Aaron Bowman
Aaron is Cultural Officer for Hartlepool Borough Council. As part of this, he is the programmer, producer and coordinator of Hartlepool Waterfront Festival, an emerging festival for the North East which aims to reinvent the perception of what a 'Maritime' arts festival can be. Alongside this, he is also the producer of all out the Borough's cultural events. As part of this role, he sits on the steering board for Stockton International Riverside Festival as their Creative Case Champion. He is also a member of the Board of Trustees for ARC in Stockton, where he worked before his current role. Before this, he worked for Durham Business Improvement District on their events programme as well as for Durham County Council on theirs, which included BRASS Festival, Bishop Auckland Food Festival and Durham Streets Festival. He is also a freelance producer and events professional.

Akulah Agbami
Akulah Agbami is director of BLACK* artists on the Move, promoting and creating development opportunities for BLACK* artists in the UK and globally and artistic director with Sheba Soul Ensemble, a theatre company specialising in the retelling of ancient Afrikan legends.

A former editor of Spare Rib magazine, children’s novelist, poet and playwright, one of her main interests is offering using intensive art programmes to offer life-changing opportunities to highly vulnerable young people. She is exploring how more arts interventions can form part of the lives of all children affected by the care system in the UK. She is also keen to participate in the creation of more enriching theatre performances for children and young people. She has a great passion for improvised theatre and its ability to be inclusive and reach entirely new audiences, who are often excluded from mainstream theatre.

Alexis Johnson
Alexis is a creative producer and practising artist working in combined arts. She is Associate Lecturer at Edge Hill University. She was Learning Director at Walk the Plank and earlier Institute of Contemporary Arts and was associate at London South Bank University and Birkbeck University of London. Her participatory arts company AKArts (2003-2014) serviced UK London’s communities, with highlights including leading Westminster City Council’s Cultural Olympiad programme in 2012, work in Tate Britain’s central hall, V&A, British Film Institute and London outdoor spaces and festivals. A study of her socially engaged practice has been published (2011) Playing for Life, Palgrave MacMillan. Her work with British Council has taken her to work with companies in Rio Cultural Olympiad in Brazil, West Africa and the Middle East, and she has led and taken part in European Cultural programmes that support European Capitals of Culture. Alexis is part of a global network of ‘disobedient women’, and her name means ‘helper’ which is exactly what she does through her socially engaged practice.
Alison Denholm
Alison Denholm has worked in Community and Participatory Arts for the last twenty years and is the Creative Development Manager at City Arts, Nottingham’s only dedicated participatory arts organisation.

She has been at City Arts for 14 years, and in that time has developed specialisms in Carnival, Puppetry and outdoor festivals. She explores how these art forms can be used in collaboration with communities to create exciting and vibrant opportunities that empower individuals and animate spaces. She regularly produces large scale participatory events, including as co-director of the 2018 Nottingham Puppet Festival, as the producer for the Ceremonies Programmes for the World Cerebral Palsy Games in 2015. As the producer of the Flying Free carnival troupe, the region’s only integrated troupe with disabled and non-disabled participants, older adults, children, young people and adults all part of the build-up and final event.

Anne Holloway
Anne Holloway is Founder of Big White Shed (a small press who support creatives through mentorship, advice and skill sharing). She edits and publishes poetry collections for emerging writers, as well as being commissioned to edit anthologies of work for organisations (including Nottingham UNESCO City of Literature’s Young Poet Laureate finalists). She curates and promotes events for Big White Shed in a variety of community settings, has published her first novel, and a first collection of poetry, There Are No Photographs. Former Co-Director and Professional Development Manager for Mouthy Poets (a Nottingham based collective of young writer/performers), she facilitates writing and performance workshops in schools and community settings as well as writing and performing her own work. She has a strong interest in participatory theatre, and a commitment to diversity led work. In 2015 she delivered workshops at the Staatstheatre Braunschweig as part of an EU project, including generating content with their community theatre group for an immersive theatre project. She hosts and curates an alternative cabaret show as comedy character That Welsh Woman.

