

INTERCHANGE

*Scotland's training event for those who use drama
and theatre in their work with young people*

2022 Event Information



Youth Theatre
Arts Scotland
Professional Development

In partnership with
PERTH
theatre

Welcome to INTERCHANGE 2022

Dates: Saturday 26 – Sunday 27 March 2022

Venue: Perth Theatre, Mill Street, Perth (PH1 5HZ)

Prices: Full weekend*: £60 for YTAS members | £90 for non-members
One day only: £40 for YTAS members | £50 for non-members

Early Bird Discount available until 23 February

*Bursaries available for weekend delegates

Welcome (back) to *Interchange*! A year later than planned, and after a period of isolation for many, we are delighted to return with a programme of dynamic **interactive workshops** led by inspiring theatre professionals, **swap shops** to exchange ideas, wellbeing activities, joy, laughter and plenty of opportunities for **networking, discussion, and debate** – all completely live and in-person!

With thanks to funding from the **Gannochy Trust**, in 2022 we are delighted to be able to subsidise the cost of attending *Interchange*. Reduced rates from previous years are available to all, with the aim of supporting as many people as possible to come together and access training and networking in person.

We can't wait for you to join us to **reflect** on what we've collectively experienced over the past two years, **reconnect** with each other, and **refresh** our creative practice.



Who is INTERCHANGE for?

Interchange is open to **anyone over the age of 18 who uses aspects of drama and theatre in their work with young people**. This skills development event welcomes...

- Freelance and volunteer youth theatre facilitators and directors;
- Artists who work in participatory settings;
- Creative learning managers;
- Primary and secondary school drama teachers and student teachers;
- Youth workers and CLD professionals who use creativity to engage young people, including health and social care practitioners;
- Undergraduate and postgraduate students studying the performing arts, education, or community development.

Our Event Partners

Youth Theatre Arts Scotland (YTAS) is delighted to once again present *Interchange* in partnership with **Horsecross Arts** and **Perth Theatre**, who have collaborated with us in planning the event, drawing on a rich and varied skill-base and knowledge.

COVID Safety

As our first full-scale in-person event since the start of the pandemic, health and safety is of primary importance to us for *Interchange2022*. We will be monitoring Government guidelines and putting measures in place to ensure we are reducing risk and helping everyone feel as safe as possible when attending the event.

This year, our event Health and Safety Risk Assessment will include close monitoring of Scottish Government guidelines and guidance, and we will put any required measures in place to ensure that risk of infection is reduced. We will work closely with our partners at Perth Theatre to ensure the event runs in accordance with venue guidelines.

YTAS will communicate up-to-date safety requirements with attendees in advance of the event and adhere to venue guidelines throughout the event. This will include:

- Lateral flow testing prior to attending *Interchange*.
- 'Checking-in' using the Test & Protect QR code when arriving at the venue.
- Wearing of face-coverings indoors.
- The availability of hand sanitising stations and regular cleaning of all venues.
- A request for social-distancing where possible and/or necessary.

You can read more about Perth Theatre's current COVID safety requirements on the venue website <https://www.horsecross.co.uk/visit-us/staying-safe-in-our-venues>

If you have any questions regarding COVID safety at *Interchange* please don't hesitate to contact YTAS.



Training and Networking at INTERCHANGE 2022

Swap Shop Live

Participants select one of two available sessions each day

Reflect on your experiences and develop new practices in our daily skill-share sessions, *Swap Shop Live*. Hosted by YTAS and Perth Theatre, these sessions are a lively, collaborative space to ask questions, share practice and swap practical ideas on a given topic.

- **Saturday**
The First Five Minutes OR
Rev Up Your Research
- **Sunday**
The First Five Minutes OR
There's No Planet B: Creative Approaches to Global Movements

For more information see [page 7](#).

Workshops

Participants select one of three available sessions each day

Refresh your skills during our highly practical workshops, designed to invigorate, engage and inspire your practice. This year's workshops are:

- *Stories of Humanity* with Bijli Productions
- *Sound, Aye?* with Gary Cameron
- *Clowning with Purpose* with Hearts & Minds

For more information see [page 8](#).

Networking

Events throughout the weekend

Reconnect with friends and colleagues in the sector during our wrap-around programme of events on Saturday and Sunday which provide space to network and exchange ideas.

- Time to connect and chat during **tea breaks** and over **lunch** each day, and **drinks** on Saturday.
- **Dinner** on Saturday evening (optional extra)
- **Sector Surgeries**: one-to-one meetings with sector experts
- **Group warm-ups**
- Time for self-care and reflections with our *Wake Me Up yoga class* on Sunday morning

For more information see [page 10](#).

