



Venues North  
Edinburgh Fringe 2015



# Welcome to the very first Venues North Edinburgh Fringe Festival guide!

Venues North is a network of venues from across the North of England who are committed to supporting artists to create new work. Our aim is to work together as venues to support new and emerging artists from the North to get their work more widely seen regionally, nationally and internationally.

Over the course of the year, Venues North members support many artists and companies to create new work, and we are pleased to see so much of this on show at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival this year.

Each of the shows featured in this guide has been supported by one of our members, and we are proud to be collectively presenting such an outstanding programme of work.

We hope you choose to see some of it in Edinburgh this year.

**Annabel Turpin**  
**Chair, Venues North**  
**ARC Stockton**

 @annabelturpin

## Tickets

If you would like tickets to see one of the shows, please either contact the company directly, or via Arts Industry [artsindustry@edfringe.com](mailto:artsindustry@edfringe.com)

## Venues North members:

Venues North is not a closed network or an exclusive group of venues, but open to any venue in the North that shares our commitment to artist development and new work.

### Current members include:

- ARC, Stockton Arts Centre
- Arts Centre Washington
- The Civic, Barnsley
- Brewery Arts Centre, Kendal
- Cast, Doncaster
- Contact, Manchester
- Harrogate Theatre
- HOME, Manchester
- Hull Truck Theatre
- Lawrence Batley Theatre, Huddersfield
- Live Theatre, Newcastle
- Liverpool Everyman & Playhouse
- Northern Stage, Newcastle
- Point Blank/South Yorkshire Touring Scheme, Sheffield
- Royal Exchange, Manchester
- Slung Low's HUB, Leeds
- Square Chapel Centre for the Arts, Halifax
- stage@leeds
- The Lowry, Salford
- The Met, Bury
- Theatre by the Lake, Keswick
- Theatre in the Mill, Bradford
- Unity Theatre, Liverpool
- West Yorkshire Playhouse, Leeds
- York Theatre Royal

Venues North: supported by Live Theatre

## Our Ladies of Perpetual Succour

### National Theatre of Scotland and Live Theatre

Catholic schoolgirls go wild! The choir trip to the capital goes badly wrong. Funny, sad and raucously rude. A play about singing, sex and sambuca.

Six girls on the cusp of change. Love, lust, pregnancy and death all spiral out of control in a single day. A musical play about losing your virginity and finding yourself.

Adapted from Alan Warner's novel *The Sopranos*, director Vicky Featherstone and Billy Elliot author, Lee Hall, create a tribute to being young, lost and out of control.

 #ourladies

**18 - 23 Aug**

**25 - 30 Aug**

18, 20, 26 Aug 10.30am

21, 27 Aug 1.15pm

22, 28 Aug 4.30pm

23, 29 Aug 6.45pm

25, 30 Aug 9.15pm

19 Aug 9.30pm

Venue: **Traverse Theatre**

Price: **£8 - £20**

[Click here for box office information](#)



# Some People Talk About Violence

## Barrel Organ

*'There is no use in rage. There is no use in screaming. There is no use in crying out and screaming "this is unfair", just f\*cking wait, cause no one cares.'*

In a world of globalization and greed, of zero-hour contracts and The Big Bang Theory, violence worms its way into every aspect of our lives.

Following their debut show *Nothing*, multi award-winning young company Barrel Organ present *Some People Talk About Violence*. Expect people, or just ideas, in mindless frustration, on the edge of some kind of revolt.

 @Barrel\_Organ

**5 – 7 Aug (previews)**

**8 - 28 Aug**

10.40am

Venue: **Summerhall**

Price: **Weekdays £9.50 / £7.50** (previews £7)  
**Weekend £10.50 / £9.50**

[Click here for box office information](#)



# CINEMA



## Cinema

### Zendeh

August 1978. Cinema Rex fire, Abadan, Iran. Four-hundred and twenty-two dead. The year of Superman, Saturday Night Fever, and an act of terror that sparked a revolution. Who will remember the dead? Shahrzad – feral cat, teller of tales – pleads with Death for one more life. To have another saucer of milk. To tell the stories of the dead. Paris, Baga, Peshawar, Aleppo, New York, London, Utoya, Abadan... What matters now is that the names are not forgotten.