Aysha Afridi
Aysha is the Head of Heritage and Learning at the National Memorial Arboretum, leading the development and delivery of the Arboretum’s learning and engagement programmes. Following the successful delivery of a three year Heritage Lottery Funded Activity Plan, Aysha has led the Arboretum Heritage and Learning team and helped build the public programme at the Arboretum, engaging over 16,000 school children and increasing family audiences. Aysha is a graduate of the University of Sussex (BA Hons History of Art 2003) and the University of Leicester (MA Museum Studies 2006) and has worked across the West Midlands for the past 15 years in various arts and heritage based roles, including roles at Wolverhampton Art Gallery and The Herbert in Coventry. Aysha has a passion for engaging audiences in arts,
culture and heritage, and worked previously at the Arts Council as Relationship Manager Learning. Aysha is a keen advocate of learning and skills development and has significant experience in delivering high-quality learning programmes that are accessible to all.

**Bharti Parmar**

Bharti Parmar is a visual artist and academic with a professional practice of over 25 years. Her work is informed by an interest in taxonomy, geometry and pattern, with her recent practice focusing on veneers and subversion of marquetry techniques. She featured on ITV’s logo rebranding project #ITVCreates in 2019. Parmar studied Fine Art Printmaking at the Royal College of Art has a PhD in material culture studies. She has participated in several international residency programmes, e.g. Light Work, Syracuse USA, the Irish Museum of Modern Art, Dublin, and has to work in numerous institutional collections. She has been a trustee for MAC (Midlands Arts Centre), Meadow Arts and currently sits on the advisory panel of Coventry Biennial of Contemporary Art 2019.

**Caroline Anne Jeyaratnam-Joyner**

Caroline has a Masters in Arts in Therapy and Education (University Of Exeter), plus extensive training and professional development in theatre practice. She has trained at Birmingham School of Speech and Drama, The School of Physical Theatre and Rose Bruford. Caroline works as an annual consultant reviewer for Stagecoach Performing Arts, and as an Arts Awards moderator/consultant for Trinity Guildhall. Caroline applies her theatre practice within a range of settings, working with various marginalised groups including young people who are disaffected from school, visually impaired, disadvantaged women, BAME and refugee groups. She has delivered work for companies such as Greenwich and Lewisham Young People’s Theatre and Second Wave Youth Arts. More recent companies include The Park Theatre and Phoenix Community Housing.

Caroline is an associate artist at Spare Tyre Theatre Company and worked on three of their Once Upon A Time tours as a storyteller/trainer. These tours focused on taking multi-sensory and interactive workshops to people living with dementia and their carers. Caroline worked with the creative team to facilitate participants to tap into their imagination and to enhance their quality of life where possible. She also trained care workers in practice. Caroline has devised and delivered masterclasses for participatory artists at Spare Tyre and often facilitates 'Thinking Space' for any artists wanting to try out their creative ideas in a creative and supportive environment. Caroline is passionate about theatre and the arts for well-being and integrates her training as a yoga teacher into her delivery, to enhance the healing elements of the work.
Caroline Potter
Caroline Potter is an award-winning writer and academic who specialises in French music, based in London. Currently a Visiting Fellow of the Institute of Modern Languages Research (School of Advanced Study, University of London), she has held full-time academic positions in the Music departments of Roehampton and Kingston Universities and has given guest lectures and pre-concert talks worldwide. Caroline has published books on Erik Satie, the Boulanger sisters, and Henri Dutilleux: her most recent book, Erik Satie, a Parisian composer and his world (Boydell Press, 2016), was named Sunday Times Classical Music Book of the Year. She is a frequent broadcaster for organisations including the BBC and was Series Advisor to the Philharmonia Orchestra's 'City of Light: Paris 1900-1950' season. She also reviews contemporary music concerts for the US website I Care If You Listen and is a member of the Arts and Humanities Research Council peer review college.

Caroline Ward
Caroline Ward is an artist, designer and Creative Director of Squirrel Nation Studio. She works across film, installation, curation, sound and performance. Her practice playfully considers critical explorations into the public imagination as a contested site informed by architecture, technology, and posthumanism.

