

East Midlands - Commissioning Tool Kits (Breakout Groups)

Commissioning Toolkit - Group 1

- Aspire to high production values
- Commission to leave a legacy, e.g. A tour
- Link into ISAN
- Manage commissioning timescales
- Realistic incubation periods
- Clear budget guidelines
- Access to professional services advice

Commissioning Toolkit - Group 2

- Where do I find artists to commission?
 - ISAN
 - Agency/festivals have showcases
- Practical toolkit
- Needs to be generic/bespoke to each commission
- Is there a one size fits all?
 - General principles
- Some specific issues covered by ISAN (Outdoor work) Practical stuff
- Comes out in the process of doing/making
- Come and develop a creative dialogue
- Who owns commissioned work?
- Theatre is commissioned with a view to touring, visual art is not about touring at all - same for street arts?
- Practical timings (need to know)
 - Contractual, applications
 - Commissioner needs to know: artists insurance status, risk assessment
- How do you brief for outside/non-text based work?
 - Be specific
 - Lots of dialogue
- Issues of trust are important
- Commissioning of outdoor and indoor are similar
- Things go wrong when there are grey areas
 - Unforeseen costs
 - Who is responsible
- First/biggest step is to find the artist
- Audience is the starting point
- Reinforce bureaucratic nature of EU Funds
- Annual get together for artists and commissioners