

AD INFINITUM TRUSTEE RECRUITMENT PACK



AD INFINITUM

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CHAIR'S WELCOME

Maybe I'm biased, but it's a particularly exciting time for Ad Infinitum CIO. After developing the organisation with the support of Arts Council's Elevate fund and being newly furnished with charitable status, the sky's the limit as we develop and grow our mission from our home in Bristol.

I'm proud of the immense resilience Ad Infinitum has demonstrated since the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic. Over the last year we have continued to innovate and deliver a programme of artistic work with representation and collaboration at its heart.

We are now looking forward to a future full of creative growth, supported by strong governance and a culture of radical inclusivity.

Our Board of Trustees is highly engaged and embraces a good range of expertise. While individual trustees take on various responsibilities, we pride ourselves in acting collectively in the best interests of the Charity. We also use our positions to achieve meaningful, long term change and we lead by example.

Whether you're familiar with our shows or new to theatre, get in touch, we'd love to chat.

Lauren Clancy
Chair of Trustees, Ad Infinitum CIO



ABOUT AD INFINITUM

As a LGBTQIA+, working class and ethnic minority-led theatre company, we embrace difference through collaboration, enabling a more representative theatre culture to exist by placing those minoritised by society at the heart of our work.

Founded in 2007, Ad Ininitum is led by Co-Artistic Directors/Founders, Nir Paldi and George Mann. Polly Davis (Senior Producer) and Emma Macnair, (General Manager) complete our core team. We work with our diverse family of collaborators based in Bristol, the UK and internationally to develop, create and perform our creative projects. Our board of five trustees is led by Chair, Lauren Clancy, Executive Director of Bush Theatre.

We're proud to be an Associate Artist at Bristol Old Vic and The North Wall, Oxford and are Associate Artist Alumni at Bush Theatre (2011-13), The Lowry (2011-17) and Redbridge Drama Centre (2009-17).

Ad Ininitum became a Charitable Incorporated Organisation in 2020. We are a recipient of Arts Council England Elevate funding 2020-23, a grant programme specifically focused on strengthening the resilience of organisations making a significant contribution to the Creative Case for Diversity, to encourage an increase of diverse led organisations within the National Portfolio.

OUR PRODUCTIONS INCLUDE:



EXTRAORDINARY WALL [OF SILENCE]

Three coming-of-age stories, united in a struggle against violence, ignorance and oppression. Combining the company's signature style of physical storytelling with the beauty of British Sign Language in an unmissable feast for the senses.

"SUBTLY PROFOUND" - ★★★★★ The Guardian

Commissioned by Birmingham Hippodrome, Bristol Old Vic and HOME.



[CLICK TO WATCH THE TRAILER](#)



TRANSLUNAR PARADISE

A poignant, life-affirming tale without words.

"AN ADMIRABLE, INFINITELY GENTLE AND WORDLESS STORY OF LOSS AND REMEMBRANCE" ★★★★★ The Times

"THIS IS A SHOW THAT WILL STEAL YOUR HEART" ★★★★★ The Scotsman

Commissioned by The Lowry, Theatre Royal Bath. Received 6 UK & 3 international awards. Performed 500+ times in 20 countries.



[CLICK TO WATCH THE TRAILER](#)



BALLAD OF THE BURNING STAR

Armed with music, killer heels and a lethal troop of divas an enraged Israeli executes a story of victimhood, persecution, aggression and love. With shrapnel sharp voices and moves as smooth as an oiled tank chain, this cabaret troop invites you on a journey into the core of the conflicted Jewish State.

“A THEATRICAL HAND GRENADE” - ★★★★★ The Guardian

Commissioned by The Lowry, supported by Bush Theatre. Winner of The Stage's 'Best Ensemble', 2 UK tours & 3-week London run at Battersea Arts Centre, where it won an Off West End Award.



[CLICK TO WATCH THE TRAILER](#)

Since 2007 we have:

- Created 11 award-winning, critically acclaimed touring productions.
- Worked with leading organisations including Barbican, Bristol Old Vic, HOME, The Lowry and Battersea Arts Centre.
- Reached over 150,000 audiences nationally and internationally.
- Toured to 25 countries including USA, China and Brazil.
- Received 22 industry awards including 2 Off West End Awards and 2 The Stage Awards.
- Provided high-quality artistic training to 1000+ early-career artists in partnership with educational institutions, festivals and touring venues, in the UK and abroad.



No Kids

COVID-19

Despite the tumultuousness of the pandemic and ongoing uncertainty, Ad Infinitum has adapted and evolved, increasing our resilience and becoming a responsive, dynamic organisation. We've successfully scanned the horizon for opportunity and risk, pivoting our work while national and international touring has been affected. By delivering creative and engagement projects online and realising significant organisational development, we've tested new ways of working, supported creative freelancers and strengthened our financial position.

In the face of restrictions and challenges, we've produced experimental digital work with new collaborators, secured new strategic commissioning and co-producing partnerships, and found ways of connecting with diverse audiences and artists all over the world.

As a result of emergency public funding, which we're grateful to have received - including ACE Emergency funding, two rounds of DCMS Culture Recovery Funding and Covid-19 relief funds from Bristol City Council, we've continued to create and deliver our work. In 2020-21, we produced our first digital festival, and commissioned freelance artists to produce a new podcast series Home from Home: Journeys into Elderly Care, two short films from long standing collaborators David Ellington and Matthew Gurney and 13 co-created art works with isolated older adults as part of A New Constellation.

