

# lighthouse

Arts & Entertainment | Poole

| Sanctuary



JANUARY 2024

| Different every day

# Supporting your Creativity

Welcome to **SANCTUARY** at Lighthouse, Poole – returning in Summer of 2024. We are delighted to extend an open invitation to creative practitioners to use our spaces to progress their practice.

**SANCTUARY** was established in a time where venues and performances were closed to audiences and artists were unsettled, worried, without funds and with nowhere to work. While it is wonderful to see theatres full of audiences once again, the challenges persist for artists, and we extend an invitation for you to apply to **SANCTUARY**, a scheme to support you in doing what you do best.

Since its inception, **SANCTUARY** has provided over 80 residencies, supporting more than 60 diverse artists and companies. Our doors are open to artists from various performative art forms, spanning theatre-making to songwriting. The space is a canvas for rehearsal, research and development, workshops, and sharings.

**SANCTUARY** offers time and space—room to think, dream, play, experiment, stumble, succeed, refine, and create. This guide will walk you through the opportunities available, including the schedule, details of financial support, the specific focus of our support efforts, and the application process.

If this sounds like it could be for you, consider spending summer on the stunning south coast. With its breathtaking beaches and the world's second-largest natural harbour, being in Poole may ignite and nurture your creative spirit.



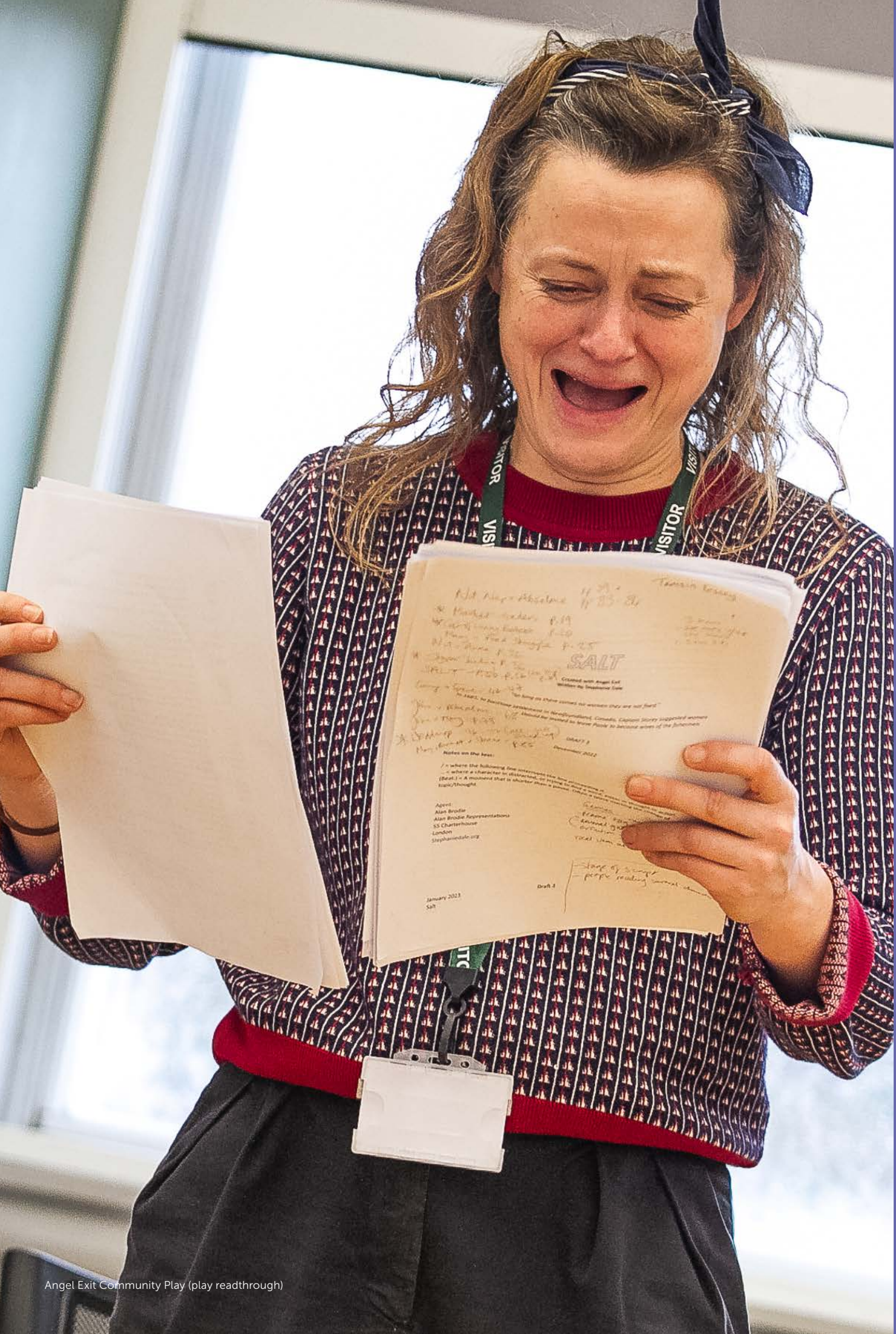
**Elspeth**, Chief Executive Officer (CEO)



SUPPORTED BY



Registered Number 1368325 | Charity Registration Number 275961



Angel Exit Community Play (play readthrough)

# What we can offer

## THE CREATION SPACES

**The Sherling Studio** - is a 130-seat, fully equipped, thrust venue. It was refurbished in 2016 and can be configured to increase workspace and reduce seating. As one of 4 venues within the arts centre it usually plays host to visiting artists and companies from around the UK and is particularly recognised for small scale theatre, children's drama, the annual music and comedy series, and recital programme.

