

# COMMISSIONS FAQ

## **The call out mentions a further production budget - can we get more detail on that?**

We've got a further budget of £5000 to support technical & production costs for the seed commissions. We'll work out with everyone what the best use of this budget is - it might be that we split it & give £1000 to each commission, or that we decide on a different approach together. Our intention in providing additional budget is that the £3000 seed commission mostly supports an artist or company's time on the project development.

## **If we are collaborating with other people, do they need to be named in the application?**

No, you don't have to name collaborators in the application, but if you do know who you want to work with & have space to tell us a bit about them you can. Similarly, if you know that you want to work with someone, but haven't yet worked out who they are, you could tell us about those roles if you have the space. You should prioritise telling us about you or your company & the big idea first, but if there is room to tell us about who you want to work with (or who you might want to work with) then feel free to share that.

## **Can you explain a bit more about the work-in-progress aspect of the commission, what are you expecting to be shared with an audience?**

The focus of these seed commissions is on the development of the project & we want you to prioritise this work. We'd like us to share something with audiences from each development in the week of 17th August, but what that is will be responsive to where the development has got to, and we don't necessarily expect these sharings to take the form of 'shows'. We're not expecting artists and companies to finish ideas through these seed commissions, but to share work-in-progress, however that might be presented.

## **Will you be looking to develop pieces further from these seed commissions?**

We'll be really open to where your ideas could go next and the opportunities for further development and support from us.

## **What in-kind support could we expect from Ferment?**

We will most likely be able to offer; rehearsal space, producing & dramaturgical support, department specific support (i.e. from our Engagement team if your idea has an element of participation) & technical support from our team. We always aim to give as much in-kind support as we are able, using the infrastructure & resource we have to support your ideas.

## **What spaces in the Bristol Old Vic might it be possible to use?**

We're not 100% sure yet due to current restrictions around live performance. We are still working on guidelines and protocols to keep audiences & performers safe, but our current educated guess is that by mid-August we will probably be able to use any space within the building for some performance as long as it can be made safe for everyone using it - this may involve reduced capacities & extra protective measures. We've asked specifically within this

process for ideas that have the capability to be responsive to this uncertain moment for this reason exactly - our hope is that we'd be able to use as many spaces in the building as possible, but we need to stay aware that things could change quickly, and we may need to adapt fairly fast.

**Are you interested in ideas that take place outside BOV or online?**

Yes! Don't feel restricted by the need to think about an idea responsive to space in BOV, we'd love to hear about ideas that might happen anywhere & also ideas that might purely happen online. We're excited about all possibilities, live and digital.

**Does the content of the piece need to relate to COVID-19?**

No, we're looking for ideas that are responsive to the ways that we might make performance together now rather than narratives that relate directly to the crisis or the lockdown.

**Do I need experience in theatre to apply?**

No, we don't need you to have artform specific experience to apply to this, but we do need you to be really clear about why the commission specifically interests you, and the skills that you bring. If you are, for example, a visual artist with an idea in response to this brief, please do apply. We're interesting in hearing from anyone, just make sure within the application you let us know why you & your experience connects with the seed commission brief and what support your idea might need from us.

**Is there an interest in projects having a community element?**

There isn't a specific interest, but we're really happy to hear ideas that might want to connect in specific ways with communities & audiences and we could help to support the development of these projects to engage the people they were trying to work.

**Will you be able to support access costs?**

Yes, Ferment has an access budget to support costs that sits aside from these seed commissions and the production budget.