OUR PLAN FOR 2021-24

We are driven by the transformative nature of storytelling, the power of collective creativity to be more than the sum of its parts and the deeply authentic nature of our devised theatre model which is rooted in the foregrounding of underrepresented voices.

In our 14 year history we've created work with, by and for universal audiences. Looking to the future, and with the insight of our ongoing Elevate organisational development process, we find ourselves at a pivotal stage of growth, experimentation and artistic excellence. Our plan for the next three years illustrates both what we will achieve organisationally, and, crucially, how this will positively impact the wider theatre sector.



Our guiding principles for this period encompass our creative output, organisational resilience and the change we want to see in the broader cultural ecology:

Creating, touring and supporting creative work that foregrounds the voices of underrepresented artists and marginalised communities.

Over the next three years we'll be making and premiering ambitious new shows for the midscale, including *The Long Lie* (working title) a major creative project, exploring the elderly care system with an intergenerational, diverse cast, to be premiered and toured in Spring 2023.

Ensuring experimentation and co-creation are at the heart of our learning and engagement with young people, artists, audiences and communities.

We'll develop and deliver our education offer for future theatre makers and bring artists together with communities to create new art that informs and inspires our productions.

Making our organisation better - developing and committing to working processes and models that ensure we are a more equitable and greener company, contributing to wider change in the theatre sector.

We're developing two new artist-led programmes with and for deaf directors and creatives underrepresented in the theatre sector, testing and trialling new ways of working and bringing artists into the heart of our organisation.

WHO WE'D LIKE TO JOIN US

Looking towards an exciting future, our current trustees and the team now wish to transform our board. Through broadening the skills, knowledge and lived experience of our trustees we will ensure Ad Infinitum's board is representative of the work we make and the people we make work with and for.

In 2021, we wish to recruit three new trustees to our board from across the following sectors and areas of expertise:

- Artists and freelancers working in the cultural sector
- People with experience of working with and in communities, particularly in Bristol and the surrounding area
- People who have experience of working in policy-making, diversity and inclusion, social activism and human rights

LIVED EXPERIENCE

The lived experience of our trustees is of equal importance to their professional achievements. We want our board to represent and give a voice to the collaborators we work with, our city and our audiences. We believe that a diverse board will lead to stronger and more effective governance.

We actively encourage people whose backgrounds, lived experience and skills are underrepresented in the sector to join us and positively impact our organisation. We are particularly keen to receive applications from people of colour and deaf and disabled people.

WHAT IT MEANS TO BE A TRUSTEE



[CLICK TO LISTEN TO OUR PODCAST
'HOME FROM HOME: JOURNEYS
INTO ELDERLY CARE'](#)

Our trustees have a legal responsibility to ensure that Ad Infitum fulfills its charitable objectives, remains financially solvent and always meets its statutory requirements. The board meets four times a year with the senior management team to discuss key decisions, have oversight of the organisation's finances and ensure that we are delivering our aims and objectives. Trustees serve for a minimum term of three years, with potential to serve a total of two terms.

Our trustees also act as a sounding board and bring constructive support and advice on a range of strategic issues for the organisation, and may provide additional, specific support to senior management or take part in subcommittee meetings.

We also ask that you act as an advocate for Ad Infitum and champion our work, and to proactively seek out and broker opportunities that may benefit the organisation.

Board meetings will be held in person and online, and we'll hold an annual away day and Annual General Meeting (AGM) once a year.

INDUCTION, SUPPORT AND TRAINING

We'd like to take the opportunity of welcoming three new trustees onto our board as a moment to train and induct all our trustees so that we can create an effective, inclusive and dynamic board for the years ahead. We'll meet with you and the Chair, Lauren Clancy to discuss what support and training you might like to help you fulfil your role effectively, and what types of development opportunities the board might do together.

Being a trustee is a voluntary role and is unpaid, however we will reimburse you for all reasonable expenses, including travel and childcare costs if required. To enable deaf trustees to join our board, we'll ensure the required access needs for board meetings and papers are met, which may include BSL interpretation, captioning etc.

We are passionate about creating a more diverse and representative arts sector and will work to provide any access support or arrangements that are required for you to undertake this role effectively.



Dr Voxoff's Sign Language School for Hearing Children by Matthew Gurney

APPLICATION PROCESS

Please send a CV, and a cover letter which is no longer than two sides of A4, or a video in your chosen language no longer than five minutes, detailing why you'd like to join us as a Trustee, and what skills and experience you could bring to our organisation.

We'd love to hear about:

- Why our work and being a trustee at Ad Infinitum interests you
- What you think you could bring to the role of Trustee
- What your passions are and what inspires you

We welcome applications from anyone regardless of age, disability, ethnicity, heritage, sexuality, gender and socio-economic background.

Please send your application via email to polly@ad-infinitum.org with the subject 'Trustee Application'. Please also contact Polly if you have any questions or would like to chat about the role.

Please also complete this monitoring form. This is anonymous and will not form any part of the assessment of your application process.

As part of the interview process you will be asked to confirm that you are eligible to act as a Trustee for a charity and we will carry out Disclosure and Barring Service checks.

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS: FRIDAY 29TH OCTOBER 2021 AT 5PM

Interviews with the Chair of Trustees, and Senior Producer/Artistic Directors (in person ideally or online if needed) will be held in early November. Travel expenses for interviews will be reimbursed.



AD INFINITUM

AD-INFINITUM.ORG