How to Plan Your INTERCHANGE Weekend

Delegates have the option of attending for **all** or **part** of the *Interchange* weekend and can select from the following ticket options:

Option 1: Full Weekend (Saturday and Sunday)

YTAS Members	£60
Non-members	£90
Early Bird for members	£51 (available until 23 February)

Take advantage of the entire *Interchange* 2022 programme featuring:

- Warm-up and welcome
- Two workshops
- Two *Swap Shop* sessions
- Morning coffee each day
- Lunch each day
- Networking drinks on Saturday
- Performance and post-show discussion on Saturday
- Dinner: an optional extra on Saturday evening (£15 surcharge)
- Opportunity to book a sector surgery and/or morning yoga class

If you would like to attend for the full weekend, we have a limited number of reduced rate rooms available at the Travelodge Perth Central for **£55 per room**. See [page 11](#) for more details.

Option 2: One Day (Saturday or Sunday)

YTAS Members	£40
Non-members	£50
Early Bird for members	£34 (available until 23 February)

Only available to attend on one day? No problem. You can still get a taste of everything *Interchange* offers including:

- Warm-up
- One workshop
- One *Swap Shop* session
- Morning coffee
- Lunch
- Opportunity to book a sector surgery
- Networking drinks (on Saturday)
- Performance and post-show discussion (on Saturday)
- Dinner: an optional extra on Saturday evening (£15 surcharge)
- Morning yoga (on Sunday)

Event Schedule

	Time	Event
Saturday 26 March	From 9.15am	Delegate registration
	10.15am - 11.15am	Welcome and warm-up with YTAS & Perth Theatre
	11.30am - 1pm	Session 1: Swap Shop Live
	1pm - 2.30pm	Lunch with a healthy dose of networking or surgeries
	2.30pm - 4.30pm	Session 2: Workshop
	4.30pm - 5pm	Drinks and networking
	5pm - 6.30pm	Performance followed by post-show discussion
	6.30pm - 8pm	Dinner (optional extra) or Surgeries
	8pm - 10.30pm	Networking or free time

	Time	Event
Sunday 27 March	From 10.30am	Delegate registration
	10.30am - 11am	Wake Me Up Yoga (optional)
	11am - 11.30am	Welcome & warm-up
	11.30am - 1.30pm	Session 3: Workshop
	1.30pm - 3pm	Lunch / Surgeries
	3pm - 4.30pm	Session 4: Swap Shop Live
	4.30 - 5pm	Wrap-up and Goodbye

“Interchange will fuel your passion for working in drama with young people, push you out of your comfort zone and leave you full of ideas you are bursting to try out!”
Interchange Delegate

You can follow the event on Twitter at [#Interchange2022](https://twitter.com/Interchange2022)



Reflect: Swap Shop Live

Our **Swap Shops** are spaces for the youth theatre sector to come together to ask questions, share practice, and swap practical ideas on a given topic. In this live version for *Interchange*, there will be three different Swap Shops, two each day.

You can choose **one** out of the two **Swap Shop** sessions available each day.

<p>Option One (Saturday and Sunday)</p>	<p>The First Five Minutes</p> <p>Have you ever wanted to be a fly on the wall in someone else's workshop? Well, you're in luck! In this high-energy session, you'll get to experience the first five minutes of a workshop – many times over.</p> <p>An opportunity to refresh the way you start your workshops and inspire others with your own ideas too.</p>
<p>Option Two (Saturday only)</p>	<p>Rev Up Your Research</p> <p>Inspired by the increasingly popular competition <i>Dance Your PhD</i>, this lively session invites... no, encourages you to find creative and crazy ways to share your own research.</p> <p>Whether you are undertaking an undergraduate course, Masters, PhD or simply exploring new ideas for your work or creative practice, this is your platform to nerd out and share your theories, ideas and discoveries with a captive audience.</p> <p>Five minutes maximum! No jargon or academic speak required or allowed! The floor is yours.</p>
<p>Option Three (Sunday only)</p>	<p>There's No Planet B: Creative Approaches to Global Movements</p> <p>Young people are using theatre to change the world. FACT. But how are they doing this? And what creative activities are youth theatre leaders using to nurture and channel this interest in activism?</p> <p>If you're interested in thinking globally but acting locally, then this session should get you fired up to start a revolution and save the planet!</p>

Refresh: Workshop Programme

There will be three workshops available throughout the weekend, which each last two hours and focus on the creative process.

You can choose **one** out of the three **Workshop** sessions available each day.

Workshop
One

Stories of Humanity | Bijli Productions

How do you create work that authentically captures the diversity of the community you work in? Join theatre maker and writer **Mariem Omari** and associate artist Vicky Mohieddeen to explore creative approaches to amplifying the voices of diverse communities, reaching new audiences and participants, and making exciting and innovative socially engaged work.

