

# BATH FRINGE 2018

## Annual Report



This year's Fringe went to places we've never been before - and to a few we've not been to in a while, as well.

Bedlam Fair returned to the redeveloped SawClose with shows worthy of the classic Bath backdrop, and we also took over Bath Street again, and even the large cobbled area by the Roman Baths for our biggest show: Bath-based **Ramshacklicious'** crazed *The Band at the End of the World*, including extra cast from local performing arts students and musicians. Bedlam also put shows into Radstock, especially the performance of our collaborative project **Outside! Now!!** - which often includes workshop participants from the Somer Valley area - a precision-timed slapstick disaster called *The Chain*, created by our old friends **DotComedy**.



RAMSHACKLICIOUS - pic Mark Dawson

BEDLAM FAIR - pic Richard Westlake



Our Arts Council-supported **New Work Works** project supporting new street shows had more applicants than ever before, and included a number of more established high quality artists, bringing more mayhem, laughs, quirky art and astounding skills to SawClose and Kingsmead Square. Bedlam really showed us a vintage year this year, and was visited by the leading national organisation in the sector (Independent Street Arts Network, now renamed **Outdoor Arts UK**) putting us properly on the national map.

**Bath Fringe Report 2018**

Elsewhere in the city we supported **The Theatre Bath Bus** to drive onto Brunel Square, right by the Railway Station, to present a very full weekend of shows (fourteen) and gear themselves up for their visit to Edinburgh Fringe. We also supported immersive theatre company **Fake Escape**.

Very friendly and helpful. event was wonderfully inclusive. Didn't feel high pressured at all. Felt very free to experiment and practice freely. couldn't have succeeded the same way without it.  
- New Work Works artist



Pic Wendy Matthews

- The **Mission Theatre** hosted a fortnight of new shows (and there were also top quality Fringe showings at **The Rondo**) and we supported some extra marketing & press work for this year's Theatre programme – we're taking steps towards strengthening this strand of the Festival, and will be adding initiatives in 2019.
- Also under Marketing, we employed a couple of students (with money via Bath Spa University's own work experience programme) to kick off Instagram coverage of this year's Fringe and to create content for Twitter and Facebook calculated to connect with their generation. The experience was a good one – we hope to repeat or even extend it in 2019 – and getting more people interacting and posting about the Fringe on Social Media is undoubtedly a good thing!  
Thankyou Izzie & Kelly!
- Students from Bristol's specialist 'university of circus' **Circomedia** added surrealism to our **Openings Night** – when all the art shows open – and we also had our most successful Openings Night Party at Green Park Station (with thanks to the Brasserie) as well as a cracking **Bedlam Cabaret** night (even on a Sunday!).



RAMSHACKLICIOUS - pic Mark Dawson

"Love the set-up great use of space"  
"Most bizarre show I've ever seen"  
(Ramshacklicious)  
"Very jolly!"  
"Thoroughly enjoyed sitting in Kingsmead Square" (over 85 yrs)  
"Keep funding the Arts!"  
- Audience members at Bedlam

# Fringe Arts Bath (FAB)

...had another great year, with over 25 curated shows in 8 city centre locations (and some satellite sites) with over 9000 visitors. Both sides of the Fringe collaborated in Walcot Chapel for **LIVE!** - 6 events among the artworks at this historic Fringe venue - and **Fake Escape**.



**17** days

Over **150** performances to **18000** people (9000 at visual arts, 5000 at free events)

**480** Performers

**180** Participants

**110** Volunteers

## LANTERN PARADE

(November 2017)

4 artists

6 community & school groups

Over 150 participants

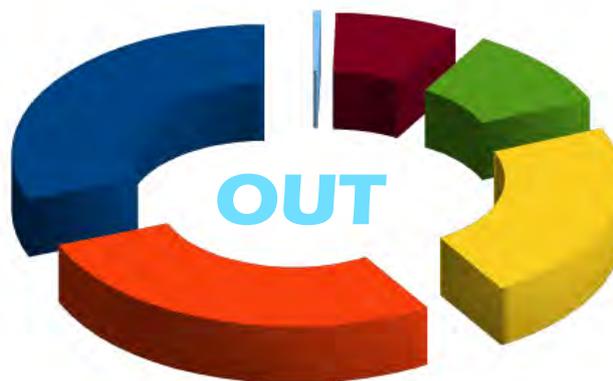
Cost £14,000

## BATH FRINGE in numbers



Grants	£ 47764
Trusts	£ 38000
Donations	£ 1600
Sponsorship	£ 650
Marketing	£ 4256
Tickets	£ 148
Other	£ 699
<b>Total</b>	<b>£ 93117</b>

Artists	£ 27257
Staff	£ 24500
Production	£ 19922
Marketing	£ 9030
Office	£ 6946
Other	£ 394
<b>Total</b>	<b>£ 88049</b>



"Thank you for including me and my family, we've recently moved to the area and being invited to be part of a community festival is lovely".

"It's magical!"

- Lantern Parade feedback

## BATH FRINGE Ltd.

A CoOperative Limited Company

Company Number: 2716515

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**ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND**



The Roper Family Trust

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The Bell Inn

**Bath Fringe Report 2018**