



A DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME FOR STORYTELLERS FROM PLACES OTHER THAN HERE.

Do you enjoy telling stories and have some experience of performance?

Are you a 1st, 2nd or 3rd generation migrant?

Do you want to reimagine and perform myths, folklore and fairy tales but also ghost stories, epics, fantasy and sci-fi narratives from around the world with the help of a world-leading storyteller, theatre director and two arts producers?

Join us for #Tellyours2018, a free programme for emerging storytellers.

THIS YEAR'S THEME: OTHERNESS AND HOSPITALITY

All that you touch you change. All that you change changes you. The only lasting truth is change - Octavia Butler

This year's theme is Otherness and Hospitality. What happens when gods in disguise come knocking on your door? Can encounters between the fairy kingdom and the human world end well? Should gods fall in love with mortals? Since the dawn of time, mythology and folklore from around the world have explored what happens when different worlds meet and acknowledged that our nature, as humans, is to move, transform and adapt. In this year's programme, storytellers are invited to explore this theme.

WHO CAN APPLY?

- 1) You may be the person reading *Kindred* for the tenth time, or the one leaving offerings at the crossroads. You may be the one believing that things you see with the corner of your eye are things worth paying attention to, or the one who's always loved myth, mystery, folk, sci-fi, fantasy and wants to perform them live on stage.
- 2) You like the idea of standing up in front of an audience and performing a story.
- 3) You have some experience of performing on stage. It can be theatre, live literature, spoken word, comedy, storytelling or any other type of performance art.
- 4) You are a first, second, or third generation migrant. You or your family will have moved from somewhere, at some point.

WHAT DO YOU GET?

Thanks to Arts Council England, we are able to offer this training opportunity free of charge. The programme runs over a 6-month period between January 2018 – June 2018 and includes:

- 1) A full day group introduction involving taster workshops, voice work, interactive games, round table discussions and an explanation of the programme. Storytellers will also be told what to expect and what is expected of them.
- 2) Four full-day workshops with a world-leading storyteller. Among other things, storytellers will explore traditional tales structure, use of imagery and dialogue, and learn how to adapt antiquated texts so that they speak to a contemporary audience.
- 3) A full-day workshop with a theatre director. The workshop will focus on the performance aspect of storytelling. You will explore how to use your body and physicality to enhance your storytelling skills and performance craft. By adding simple theatre making techniques, including the use of music, sound and/or simple costume and props, this workshop will help you to discover the theatrical potential of your storytelling performances.
- 4) A one-to-one mentoring session with mentor and producer, Melanie Abrahams, either in person or on Skype. In this session you'll be able to discuss your artistic direction, your future as a storyteller, or anything else you might need guidance on.

- 5) Two full-day workshops on producing and selling your show with Livia Filotico from Filotico Arts.
- 6) A half-day follow-up in which the whole team checks in and delivers feedback on storytellers' progress.
- 7) Showcases of stories developed and networking opportunities.
- 8) An in depth exploration of the language of myth, the language of migration and how the two can work together to progress towards a more inclusive future.

HOW TO APPLY

Please submit the following information to tellyours@filoticoarts.com by 5pm on November 20th 2017. We will not accept late applications. Seriously.

- 1) 250 words on your experience as a performer.
- 2) 250 words on why you are applying to this programme.
- 3) 250 words on your experience of storytelling as an art form. If you have none, tell us what attracts you about the idea of performance storytelling.
- 4) A 3 - 5 minute video of yourself performing a story. If you are having problems submitting a video, get in touch by email and we will help you through it.
- 5) 100 words or less on your experience in 'the business of being an artist'. This can encompass anything from social media through forging partnerships and the art of negotiation.
- 6) A reference from someone you have worked with/studied with in the last 5 years.

Interviews will take place at Free Word, London on December 4th 2017. Shortlisted candidates will receive a schedule before the end of the year. The programme kicks off in January 2018. If you would like to request the exact dates of each session email us on tellyours@filoticoarts.com

Submission deadline: November 20th 2017.

WHO'S GOING TO TEACH YOU?

Daniel Morden is one of the leading exponents in the art of storytelling. For 21 years he has delighted audiences all over the world with his performances including the Vancouver, Oslo and Yukon storytelling festivals, The Hay, Beyond The Border, Bath and Cheltenham festivals and at venues such as The Barbican, The National Theatre and The British Museum. He has also worked on television and radio, and has published six children's books. In 2006 together with Hugh Lupton he won The Classical Association Award for 'the most significant contribution to the public understanding of the classics'.

Jennifer Tang is an award-winning UK and International stage director and theatre maker. She specialises in making new work across multiple disciplines. Her practice - spanning new writing, devised work, and verbatim content - regularly uses music as an integral component. Jennifer's interest is in making work that draws inspiration from specific communities and the stories that arise from these particular groups. Her work is politically urgent and emotionally vital. She has worked at The Young Vic; The RSC; The Royal Opera House; The Drum & TRP and The Gate Theatre among others.

Founder of Renaissance One and Tilt, **Melanie Abrahams** is a leading literature producer and curator in the England arts scene and the recipient of a Women To Watch Award for her arts work. She brings diverse artists and audiences to the arts and the public and champions Black leadership in the North as an Enabler for Eclipse Theatre's Sustained Theatre funded project SLATE.

Livia Filotico is the founder and artistic director of Filotico Arts, a cultural organisation promoting the spoken and written word as transformative acts through events, partnerships and artistic support. Livia has a background in communications, anthropology and arts marketing having worked for one of the UK's largest literature charities as well as for small bookshops, publishers as well as individuals artists, writers and storytellers. She created TellYours because she thinks the world needs more storytellers.

WHO ELSE IS INVOLVED?

Counterpoint Arts engages with refugee and migrant experiences through arts and cultural programmes. Their mission is to support and produce the arts by and about migrants and refugees, seeking to ensure that their contributions are recognised and welcomed within British arts, history and culture.

Joy Francis is executive director of **Words of Colour Productions**, a creative communications agency that promotes, facilitates and develops writers of colour – of all genres, collaborates with arts, creative and writing industries to increase cultural inclusion, and creates multi-platform projects to reshape the single narrative misrepresenting diverse communities. As a social business, Words of Colour works with a diverse range cross sector agencies, from Hackney Museum, Arvon and Spread the Word to Royal Court Theatre, Waterstones and HarperCollins. Joy is also co-founder and head of Digital Women UK, a Words of Colour digital initiative for female creatives and entrepreneurs, launched in 2013.

TellYours is generously supported by **Arts Council England**.