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Performance Created in England

FABRIC
INTERNATIONAL

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ACE support for international working

Q&A with Nicola Smyth, Senior Manager
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BATTERSEA
ARTSCENTRE

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Key Takeaways

- Arts Council England (ACE) aims to expose artists to global talent and ideas.
- Results from an ACE survey show a decline in international activity among NPOs post-pandemic.
- ACE funding is now the primary enabler for international working.
- ACE does not have priority countries; funding is responsive to artist needs. However, they do have strategic initiatives with a focus on partnerships with European and Nordic countries.
- ACE has various funding programmes that support international activities, including touring and showcasing. See presentation above.
- Main funds for individual artists and non-NPOs looking to apply for international projects are Project Grants including the dedicated Touring strand, and DYCP.
- The Four Nations International Fund supports artists from different UK nations collaborating internationally. The ambition to open this fund again soon.
- ACE has removed the 15% limit on activity that can take place outside England on lottery funding for international projects. You can now apply for activity that takes place entirely abroad.
- ACE's mission is to serve artists and audiences in England. For projects that take place abroad, it is important to emphasise the long-term impacts and benefits of the project to you, the wider sector and audiences in England as part of your application.
- ACE supports showcasing opportunities abroad but there is no dedicated showcasing fund. Artists should apply via Project Grants.
- Attending networking events and supporting international presenters to travel to see your work are eligible activities for funding. Consider integrating these opportunities with organisational development activity or touring opportunities to strengthen the overall case for support.

Useful Links & Further Reading

Reports

- [Another Route Evaluation](#): Artist Fellowship that ran 2022 – 2024, designed to internationalise artist's practice.
- [International Activity Report](#): This report outlines the findings from a major study into the international activity of the Arts Council England-supported cultural ecosystem.
- [Fabian Society Arts Unit](#): A 90-page policy paper on bold ideas for culture policy, including advocating for the UK to rejoin Creative Europe.

Planning

- **International Guides**: Producers share their top tips on touring [Theatre & Dance](#) (Grace Okereke), [Participatory Work](#) (Beckie Darlington) and [Family Work](#) (Caleb Lee).
- **Video**: Panel Discussion on approaches to creating a strategy for international touring.
- **Culture Funding Watch**: A resource for artists and arts organisations to access information and intelligence around international funding opportunities.

Networking

- **Marketplaces**: The following networks and platforms offer networking opportunities for artists, presenters and producers in the performing arts:
 - [ISPA](#)
 - [IETM](#)
 - [Hong Kong Performing Arts Expo](#)
 - [APAM](#)
 - [PAMS](#)
 - [CINARS](#)
 - [Tanzmesse](#)
 - [Aerowaves](#)
- **Video**: Panel discussion on networks & networking

Mobility

- [On the Move](#): Research and practical information on international mobility and funding for artists
- [Arts Info Point UK](#): Supporting creative visits to and from the UK.
- [A Practical Guide to Touring Across Europe](#): A practical step-by-step overview guide, case studies and country-focused details to help navigate the post-Brexit touring landscape
- [Pearle](#): Publications on areas including copyright and tax in different EU countries.
- [Foreign Office](#): Advice and warnings about travel abroad, including entry requirements, safety and security, health risks and legal differences.

Cultural Context

- [International Briefings](#): Canada, Hong Kong, Egypt, Germany, Brazil, USA
- [Unlimited Case Studies](#): A series of videos offering top tips and insights from disabled artists who are working internationally.
- [Stonewall Global Workplace Briefings](#): Briefing documents on the situation for LGTQIA+ people in different countries.

Climate

- [Julie's Bicycle](#): Creative climate tools for measuring carbon emission from touring.
- [Creative Carbon Scotland](#): Practical Guides on various areas on collecting data, measuring impact and creating and integrating policies.
- [Video](#): Panel discussion on alternative models of touring.
- [Concept Touring](#): LIFT research & report.
- [Video](#): Panel discussion on sustainable approaches to international touring.