

Rapid Response 2024

This is an urgent call to south Yorkshire based theatre and performance-makers...

... What does "Our Home" mean to you?

The theme for Refugee Week 2024 is "Our Home". From the places we gather to share meals to our collective home, planet earth: this is an urgent call to south Yorkshire based theatre and performance makers to propose new performances in any medium that celebrate what our "Our Home" means to them within the context of the climate and ecological crisis.

What we're looking for

We're seeking 'rapid responses' that connect with the themes of climate and migration. We want to seed fund new ideas that have the potential to be developed further, elsewhere, and in other contexts. Proposals should be achievable within a short period of Research & Development commencing in the week beginning 13 June. Selected contributors should be available to share the outcomes of their work as part of an informal sharing event on 21 June.

Each project will receive:

- £300 to support the development of their scratch performance.
- Access to rehearsal space at The Bank, Sheffield Theatres (10-20 June)
- Bespoke support from a specially selected industry mentor.
- limited technical support on the day of the scratch presentation. This might include simple lighting, use of a PA, and projection.
- The opportunity to share their work with a public audience as part of Migration Matters Festival and take part in a talk back discussion with Tommi Bryson (Talent Development Coordinator, Sheffield Theatres).
- Professional photographic documentation of your work.

Applicants should:

- Articulate their idea and outline how it links to the themes of Rapid Response.
- Provide a basic plan for how you intend to work.
- Give consideration to how you might promote your activity through social media.
- Utilise a DIY approach and work with whatever is close to hand.
- Work independently and manage the project within the given budget and the specific timescales of the R&D.

The sharing event space is to be confirmed.

Deadline for proposals: 17:00 Friday 26 April

Initial conversations with shortlisted artists: Friday 3 May

Artists confirmed: 7 May

R&D Period: 10-20 June

Sharing event: 21 June

We especially encourage applications from candidates with lived experience of migration, displacement and seeking sanctuary.

Who we are

Rapid Response is a collaboration between Ark Sheffield, Sheffield Hallam University, Migration Matters Festival and Sheffield Theatres. It was initiated in 2023 to support artists in the development of new work that addresses the themes of climate and migration. The inaugural event in June 2023 featured scratch performances by Jeff Denya, Salome Hakunandaba, and Freya Maclean.