BATH FRINGE REPORT 2024

The numbers tell a positive story, as does our truly eye-popping cover by Bath Spa University student Tanya Miles, though - such are the pressures at the grass-roots - a small handful of the shows didn't end up happening. The number of artists does demonstrate that there is still a role for a Fringe Festival in the postpandemic artistic landscape, but that it's far from easy.

Highlights are always going to be a personal thing, but - anyway - we were glad that this year's programme included three Fringe-promoted music gigs at **Komedia**, alongside a downloadable poetry walk and a celebration of 150 years of the **Harrington Club**!

WEBSITE:

Unique visitors April - May - June: 5K - 8K - 5K Visits: 8K - 12.5K - 7K **FACEBOOK:** Reach: 38.3K Visits 3.6K **INSTAGRAM:** Reach: 16K Visits: 2.1K **X/TWITTER:** Impressions: 15.9K 100 PERFORMANCES - PLUS 200 VISUAL ARTISTS, IN 50 INDIVIDUAL ART EVENTS & EXHIBITIONS -TO MORE THAN 14,000 PEOPLE OVER 17 DAYS

> "Very supportive in discussing event ideas, venues and options." - Jennifer Crook

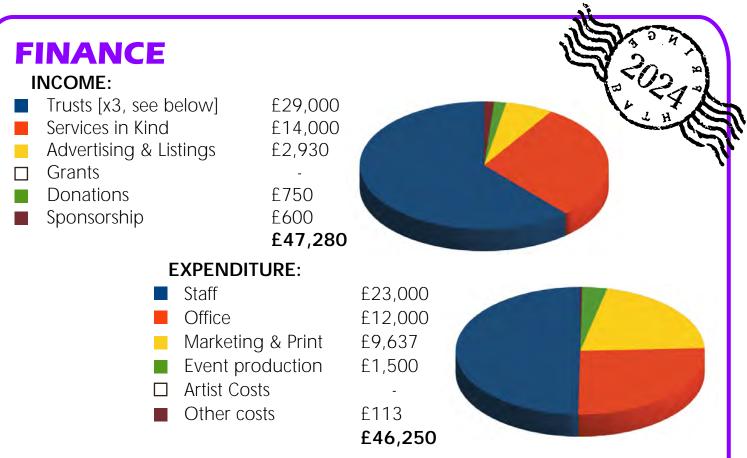




"Our head of content ... has been singing your praises. It's rare to find support like the kind you've given and we all really appreciate it, for what turned out to be one of the best artistic experiences for me and the whole team. Thank you !" - Tim Arnold

Burdall's Yard had a strong Fringe showing with 12 programmed events over 17 days, moving away from the theatre basis of its parent organisation **The Mission Theatre** [11 events]. We had a stronger than usual showing for Classical music – including Cardiff Opera and concert pianist Nurry Lee [2 shows] – which might spring from the smaller number of music events in the programme of the once-Classical -dominated Bath Festival. **Nowhere** – formerly popular venue Green Park Tavern – joined the cluster of Fringe venues in the south of the city, the focal point of which was again the **Fringe Arts Bath** takeover of a chunk of **Newark Works** on the Bath Quays South development area, the city's new business window, and in optimist mode, FaB's success there has to be significant. The Fringe Office enjoyed its made-in-Bath Film night, United Visionaries of Bath, and it looks like this will become an annual informal showcase event. And speaking of The Fringe Office, the busiest Fringe performance venue was again **The Bell** [15 events] which we're pleased about because it's where our office is and they're our longest-running supporters!





AND NEXT YEAR...

However, alongside successes we need to also note that the Fringe Children's Festival only managed two days this year, and those indoors, and that we still haven't managed to resurrect our popular flagship Bedlam Fair street performance weekend. Arts funding and volunteer energy is precarious throughout the sector, and sponsorship does not seem to be buoyant enough to substitute for that. That issue, and these events amongst others, remain firmly at the centre of where we are going to have to work hard for the coming year.

Bath Fringe is supported by:

The Roper Family Trust"Such good supportThe Cobalt TrustBeing part of the IThe Joyce Fletcher TrustRadstock FayreThe Bell InnWessex WaterBath Fringe is in partnership with Bath Spa University

"Such good support from the Bath Fringe Team as always. Being part of the Bath Fringe increases awareness of the Radstock Fayre and draws new audiences from Bath." - Mark Bishop, Natural Theatre Co.

²hoto: Get The Blessing by Luke John Emmett



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