

North East - Setting the Scene

What do we mean by circus and street arts, in the context of outdoor arts?

- Spectacle, wonder, and awe
- Odd locations
- Magical and life affirming
- Huge twist for week
- Guerilla work - folk
- Ordinary locations - it comes to you
- Accessible
- Burma - Shave
- Strongly visual
- It moves through a space - procession
- Political work on the rise?
- Full spectrum of scale
- Aerial dance
- Unspecified audience
- No prior knowledge required but educated over time
- Tented circus/outdoor circus
- Political

What are the contexts in which this work is produced and presented?

- Festivals - too often limited
- Purchased
- Pop festivals
- Dangerous assumption around ease
- Community festivals nurture talent
- Audience development
- Importance of local authorities
- Artistic drive to make work
- Permissive councils let performers develop
- Imagination our nation
- Festival of carnivals?

What are the structures needed to support the development of this work?

- Importance of creation centres
- Plurality of funding streams
- Technical requirements e.g anchor points
- University course
- Support practitioners working with young people
- Communities not schools
- Locations, promoters and presenters
- Finding space to do stuff
- Structured progression route