In the Sherling Studio:

- **Exclusive use of the Sherling Studio for a finite period (Mon- Fri) between 10am and 5pm**
- **Up to 2 days of technical support from one of our technicians**
- **Fixed lighting and sound rig**
- **Projector/screen**
- **Separate large technical booth**
- **A dressing room for 4 people and use of Green Room (shared)**
- **Facility for broadcasting or filming (within capacity)**
- **Sharing of your work during your residency**

You may use some or all of the above depending on what is most useful to you.

**The Function Rooms** - three, bright, airy rooms with natural daylight (blackout blinds available).

## DATES & PROVISION

We have full weeks available throughout August (excluding bank holidays) and depending on the level of interest may be able to extend this.

## FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

We have a small budget allocated for travel and accommodation. Please note that this cannot go towards the main cost of your R&D.

**'We had a wonderful time in the Sherling Studio with attentive technicians. The sharing was so useful for us to realise where we are at and it was great to have people come to the Q&A.'**

Sanctuary artist



Gecko: Kin (rehearsal image)



Hannah Kumari: Spinning wheel – rehearsal image (photography by Craig Fuller)

# Application and Selection

## WE WILL CONSIDER...

We are keen to ensure this opportunity is available to a range of artists in the UK and from a cross section of art forms. We encourage applications from those who are currently underrepresented in the performing arts sector and face barriers because of their ethnicity, disability, socio-economic background, sexuality, or gender.

We would expect that the artists we support through SANCTUARY have worked in a professional capacity previously. We will prioritise artists and companies who:

- are working in performance (including but not limited to theatre, circus, outdoor arts, music, opera...)
- are based in the BCP City Region, Dorset, or the South West
- are from communities consistently underrepresented in UK theatre
- are making exciting, ambitious, innovative work that has the potential to engage our communities
- for Studio space we would support those who will benefit from time in a theatrical space (rather than a rehearsal room)
- wish to explore digital practice either to integrate within the performance or to broadcast to a wider audience
- feel that they can both benefit from, and actively contribute to, a relationship with Lighthouse and the creative community of the region.

## WE ARE LESS ABLE TO CONSIDER...

Both The Sherling Studio and Function rooms' restricted height means it is not usually suitable for circus unless it is floor-based.

The programme is not intended to support applicants who are currently in undergraduate or full-time postgraduate education and/or have less than one year of professional experience.

**'I've really enjoyed having the space to play around and experiment. It's helped my mental health and allowed me to take risks as an artist.'**

Sanctuary artist



Elizabeth Gunawan and Created a Monster – rehearsal image of Unforgettable Girl.



# What's the Catch?

## SOUNDS GREAT... WHAT'S THE CATCH?

Lighthouse currently funds SANCTUARY as it sees it as investment in high quality arts offers in Dorset.

In return, we would ask for:

**None of these are compulsory** but they are much appreciated by Lighthouse and help promote the quality of work we support.

- **Artists/companies to consider supporting our creative engagement programme by offering a supplementary experience. This may be through a workshop, a Q&A, an interview, a blog... We are happy to talk about what is appropriate and feasible with you and this could be delivered digitally.**
- **You to acknowledge Lighthouse support in your online presence and social media, and future work that emerges as a result of your creation time at Lighthouse;**
- **Lighthouse to be offered the opportunity to present any future work that emerges as a part of our received programme.**

**'It was great to have a space to develop the script at last. If Sanctuary didn't exist, I probably wouldn't have taken the opportunity to work on it at this time so it really kicked things off again. The rehearsal space was great-big, light and airy and quiet.'**

Sanctuary artist



Angel Exit Community Play (play readthrough)





# How do I Apply?

To register your interest, just use the application form to tell us a little about who you are, what you do and what you would like to use the space for. We would also like to know what support you might need, and which weeks you are interested in. If the form is not accessible to you, you can email or send in a video, ensuring that you provide answers to our questions. We are anticipating a high demand, so please use your application to provide as much information as possible to help us know how best to allocate the space.

Please email applications to our Creative Engagement manager [martha.earley@lighthousepoole.co.uk](mailto:martha.earley@lighthousepoole.co.uk)

## DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS

Deadline for applications is Sunday 28th February 2024.

This is to allow time for applicants to apply for funding support from Arts Council or other funders.

If you are unsuccessful in securing Sanctuary space in the first round, you will be put on a waiting list as space may become available closer to the date.

## WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

Once we have received your application, we will do our best to offer as many places as possible, subject to availability. We may contact you further if we feel that we need more information about you or your work in order to assist in our decision-making. If you are unsuccessful in securing Sanctuary space in the first round, you will be put on a waiting list as space may become available closer to the date.

For any further questions, please contact [martha.earley@lighthousepoole.co.uk](mailto:martha.earley@lighthousepoole.co.uk)



DorsetBorn: Georgia and the Iceberg

**'Sanctuary was an amazing opportunity to develop my immersive audio play Mr illusion in a fun supportive environment. Plenty of opportunities to experiment, revise and just clown around.'**

Brad Gyori: Starecase Productions



Starecase Productions: Mr Illusion (rehearsal image)