

How can we help new writing / new writers thrive here and now?

Questions

Where's the space to fail? (To explore? To learn? To improve?)

Do you need to be a playwright-producer-actor prepared to do it all yourself?

(Exhausting!)

When / how do you know your work is worthy?

How do you find the right collaborators?

How do we connect writers with actors and directors?

How much can you ask people to do for free?

(You can ask people to work for free if you are clear and open about this and you yourself are working on this basis.)

Where are the dramaturgs?

When do you involve an audience?

How do you build an audience from nothing?

Is finding an audience the hardest thing to do? Is it the most important?

Do writers need a new Midlands based platform?

Possible solutions

More organisations to offer training in playwriting and professional development for writers

More collaborations between playwrights and amateur and youth theatres who might be open to staging new work

A marketplace / Great Script Sale-Auction:

Could there be a speed dating type of event where playwrights could present their scripts for perusal by Literary Managers? This event could be supported by an online resource with hyperlinks to each playwright's own pages / blogs where there is a synopsis and a few sample scenes? Perhaps this list / directory of new plays could become a work of art in itself? Maybe the demographics of the new works could be analysed: What themes are reoccurring? How diverse are the characters? Which groups are underrepresented? – Could this then provide writers with ideas for new works? Where are the gaps? What are theatres looking for from new work?

WM organisations offering support for playwrights:

[The Birmingham Rep](#)

[OJS Open Doors](#)

[Theatre Cuppa](#)

[West Midlands Theatre Community](#)

[Friction Arts](#)

[Pilot Nights](#)

[14/48 Wolverhampton](#)

[Stan's Cafe](#)

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