

SHORTWORKS:

Scriptworks 5 minute Showcase for Film and Theatre

Venue: Contact, Space 5

Date: Monday, 5th July, 8pm onwards

All Scripts to be submitted by 12 noon on Tuesday 8th June.

Selection will be announced by close of play Friday 11th June

All writers must be available for a Scriptworks session 6pm-10pm on 14th June.

Attention Writers!

Scriptworks is running a showcase of short theatre and film in Space 5 at Contact on **Monday 5th July** and YOU can get involved.

The brief is simple – write a 5 minute script for theatre or film to be performed or screened in the space. Mail it to us by **high noon on Tuesday 8th June**, and we'll be in touch by **Friday 11th June** to let you know what will happen.

The plays and films will need to be written to suit the Space. Space 5 has a small stage and a projector screen for film. The playing and viewing space is situated in the main foyer of Contact, so the pieces will need to be punchy enough to keep hold of the audience you have there, as well as to grab the attention of anyone passing by. As members of the public will be able to drop in on the performance, some care must be taken with the selection of subject matter. We are available to correspond on this.

The script can be comedy, tragedy, drama. It can be a skit, a self contained piece, or part of a longer work. It just needs to grab hold of the audience and work as a self contained unit.

Plays need to involve no more than four actors. Some lighting and sound is available, but it is best not to rely on this. Once completed, your script will be given a 2 hour rehearsal, to get it ready for performance. As mentioned, the playing space is small and the actors will have script in hand, so it is probably best to avoid anything physical. Further details below.

Films will need to be shot and edited in one day. This means keep it simple, folks. A minimum number of locations. Nothing fancy. No sound post production. Outside is better than inside. A full list of filming requirements can be found below.

Selected applicants will be asked to attend a Scriptworks session on **Monday 14th June** specially set up for this project. Due to the way the group runs, and the nature of our process, **attendance will be required** in order for your script to be performed/ filmed.

Full details including judging criteria below. Pieces to be performed or screened in Space 5 at Contact on Monday 5th July.

Please send entries to Scriptworks@heaven.co.uk

Best of luck,

Scriptworks

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SHORTWORKS BRIEF

Theatre

The scripts must be 4-6 minutes long. Generally, a page is about a minute of stage time, but long monologues can push this up to three minutes or more.

Each script will be given a 3-4 hour rehearsal period, and will be performed script in hand. In all likelihood, the actors will sit on chairs and perform the script outwards to the audience. For this reason, physical violence, pratfalls etc are unlikely to work, but some use of gesture and physical expression is possible.

Film

Each script will be filmed and edited in one day, or 8 hours.

It is advised that locations, props etc are kept to a minimum. Props and costume may not be purchased for the production, all clothes worn or props used must belong to members of the cast or crew. Accessibility of suitable locations will be used as part of the selection criteria.

The camera must be a hand held camera. Any movement or immobility attainable in the hand is permitted.

There will be no sound postproduction apart from minor tweaks to improve the quality of the original recording. Music may not be used unless it occurs within the scene (diegetic), and may not be overdubbed afterwards.

Special lighting is not acceptable (if there is too little light for exposure the scene must be cut or a single lamp be attached to the camera).

The film must take place in the here and now. As in the present day.

Judging Criteria

The scripts will be judged by a panel of Scriptworks chairs/co-chairs. Members of the panel will be selected from the following on the basis of availability: Jason Crouch, Ed Jones, Conor McKee, Sarah Meadows, Hannah Salt.

The criteria used will be as follows

- 1) Is the script the correct **length**?
- 2) Is the script **viable to stage or film** within the timescale of the project?
- 3) Is the script **suitable** for performance or screening in Space 5 at Contact?
- 4) **Artistic merit** of the script.