

NDP Circus presents...

CREATING NOTRE DAME DE PARIS

An intensive Theatrical Circus course

Information for applicants

Course:

You will be working with and engaging with people from a diverse range of backgrounds and with a range of skillsets and levels of experience. This project is held in partnership with GARAS (Gloucester Association of Refugee and Asylum Seekers), School of Larks and Woodchester Mansion Trust.

The residency will be led by 5 facilitators with backgrounds in theatre, film, circus, dance and music. Participants will be grouped into groups of 6 so as to allow for social distancing, with each group focusing on a particular discipline. Participants are free to choose which discipline they would like to focus on. The first week will focus on skill development and creative practice and the second week will focus on character development. The performance day will be structured around the story of Notre Dame de Paris (aka The Hunchback of Notre Dame) and will feature scenes, characters and storyline from the original book by Victor Hugo. More information on the novel can be found [here](#).

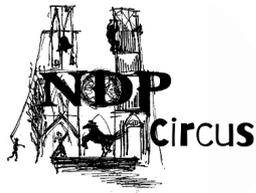
All scripts, props and set will be provided. However, there will be opportunities for participants to make their own costume pieces and props.

Post residency we will hold an online round table discussion hosted by NDP, this will be open to applicants, participants and audience members to discuss in more details, and in a safe space, some of the social justice issues raised within the story that reflect the main characters' (Esmeralda and Quasimodo) experiences such as misogyny, ableism and racism.

We will also hold a closed session with participants at the end of residency to provide an opportunity for reflection and ways for you to take your creative practice forward. Both sessions will be facilitated by Paul Liengard and Maria Tarokh – both of whom have significant experience hosting focus group discussions and roundtables.

Performance:

Participants and facilitators will collaborate in one full day of 'lived performance' in the grounds and inside the Mansion itself. This will coincide with one of the Mansions Open Days and participants will have the opportunity to engage in a promenade performance in front of members of the public. This will be filmed and live streamed via the University of Gloucester's film department.



The format of the performance day will be structured so that each of the five groups act out a part and character they have developed during the previous workshops, leading up to some of the events described by Victor Hugo in his novel, Notre Dame de Paris (NDP). These characters will together form an interactive world representing elements of the NDP story and characters.

Logistics:

The residency will take place from Monday 19th July until 1st August. The sessions will take place Monday - Friday with the exception of the performance day which is taking place on Saturday 31st July. Each day will start at 9.30am and finish between 5.30-6pm. There will be a 1-hour lunch break with lunch provided on-site. Tea, coffee and water will be available each day.

Breakfast and dinner are not provided. Accommodation is not provided, however, we can provide a list of nearby accommodation options for those travelling from further afield. Parking is available at the Mansion as are toilet facilities and changing rooms.

For details of accessibility at the Mansion please [click here](#).

Location & Transport

Location:

Woodchester Mansion, Nympsfield, Stonehouse, Gloucestershire, GL10 3TS.



Woodchester Mansion is hidden in a quiet sheltered valley about 5 miles south of Stroud. The seclusion has contributed to the survival of the Mansion, but makes it hard for some visitors to find. Please read all the instructions if you are not familiar with the area!



The Mansion is sited in Woodchester Park, near the village of Nympsfield. The Park is owned by the National Trust (but the Mansion is not an NT property). However, visitors are asked to park in the NT car park. The entrance to this is on a minor road that runs from the B4066 (Stroud to Dursley road) to Nympsfield. The turning to Nympsfield is close to the Coaley Peak viewing point. The entrance to the NT car park is on the left, about 250 yards from the junction with the B4066.

[Please follow this link](#) for directions from the A46, M4 and M5.

Please do not use the Mansion postcode in your SatNav. If you do this unfortunately many systems will take you from the A46 to the E end of Woodchester Park in the village of South Woodchester. There is no access to the Park or the Mansion from here, the road is narrow, it is hard to turn and extra visitors inconvenience local residents.

It is much better to use 'Woodchester Park' or 'Woodchester Mansion' if these are options on your SatNav. You can also input the villages of Selsley or Uley, which are on the B4066 which goes past the turning to Nympsfield, where you will find the entrance to the NT car park.

The grid reference for the turning from the B4066 to Nympsfield is SO 79528 01420 and the entrance is at Latitude 51.711N Longitude 2.298W.

Transport:

Bus:

There is a bus (currently Stagecoach number 65) which runs from Stroud to Dursley and stops in Nympsfield village but not near to the Mansion. Check websites www.stagecoachbus.com or www.bustimes.org for times. There is approximately a mile and a half walk from Nympsfield village to the Mansion.

Train:

There is a train station at Stroud, Nailsworth and Cam and Dursley. Stroud is accessible by train from London Paddington. Journey time c.90 minutes. Change at Stroud for connections to Nailsworth - which is the nearest train station to the Mansion. [Check times and tickets here.](#)

By road:

If you are going to be travelling to the Mansion by road, please use the directions above. There will be parking available to you at the Mansion, details of this will be provided closer to the time.