 @ZENDEH\_tweets

**8 – 9 (previews)**

**10 – 11 Aug**

**13 – 18 Aug**

**20 – 25 Aug**

**27 – 30 Aug**

10.45am

Venue: **Northern Stage at Summerhall**

Price: **£10 / £8** (previews: £8)

[Click here for box office information](#)



## The 56

### FYSA Theatre

*"Nobody dies in football matches in fires. It doesn't happen".*

At 3.40pm, May 11th 1985, a small fire broke out in the main stand at Valley Parade football ground during the final match of the season. Within four minutes the wooden structure was ablaze.

Adapted solely from real-life testimonies this piece of documentary theatre pays homage to the supporters who lost their lives in one of the darkest days in British footballing history. On the 30th anniversary of the disaster, *The 56* examines themes of solidarity, strength and community in the face of overwhelming tragedy.

*"FYSA Theatre speaks with admirable feeling and clarity." \*\*\*\* AYoungerTheatre.com*

*"A highly recommended, flawless show." \*\*\*\* EdFringeReview.com*

 @FYSATheatre

**6 -7 Aug (previews)**

**8 – 15 Aug**

**18 – 31 Aug**

**12noon**

Venue: **Assembly George Square Studios**

Price: **Weekdays £8 / £7** (previews: £5)

**Weekend £10 / £9**

[Click here for box office information](#)



## Key Change

### Open Clasp Theatre Company in association with Live Theatre

The prison van, fences high, a magpie. *'One for sorrow. Snatched the babies. The mother fought, but it was too big and flew too high.'*

Devised by women from HMPYOI Low Newton and originally toured to male prisons, Key Change is a raw and illuminating portrayal of women in prison, using only a few chairs, a ghetto blaster and four rolls of masking tape.

Directed by Laura Lindow, written by Catrina McHugh and developed through a Dilly Arts commission, Key Change was named the North East's Best Devised Piece by British Theatre Guide in 2014.

 @OpenClasp

**8 – 9 (previews)**

**10 – 11 Aug**

**13 – 18 Aug**

**20 – 25 Aug**

**27 – 30 Aug**

**12.30pm**

Venue: **Northern Stage at Summerhall**

Price: **£12 / £10** (previews: £10)

[Click here for box office information](#)



## Labels

### Worklight Theatre

This intimate new show from the award-winning stage@leeds associate artists Worklight Theatre draws on writer/performer Joe Sellman-Leava's experiences of mixed heritage and racism.

*Labels* examines the way we use words, the line between curiosity and fear, and the rise of anti-immigration rhetoric. When the UKIP phenomenon placed migration at the centre of the 2015 general election, Worklight felt compelled to premiere the piece at this year's Fringe. Amid the cacophony of statistics and soundbites that surround the immigration debate, *Labels* offers an honest, human story about multicultural Britain.

*"Powerful, important and funny."* Emma Thompson

 @worklight\_uk

**5 – 7 Aug (previews)**

**8 – 16 Aug**

**18 – 31 Aug**

12.35pm

Venue: **Pleasance Courtyard (Bunker One)**

Price: **Weekdays £7.50 - £9 / £6.50 - £8**

(previews: £6)

**Weekend £9.50 / £8.50**

[Click here for box office information](#)



## The Soaking of Vera Shrimp

### Rosie & Me

During an almighty rainstorm, Vera Shrimp discovers a remarkable gift. She can read raindrops, each one having soaked up an emotion from those the water has come into contact with. As her family disintegrates, Vera's extraordinary ability takes on an urgent significance. Part science lesson, part story-telling, this is a poignant, playful solo-show about love, grief and never giving up. *'Funny, heartbreaking, really compelling'* (audience review). Winner Live Theatre and Empty Space Bursary award 2013.

Rosie & Me is writer Alison Carr and director Rosie Kellagher. Alison Carr is a member of the Traverse 50. Her play *Fat Alice* delighted sell-out audiences earlier this year.

