportunities to watch, make and participate

Strike A Light is a non-venue based organisation and we present work in studio spaces, community centres, schools, churches, car parks and the streets of Gloucester, challenging traditional notions of touring.

[strikealightfestival.org.uk](http://strikealightfestival.org.uk)

**The Everyman** presents a wide range of productions in the Main House, including ballet, opera, drama, dance, comedy, music events and our traditional family pantomime. The Everyman's Irving Studio aims to programme work that compliments or contrasts with the productions in the main theatre. The work tends to be avant garde, issue based, intimate adaptations or work that celebrates diversity. The Irving Studio enables the Everyman to host residencies, co-produce and commission work with other theatre companies. The Everyman works across the county of Gloucestershire with community projects and education workshops.

[everymantheatre.org.uk](http://everymantheatre.org.uk)

**Hawkwood** is charity and estate which welcomes thousands of people each year, providing courses, workshops, artist-in-residence programmes and the bi-annual Seed Festival of ecology, the

environment and the arts. They are the home of the Centre for Future Thinking, hosting conferences and events with a focus on leading-edge discourse around sustainable living and protecting our planet.

Set in 42 acres of beautiful, sustainably managed countryside in Stroud, Gloucestershire, they provide a valuable resource that brings together artists, change-makers, businesses and creative organisations. Since 2011 they have welcomed over 35,000 people to the site and in 2018 they celebrated their 70th anniversary.

[hawkwoodcollege.co.uk](http://hawkwoodcollege.co.uk)

**Lives of Colour** provides professional services to enable organisations to increase innovation, investment and income through diversity and inclusion. We do this by delivering diversity and inclusion workshops, webinars, partnership events and consultancy. We are well known for leading Black History Month Gloucestershire (BHMG) for the last five years and have seen the number of events and organisation participating in and hosting BHMG greatly increase. This event has grown to be part of the annual calendar programmes locally. Presently, our work has focused on working within Gloucestershire and this year we are looking to widen our reach through webinars programme.

[livesofcolour.com](http://livesofcolour.com)