About the facilitator

Having grown up in Australia, **Mariem Omari** moved to her father's homeland in the Middle East to work as a humanitarian, working with refugees and survivors of violence. This inspired her ongoing commitment to promoting stories that strengthen the voice for equality. Her next move was to her mother's homeland – Scotland – where she has been working closely with ethnically diverse communities to explore issues often considered taboo. This has led to the creation of her socially engaged theatre and projects including *If I Had A Girl...*, and *One Mississippi*, which explore issues such as migration and displacement, honour violence, and mental health. Her writing also spans creative non-fiction, and she continues to work internationally training Women Human Rights Defenders. Her new play, *Revolution Days*, about her experiences as an Aid Worker, showcased in 2021; and her new audio piece *The Jinn in Me* about Jinn beliefs will broadcast on BBC platforms in 2022.

<http://bijliproductions.com/>

Sound, Aye? | Gary Cameron

Having a creative and unique soundtrack can reinvigorate your creative process and bring your production to life! You don't need any expensive equipment requiring a PhD to operate either. In this fun, engaging and highly practical workshop, you will play with body percussion, voice, foley, and basic mixing techniques to explore how to collaboratively create unique and innovative soundscapes and music for filmed and live performances.

About the facilitator

Gary is a Glasgow-based sound designer and composer for stage and screen. His extensive and eclectic specialism in audio creation has been heard in over 70 productions across the UK and Europe. Previous credits include *Inside Culture* (BBC); *The Horror, Imagine That, Into The Darkness, I Know You Are, Ctrl* (Tron Theatre); *Common Man, Tin Forest* (National Theatre Of Scotland); *The Blue Road, Musical Differences, The Angry Bridge* (NT Connections); *The Happiness Formula* (Scottish Youth Theatre) and many more.

As resident composer with Folksy Theatre, Gary has composed songs and score for the works of Julia Donaldson and Quentin Blake among others. Gary is also the Director of *Macrobert Choir* and *Dumfries Community Choir*.

<https://www.garycameronmusic.co.uk>

Clowning with Purpose | Hearts & Minds

Laughter, play, and human connection are key to the social and emotional development of children and young people and are central to the work of Hearts & Mind's 'Clowndoctors' programme. In this fun and practical session, you will use the principles and techniques of therapeutic clowning to refresh and reinvigorate your creative facilitation practice and find new ways to build relationships with the groups you work with.

About the facilitators

Hearts & Minds was established in 1997 to promote the improvement in the quality of life for children, young people and adults in hospitals, hospices, care homes and school settings. They deliver two participative programmes: 'Clowndoctors' for children and young people, and 'Elderflowers' for elderly people living with dementia. They believe that human connection is vital for wellbeing and that this is especially important when we are at our most vulnerable. Hearts & Minds use character-based theatrical clowning and humour to provide sensitive, safe, and individually tailored interactions, to overcome feelings of isolation, anxiety, distress, and pain.

<https://www.heartsminds.org.uk/>

Reconnect: Networking Programme

With the main focus of this year's event being the chance to get back in a room together, we're delighted to be able to offer a wraparound programme, providing a range of networking activities to welcome delegates to Perth Theatre. This programme will provide space to reconnect and exchange ideas and practice, get to know new faces (or see what people look like outside of a Zoom box!) and have a long awaited catch-up with peers.

After Saturday's workshops you are invited to join us for a drink in the bar to decompress and reflect on the day's activities, followed by the presentation of **work-in-progress performances** from Perth Youth Theatre. A facilitated **post-show discussion** will provide an opportunity for feedback and explore the wider context we're now operating in. And don't forget to keep those conversations flowing during a **two-course dinner at Perth Theatre** on Saturday evening (an optional extra).

Following dinner there will be the opportunity to join us in the bar or head along to the theatre to see the main stage world premiere of Roald Dahl's ***The Wonderful Story of Henry Sugar*** (tickets available from Perth Theatre Box Office).

All this, plus we've scheduled in plenty of time for **tea breaks, group warm-ups, lunch, sector surgeries** and even a **yoga class** throughout the weekend... phew!

One-to-One Sector Surgeries

Book a twenty-minute session for bespoke assistance, guidance, or advice from our selected 'Sector Surgeons', including YTAS staff, board members, and partners.

Details of staff and areas of expertise will be sent out in advance of the weekend, and slots must be booked ahead of time. If you have any questions, please email catherine@ytas.org.uk.



How to Book

To secure your place at *Interchange 2022* please complete the Eventbrite booking form, [linked here](#).

Payment Options

- **Pay in full** online by credit card via Eventbrite at the time of booking.
- **Request an invoice** at time of booking. There is a drop-down menu for this. Invoices will be emailed to you once your booking has been processed. Your payment must be made in full no later than Monday 21 March 2022.