*"Audaciously offbeat."* *The Times*

 @VeraShrimp

**5 – 7 Aug (previews)**

**8 – 17 Aug**

**19 – 31 Aug**

12.45pm

Venue: **Pleasance Courtyard (Attic)**

Price: **Weekdays £7.50 / £7.50** (previews: £6)  
**Weekend £7.50 - £9 / £6.50 - £8**

[Click here for box office information](#)

Venues North: supported by ARC Stockton and Northern Stage



## Going Viral

### An ARC Stockton Production

An aeroplane flies from India to England. Everyone on board is weeping.

Everyone except you.

On the ground, the weeping spreads. Is it a strange new disease? An outbreak of hysteria? Or has the world become genuinely sad?

In this uncanny, high-definition world we are all more connected, more vulnerable, and more human - but not equally so.

*Going Viral* is a thrilling new development in Daniel Bye's unique blend of storytelling, playful comedy and performance lecture.

Written and performed by Daniel Bye

Directed by Dick Bonham

With artistic support from Alexander Kelly and Sarah Punshon

Developed with support from Arts Council England, Camden People's Theatre, Northern Stage, The Yard Theatre, Triggered @ Warwick Arts Centre, QTP India and the Wellcome Trust

 @danielbye, @arcstockton

**8 – 9 Aug (previews)**

**10 – 11 Aug**

**13 – 18 Aug**

**20 – 25 Aug**

**27 – 30 Aug**

2.10pm

Venue: **Northern Stage at Summerhall**

Price: **£12 / £10** (previews: £10)

[Click here for box office information](#)

Venues North: supported by ARC Stockton and Theatre in the Mill



## Tribute Acts

### TheatreState

The bad guys keep winning. Cheryl and Tess didn't expect life to be like this. They dream of simpler times when their Dads were in charge and politicians were like rockstars. Deciding to make a tribute act, they attempt to resurrect their forgotten heroes. But when faced with videos of their fathers, their music doesn't match up.

*Tribute Acts* is a darkly comic, strikingly honest show that asks whether our remembered pasts are, in fact, a fiction.

*"Thrillingly live and committed to dismembering the assumptions that underpin contemporary popular culture. Great fun."* Brian Logan

 @TheatreState

**6 – 7 Aug (previews)**

**8 – 18 Aug**

**20 – 30 Aug**

**2.50pm**

Venue: **Assembly Roxy**

Price: **Weekdays £8** (previews: £6)  
**Weekend £10**

[Click here for box office information](#)

## Human Resources

### Hannah Jane Walker & Chris Thorpe

You're the kind of person who never backs down from a fight. You were the kind of kid who licked the iron. The stories become who you are. This show is a conversation about whether that is useful.

*Human Resources* is the new show from the award-winning collaboration between poet Hannah Jane Walker and theatre maker Chris Thorpe. Their shows feel like generous, open conversations, with poetry and storytelling at its heart and space for audiences to contribute in meaningful ways. Previous collaborations include Fringe First-winning *The Oh F\*\*k Moment* (2011) and *I Wish I Was Lonely* (2013).

Commissioned by REACH, the strategic touring project managed by ARC Stockton and Dep Arts

 @hanwalker, @piglungs

**8 – 9 Aug (previews)**

**10 – 11 Aug**

**13 – 18 Aug**

**20 – 25 Aug**

**27 – 30 Aug**

3.55pm

Venue: **Northern Stage at Summerhall**

Price: **£12 / £10** (previews: £10)

[Click here for box office information](#)



Venues North: supported by Harrogate Theatre

## Edith in the Dark

Harrogate Theatre in association with  
Reform Theatre

Celebrated children's author Edith Nesbit retreats to her attic writing room to escape her husband's annual Christmas party. Planning to seduce an uninvited guest, she ends up reading her extraordinary *Tales of Terror* to the young man, and her housekeeper. But all is not what it seems...

Featuring monstrous tales of lost love, bitter revenge and vampire plants, Nesbit's spine-tingling ghost stories come to life in this thrilling new drama by Fringe First Award-winning Philip Meeks.

