



### **Matthews & Burtin Creative Producer Job Description**

Ali Matthews & Leo Burtin are looking for a Creative Producer to assist in the development and delivery of current and future artistic projects, as well as supporting the strategic growth of their collaboration.

#### **About Us:**

Ali Matthews is a performance maker, researcher & singer. Recently, she collaborated with Leo on *The Best of Both Worlds (BOBW)*, which received ACE funding for R&D in autumn 2015 & support from ARC, East Street Arts, & the University of Salford with a scratch showing at Emergency in Manchester. It premiered at Camden People Theatre's Sprint Festival, & went on to receive ACE support for touring across the UK in 16/17 to venues including Lancaster Arts, Tom Thumb Theatre, ARC, Waterside Arts Centre & the Kingsway Theatre, with forthcoming dates at the Wickham Theatre & the HUB.

Ali has created cabaret, one-to-one & large-scale performances at venues incl. Arnolfini, Project Arts Centre Dublin, Ausland Berlin, Chelsea Theatre & Aberystwyth Arts Centre. In 2015, she received a commission from Contact Theatre to develop *The Ballad of Isosceles*, a performance for two people at a time, which she was then invited to perform at Belfast's FIX15 Biennale. She recently performed in a large-scale immersive event at Islington Mill called 'RITE' & is devoted to provoking social change through artistic activity.

Leo has collaborated with companies and organizations including imitating the dog, Blast Theory, Rajni Shah Projects, *The Sick of the Fringe*, BAC and Total Theatre Awards. He has been described as "one of the region's most interesting cross-disciplinary artists" by Manchester Wire. Lyn Gardner described his recent touring piece as *The Midnight Soup* as "cleverly and subtly constructed".

## Current and Upcoming Projects:

### Prioritized Projects

- ***Witches of the World, Unite!*** (Matthews & Burtin) - is a new project currently in development. Through residencies, site visits, workshops with young people and work-in-progress showings already scheduled in 2017, we will develop material for a new show that starts from this premise: a witch-rockstar descends from another world to talk to the next generation of feminists about persecution, bullying & toxic language through a piece of protest gig-theatre. We have large ambitions for this project to engage audiences across online, merchandise, theatre and music forums to create a call to arms for young feminists to form their own radically-charged, magical-thinking sisterhood.
- ***The Ballad of Isosceles*** (Ali Matthews) – a fake Greek myth for the desire-driven. *B of I* is a performance installation for two audience members at a time, exploring voyeurism, the Lynchian iconography of the chanteuse and the strange rhythms of vicarious pleasure. This piece was commissioned by Contact for a residency in June 2015 culminating in its premiere at the sold-out Sensored Festival. It was then shown at Catalyst Arts's FIX15 Biennale of Performance in Belfast in December 2015.

### Continuing/Rolling Projects

- ***The Best of Both Worlds: A Busker's Opera*** (Matthews & Burtin) – This show received ACE funding for both its R&D and its 2016/2017 tour. It premiered at Camden People's Theatre's Sprint Festival in 2016. It starts from the premise that we, Matthews & Burtin, are funded escapees – from the American dream, and from socialist, protectionist France respectively. Meeting in the middle, this show sees us take stock of *what* and *how* we value, using 1930s French street song and sleazy salesman rhetoric. Part cabaret, part lecture and part participatory experiment, *BOBW* is a good old fashioned music hall for the cash-strapped proles and the accidental gentrifiers.
- ***Such Impossibilities*** (Leo Burtin) – a celebration of what becomes possible when we come together to share food, stories and songs. This project is in development with support from Lancaster Arts at Lancaster University, but it will be a live portrait of a place, its people and a participatory manifesto for the future.

More information on these projects can be found at our artist websites:

<http://www.alimatthews.org>

<http://www.leoburtin.co.uk>

## **Role and Duties:**

The role of the Creative Producer will be to support the day-to-day management of our artistic projects, be proactive in seeking out and developing opportunities our artistic and strategic development (including working internationally), and be prepared to engage with our playful and inquisitive creative process. Join the party! Specific tasks may include:

- Fundraising; including making applications to Trusts & Foundations, seeking sponsorship opportunities and developing relationships with partner organisations
- Administrative and project management; including dealing with contracts, developing project timelines, resource management
- Marketing and PR management; including working with appropriate experts and partners where necessary, developing copy, advising on material creation
- Strategic and business development; including addressing resource gaps, identifying international opportunities
- Tour booking and management
- Supporting the creative team during devising and production periods

## **Person Specification:**

### **Essential:**

- Documented track record of producing independent artists and/or small-to-medium companies and a demonstrable commitment to professional development
- 3-5 years professional experience as a producer/general manager in contemporary theatre/live art
- Outstanding organizational and administrative skills
- Some experience in marketing and PR management
- Exceptional communication skills, including as an artist advocate/liaison.
- Fundraising experience and a firm grasp on the UK cultural landscape in terms of available resources, and financial and political climate

### **Desirable:**

- North West/West Yorkshire based and commitment to the region
- Experience of working internationally
- Basic coaching skills and/or cultural leadership training

## **Producer Fee:**

Starting fee of £2,500, with an aim for this to become an ongoing, regularly-funded partnership. The exact terms of this initial contract will be negotiated with the successful candidate.

## **Application Process:**

Please send a CV and covering letter to [jobs@making-room.co.uk](mailto:jobs@making-room.co.uk) by 12 noon on the 19<sup>th</sup> of June, 2017. Interviews will be held in person (preferably) in Manchester or via Skype on the 23<sup>rd</sup> or 26<sup>th</sup> of June.