Conditions of Booking

- All workshops are allocated on a first come, first served basis.
- We understand that uncertainty around COVID-19 may result in changes and/or cancellations this year. While we have kept our terms and conditions in line with previous years, delegates who have booked are encouraged to talk to us as soon as possible if any COVID-related issues arise.
- If you are unable to attend *Interchange* due to COVID isolation requirements we will be able to refund 50% of your ticket cost on presentation of proof of a positive test result/ close contact isolation.

For all *Interchange* enquiries please contact catherine@ytas.org.uk or call **0131 538 0591**.

Optional Extras

As well as booking tickets on the link above, you'll be able to select from the following add-ons:

Dinner on Saturday Evening

For those who are able to stay a little longer on Saturday there will be the option of joining us for dinner at Perth Theatre at the end of the day.

- We'll be serving up a vegetarian feast from 6.30pm, giving delegates the time to connect even further over a sit-down meal.
- Dinner is charged at **£15 per person** and can be added to your order when booking your *Interchange* tickets, where you can also provide any dietary requirements.

Accommodation Package (available until 10am on Wed 23 Feb)

We're delighted to have been able to secure a group booking rate at the Travelodge Perth Central Hotel exclusively for *Interchange* delegates, at a reduced rate of **£55 per room**.

- Hotel package includes accommodation only. Check-in Saturday 26 March from **3pm**. Check-out Sunday 27 March by **11am**. Breakfast can be purchased separately at **£4.95pp** at the hotel.
- Rooms are non-cancellable. No refunds for accommodation can be provided in case of non-attendance.
- Once you have booked your Accommodation Package a member of the YTAS team will be in touch to confirm details.
- A limited number of twin and accessible rooms are available, if you would like to request one of these, please email catherine@ytas.org.uk to confirm availability before booking.
- Unfortunately, we are not able to offer any refunds on accommodation bookings after **Wednesday 23 February**.

Bursaries

We are delighted to be able to offer **three bursaries** to attend *Interchange* 2022.

Each bursary will cover the full cost of a delegate fee, one night's accommodation (if required) on Saturday 26 March, and a contribution towards travel expenses of up to £50. Each successful applicant will be required to provide post-event feedback detailing how the bursary helped their professional development.

Bursaries are available to delegates who have not previously been awarded a YTAS bursary and meet the following criteria:

- Can tell us what motivates them most to work with young people.
- Can demonstrate a genuine need for a training opportunity at this point in their career.
- Can explain the impact *Interchange* will have on their work with young people.

If you meet all the above criteria, and would like to apply for a bursary, please complete the **Interchange Bursary Application Form** available online, [linked here](#).

The deadline for bursary applications is **Wednesday 23 February 2022**. Applicants will be informed of the success of their application by **Friday 25 February 2022**.

Bursaries will be awarded by YTAS and participating partners.

“As I am just starting out, I have now started to really feel like I work and live in this industry thanks to Interchange. The welcome I received was far beyond anything I expected, and I was able to make some great connections with some amazing professionals in the youth work/theatre sector.”
Interchange Bursary Recipient

Getting to INTERCHANGE 2022

YTAS is committed to playing our part in helping Scotland become a net-zero society by 2045. We therefore encourage delegates to choose sustainable transport options to get to the event wherever possible.

By Train



The nearest train station to Perth Theatre is **Perth**, which is served by trains from Edinburgh Waverley, Glasgow Queen Street, Aberdeen, Inverness, Dundee, and Stirling. It is a fifteen-minute walk to Perth Theatre from Perth station.

Average journey times:

Edinburgh: 1 hour 20 mins	Dundee: 20 mins	Aberdeen: 1 hour 30 mins
Glasgow: 1 hour	Stirling: 35 mins	Inverness: 2 hours 10 mins

By Bus



Perth's main bus terminal is a seven-minute walk from Perth Theatre. Buses travel regularly from Edinburgh, Glasgow, Inverness, Aberdeen, and Dundee. To plan your journey by train or bus visit [Travel Line Scotland](#).

By Car



If driving is required, Perth Theatre (PH 1 5HZ) is easily accessible by road and has various paid car parking options nearby. Delegates may like to consider lift shares using services such as [GoCarShare](#).

Accommodation

If you would like to stay overnight but miss out on the YTAS Accommodation Package, here are a few options close to Perth Theatre:

Premier Inn Perth	www.premierinn.com	1 min walk. Rooms from £80
Travelodge Perth Central	www.travelodge.co.uk	12 min walk. Rooms from £65.
The Station Hotel	www.perthstationhotel.co.uk	10 min walk. Rooms from £85.
New County Hotel	www.newcountyhotelperth.com	6 min walk. Rooms from £62.
Royal George Hotel	www.theroyalgeorgehotel.co.uk	5 min walk. Rooms from £110.

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