*"Highly original."* Guardian

*"A superbly written play... a devilishly good idea."* Stage

*"A delicate balance of tongue-in-cheek and heart-in-mouth."* Public Reviews

 @edithinthedark

**5 - 6 Aug (previews)**

**7 - 17 Aug**

**19 - 30 Aug**

4.25pm

Venue: **Momentum Playhouse @ St Stephens**

Price: **Weekdays £9.50 / £8.50,**  
**Weekends £11.50 / £9.50** (previews £8)

[Click here for box office information](#)



Venues North: supported by Unity Theatre



## Chicken

Eastern Angles and Unity Theatre, Liverpool

*If they all ganged up on us, they could rule the world.  
We wouldn't stand a chance.*

The UK has split, London sits as a sovereign state, the country divided.

Entire regions, communities and families are left desperate for survival.

A darkly comic new play by Molly Davies (Royal Court, Soho Theatre, Hampstead Theatre) and directed by Steven Atkinson

Produced by Eastern Angles in association with Unity Theatre  
Supported by Arts Council England

 @easternangles

**7 Aug** (preview)

**8 – 10 Aug**

**12 – 17 Aug**

**19 – 24 Aug**

**26 – 30 Aug**

5.05pm

Venue: **Roundabout @ Summerhall**

Price: **Weekdays £14 / £12** (preview: £9)  
**Weekend £16 / £14**

[Click here for box office information](#)

Venues North: supported by Northern Stage



## The Paradise Project

### Third Angel and mala voadora

Imagine a place better than where you are. Every day they come in and try again. They try to figure out how to live together. They start to build something that will never be completed, at least not within their own life times. And everyday it works. Or it doesn't. Well, it depends how you measure it. So today, today they will try something different.

*The Paradise Project* is full of wit, intelligence and humanity. Join Third Angel (Sheffield) and mala voadora (Lisbon) for a show about following instructions, inventing your own rules, and keeping trying.

 @thirdangeluk

**8 – 9 (previews)**

**10 – 11 Aug**

**13 – 18 Aug**

**20 – 25 Aug**

**27 – 30 Aug**

5.40pm

Venue: **Northern Stage at Summerhall**

Price: **£12 / £10** (previews: £10)

[Click here for box office information](#)

Venues North: supported by Harrogate Theatre

## Night + Daze

### 412 Productions

A wild night out for a top lad on a mission, to party hard and catch a girl from heaven! Join Sheffy on a trip to another world, full of idiots, stimulants, booze and birds. Night + Daze is a new play for anyone who's ever had a big night out. It's a coming-of-age story about a lad that's mad for it. Through the city streets and nightclub beats, watch the madness and the mayhem unfold. Hilarious, rebellious and provocative, Night + Daze explores the beauty of youth on a night out you'll never forget!

Presented by 412 Productions with Richard Jordan Productions in association with Underbelly

 @412productions

**6 – 7 Aug (previews)**

**8 – 11 Aug**

**13 – 30 Aug**

7.20pm

Venue: **Cowgate, Underbelly**

Price: **Weekend £11 / £10**  
**Weekday £9.50 / £8.50**  
(previews £6)

[Click here for box office information](#)



Venues North: supported by Northern Stage

## My Name is...

### Tamasha

Discover the story behind the story that hit headlines in 2006. When Gaby disappeared from her Scottish home, it was assumed that her Pakistani father had kidnapped her and the spiralling headlines were only momentarily silenced when it emerged that Gaby may have fled of her own accord. To her mother Suzy's distress, Gaby declared: 'My name is Ghazala', and turned her back on Gaby and seemingly, the West.

*"...Humorous and entertaining."* \*\*\*\* *Time Out*

*"...Absolutely gripping ... a drama of terrific integrity."* \*\*\*\* *Scotsman*

Written by Sudha Bhuchar. Directed by Philip Osment.

 @tamashatheatre

8 – 9 (previews)

10 – 11 Aug

13 – 18 Aug

20 – 25 Aug

27 – 30 Aug

7.25pm

Venue: **Northern Stage at Summerhall**

Price: **£14 / £11** (previews: £11)

[Click here for box office information](#)



## E15

### FYSA Theatre

*'We want social housing, not social cleansing.'*

Facing skyrocketing rent and forced relocation, 29 young mothers united to confront Newham Council's gentrification of their hometown. Two years on, this bold and pertinent piece of theatre examines the Focus E15 movement, Britain's housing crisis and how one group of women refused to be marginalised.

