

Answers to Questions That You Might Have:



Who is Behind the Right Here Showcase?

The RIGHT HERE Showcase is produced by Off-Leash Area co-artistic director Paul Herwig, with the hope of it becoming an annual or biannual event. With the **Showcase** Paul Herwig has no other artistic or aesthetic agenda other than celebrating mid career performing artists who create original work, and who have a developed unique individual artistic vision, regardless of what discipline they are working in.

What is The Right Here Showcase?

The Right Here Showcase mission is to highlight Minnesota performing artists who are under recognized outside their own local circles or communities, but who, due to their resilience over time, dedication to craft, and development of a unique artistic vision, merit broader public exposure.

RHS seeks to establish an “aboveground” platform for audiences and these artists to meet. **RHS** will compensate artists fairly with substantial financial commissions, which it seeks to increase each year. **RHS** seeks to build broader audiences for original performance.

How does RHS define "mid-career"?

We are defining mid-career as artists those who have been working professionally for at least 10 years, and are 30 years and older, who are seen to have or are actively developing a singular artistic vision.

How does RHS define "original work"?

We define “original work” as a performance work whose authorship resides wholly with the creating artist. We understand that there are ideas and themes that are universal throughout history, and that for example previously published scripts and appropriation of other forms of choreography are constant practices, but these must be significantly passed through the unique vision of the creating artist.

How Does the RHS Define "Contemporary Performance"?

Contemporary Performance is a term often used by critics, curators, and academics to categorize live performance work that crosses artistic disciplines of dance, experimental theatre, visual art, musical composition & performance, or any number of artistic activities outside of traditional dance and theatre production, **without adhering solely to one of these individual disciplines.**

There is a field of work called “Contemporary Performance”. RHS’s use of the term is more flexible, in that the proposed work does not have to be labeled as “experimental” to be appropriate for the Showcase, and the work can have a clear and active engagement with its audience. **In fact, a work must have an active and clear engagement with its audience**, but the work must be a deeply organic extension of the artist.

Should playwrights apply?

If a playwright's work at its core does not follow the conventions of typical scripted theater, yes.

Should musicians or composers apply?

If there is a strong performative aspect to the presentation of the artist's work, yes.

What if I've never created an original work – this would be my first time?

Then the artist is not eligible to apply.

What if I have created many small short works, but this is my first shot at a “full-length” work?

Then you are eligible to apply, as long as you meet the other eligibility requirements.

What if I have created many works that would not be considered as “contemporary performance”?

If you can demonstrate in your Work Sample and narratives that there is a strong thread of intention and exploration moving towards a direction in your work where it is evident that you create original work, then you are eligible to apply. But keep in mind that you are competing with others who have a history of creating original work.

Is there a fee to apply, or to participate?

No.

What does the RHS supply?

Marketing, the artist fee, tech support, tech rehearsals in the performance space, a lighting design, and a Stage Hand during the performances.

What is the Artist obliged to do?

Conduct her/his own marketing in tandem with the Showcase, communicate with the artistic producer, participate in meetings to strategize marketing for her/his performances, provide detailed tech information in a timely manner, participate in technical meetings regarding her/his performance. And, finally, meet the challenge of creating a singular work under the demands of a public commission.