

barrel organ



The show is never finished

Barrel Organ is a touring theatre company. Using a co-creative process, we make work that invokes meaningful change by challenging existing preconceptions of what theatre is and can be.

about us

Barrel Organ is a theatre company led by collaboration. We make daring and generous work with under-represented groups and individuals from across the UK. By building meaningful relationships, we support our collaborators to shape a process that empowers everyone involved to take an imaginative leap and give voice to the stories they want to tell.

Our work happens all over the UK, invoking meaningful change in the world and challenging what theatre is and can be. Liveness is at the heart of everything we do and allows us to be open and responsive to what is happening around us in the world. We believe that everybody should be afforded the opportunity to nourish their creativity and have a voice, whether they consider themselves to be an artist or not. We support this by creating a safe, generous and artistically challenging space to champion and platform our collaborators' stories.

We believe that creativity should be part of everyday life so we provide opportunities for people who face barriers to accessing the arts. We consider our audiences as active collaborators and want them to represent the individuals and groups we work with. Our aim is to build new artistic communities that are reflective of the country we live in.

Our projects take many different forms. We have made theatre shows and films and deliver projects online and in-person. We have performed shows in theatres, car parks, beaches, and tents.



educational workshops

Barrel Organ provides workshops for participants with varying degrees of experience in making theatre and performance. Barrel Organ tailor each of their educational workshops specifically for the following groups:

- Key Stage 4 (GCSE)
- Key Stage 5 (A Level)
- University and/or equivalent Training Programme
- Theatre-makers

Below you will find details of workshops aimed at university students, drama schools, and theatre-makers. We have one hour, three hour, or one day versions of all workshops, depending on the time available for the participants. We offer three different workshop schemes: 'Becoming & Surviving as a Theatre Company', 'Co-Creating with Communities', and 'Devising from Text'. Other, more specific requests, can be discussed.



becoming & surviving as a theatre company

This workshop is all about what it means to become a theatre company in the first place, and then how to survive as one once you've done that! Drawing on Barrel Organ's years of experience in Company Development & Mentoring young artists through Collaborative Theatre Practice, this workshop will act as a toolkit to help equip you in both the creative and logistical challenges of existing as a theatre company within the contemporary theatre scene in the UK.



co-creating with communities



This workshop will draw on Barrel Organ's extensive experience of co-creating work with community groups & citizen artists. Using the principles of Barrel Organ's 'Empowerment Methodology', this workshop will equip you to go into a making process alongside non-professional artists, and will develop your skills in delivery and facilitation, listening to, inspiring and writing/making with groups of people who do not usually get to engaged in creative processes.



devising from text

This workshop will provide exercises to generate lots of material during a devising process. These can be used to make scenes, find and develop characters and stories, structure your show, and never get stuck with “writer’s/deviser’s block”. We’ll find ways to incorporate all kinds of “texts” into the devising process, anything and everything from cookbook recipes, to instruction manuals, maps, pages from novels, articles, and news stories.



workshop specifications

Length: One, three, or six hours

Workshop Leaders: 2

Capacity per workshop: 40

Age Range: 18+

To be provided by venue: P.A./speaker system, scrap writing paper, pens

Space: Suitable for writing and physical exercises

For further information please contact:

info@barrelorgentheatre.co.uk

PRICE LIST

One-hour workshop: £300

Three-hour workshop: £450

Six-hour workshop: £600



testimonials

"I really enjoyed that!"

"You guys were fab!"

"The environment created by the Barrel Organ members was the perfect balance between chilled out and ambitious. [The workshop] was the best way to stretch some acting muscles and to try out some new ones."

"All of the Barrel Organ family felt like friends and that's not usual for me - I feel misheard and misunderstood almost everyday"

"[The students] very much enjoyed the experience and they have happily reported to me how useful it was."