Adapted solely from real life testimonies of activists, witnesses and councillors, *E15* truthfully addresses the themes of community, strength and solidarity in the face of overwhelming adversity.

*"FYSA Theatre speaks with admirable feeling and clarity." \*\*\*\* A Younger Theatre*

*"A highly recommended, flawless show." \*\*\*\* EdFringeReview.com*

 @FYSATheatre

**16 - 31 Aug**

7.45pm

Venue: **Gilded Balloon**

Price: **Weekdays £8 / £7**  
**Weekend £10 / £9**

[Click here for box office information](#)



THESE HOMES NEED PEOPLE

Venues North: supported by The Lowry and Northern Stage

## Five Feet in Front

### The Ballad of Little Johnnie Wylo

#### The Letter Room

A clock, a town, a sunrise on an empty open coffin and the wind. The wind, who's dead set on sticking someone in it by sunset. Down in the dust bowl the air's so thick folk just can't see what's coming their way anymore, all 'cept Johnnie, little Johnnie Wylo. Struggle, survival, sex and live music brewed up into a foot stomping, bath blasting, bone shaking hoedown. A wild and darkly funny tale about hope and daring to have it in the land of the downtrodden.

A Developed With The Lowry production.

The Studio Artist Development Programme is generously supported by the Esmée Fairburn Foundation and the Jerwood Charitable Foundation.

 @TheLetterRoom

**8 – 9 (previews)**

**10 – 11 Aug**

**13 – 18 Aug**

**20 – 25 Aug**

**27 – 30 Aug**

9.25pm

Venue: **Northern Stage at Summerhall**

Price: **£10 / £8** (previews: £8)

[Click here for box office information](#)





## Blake Remixed

West Yorkshire Playhouse, LittleMighty and Testament, in collaboration with DJ Woody

World Record-holding beatboxer and acclaimed rapper Testament smashes together UK Hip Hop with the iconic poetry of William Blake to create his first original theatre show.

Celebrating the greatest counter-cultural voices in British history, Blake Remixed fuses music and storytelling with a live DJ and interactive video.

Made in collaboration with Scratch DJ World Champion DJ Woody, this is a coming of age story with a difference.

Through a varied career Testament has worked with leading artists including Kate Tempest, Shlomo and Grammy winner Corinne Bailey Rae.

*"Brimming with skills."* Soweto Kinch, Mercury Nominee and MOBO winner

 @WYPlayhouse, @LittleMightyUK, @homecut

**6 – 7 Aug (previews)**

**8 – 18 Aug**

**20 – 29 Aug**

10.15pm

Venue: **Underbelly**

Price: **Weekdays £9 / £8** (previews: £6)  
**Weekend £10 / £9**

[Click here for box office information](#)

Venues North: supported by Northern Stage

# Here Is the News from Over There (Over There Is the News from Here)

## Northern Stage

Every day we see the news, images bombard us. What we miss are people's stories, the poetry of the ordinary. *News From Over There* brings together writers and performers from all over the Middle East and UK to fashion a new story woven from a tapestry of tweets, music, and storytelling.

Join us as we create an epic new ballad – live over 22 frantic Fringe nights. From *The Bloody Great Border Ballad* team.

 @northernstage

8 – 9 Aug (previews)

10 – 11 Aug

13 – 18 Aug

20 – 25 Aug

27 – 29 Aug

11.10pm

Venue: **Northern Stage at Summerhall**

Price: **£12 / £10** (previews: £10)

[Click here for box office information](#)







stage@leeds

Arts  
Centre  
Washington

the **Brewery**

CAST

unitytheatre

HOME

ht  
HARROGATE  
THEATRE



LAWRENCE BATLEY  
**THEATRE**  
HUDDERSFIELD  
INSPIRING PERFORMANCE

  
**THE LOWRY**  
ART & ENTERTAINMENT

**N**  
NORTHERN  
STAGE

THE  
**Civvic**  
BARNSELY

  
**Hull  
Truck**  
THEATRE

  
Royal  
Exchange  
Theatre

  
**ARC**  
Stockton Arts Centre

  
Theatre in the Mill

live  
theatre