She was Senior Designer at BBC in Research & Development for Future Experiences, and Senior Digital Associate at The Space Arts with a focus on interactive cinema, digital direction, immersive and participatory experiences for the arts. She was an artist in residence at INIVA/Stuart Hall Library in 2018, and for 2019, she is a Jerwood Fellow at Manchester International Festival.

Caroline trained in Fine Art and Masters in Research across art, design and architecture at RCA. Her work has been shown at Welcome Collection, RCA, Abandon Normal Devices, Shuffle Festival and Brighton Digital Festival.

Catherine Hall
Catherine Hall has over 30 years’ experience in the museums’ sector in a variety of roles. She worked firstly as a social history curator for Kirklees Museums and then as an education officer at the Harris Museum and Art Gallery in Preston. She later returned to Yorkshire as the principal officer for Kirklees Museums, with management responsibility for several sites. For several years she stepped out of the world of museums and worked in the Chief Executive’s Department of Leeds City Council on a range of corporate projects. Her most recent substantive museum post was as Head of Sites and Audiences for Leeds Museums and Galleries; a large local authority service which operates nine sites attracting over 1 million visitors annually, she took early retirement from that role in March 2016. Catherine has for many years been an associate tutor for the distance learning programme of the School of
Museum Studies at the University of Leicester, since retiring she has also returned to being a museum volunteer which is where her career began.

**Catherine Rogers**

Catherine Rogers currently manages the Creative Leicestershire programme providing advice and support to artists and creative enterprises in Leicestershire and Rutland. She previously worked for National Portfolio Organisation (NPO) Writing East Midlands and Derby City and Amber Valley Borough Councils as a Literature Development and Youth Arts Officer. As a Director of Haarlem Artspace in Wirksworth, Derbyshire Catherine is managing an international partnership with Instituto Procomum in Santos, Brazil as part of the British Council’s Developing Inclusive and Creative Economies (DICE) programme. She is also Chair of Trustees for Junction Arts in Derbyshire, an Associate of Advantage Creative and a Fellow of the Royal Society for Arts, Manufacturing and Commerce.

**Ceri Brierley**

Ceri is an Independent Arts Manager and Producer with specialisms in audience development and dance. Her current portfolio includes Anjali Dance Company, ATMA Dance, Theatre Company Blah Blah Blah, Made by Katie Green and Stuff & Nonsense Theatre Company. She is a board member for NEW Dance, the dance development organisation for North East Wales.

Before becoming a freelancer in 2014 Ceri worked full-time in senior programming and marketing roles at Northern School of Contemporary Dance/The Riley Theatre, Phoenix Dance Theatre, South East Dance and Wayne McGregor’s Random Dance.

Ceri is based in Leeds and holds a first-class honours degree in Dance and Culture from the University of Surrey. She works with a variety of artists and aesthetics, with the commonality being her passion for increasing and diversifying arts audiences by improving access to high quality experiences.

**Chas de Swiet**

Chas is a creative producer and artist. He has worked in a variety of roles including Project Manager, General Manager, Head of Operations, Executive Director, Producer and Trustee; there has often been a specialism around disability arts and diversity.

He has worked for a number of organisations including London Disability Arts Forum, Mental Health Media, The Jasmin Vardimon Dance Company, Audio Addiction Guy Bar-Amotz, Creative Routes, LOCOG (London 2012), Arts Council England, DaDaFest, Core Arts and Vital Xposure. Chas worked for Greenwich+Docklands Festivals as a Producer on outdoor arts festivals, including
four Liberty festivals. Chas is currently working as a Producer for digital artist Caglar Kimyoncu and digital arts agency filmpro.

Chas has a parallel career as an artist mainly working with sound and music. His musical progression has been from a classical violinist through to producing music for film, dance, theatre and events.

**Chelsey Everatt**  
Chelsey Everatt is the Cultural Development Officer at Nottingham City Council and is passionate about working with people and inspiring places, activating spaces through arts and culture. She thrives on building partnerships and creating sustainable projects that increase engagement and participation. With a degree in Architecture, Chelsey’s varied background has included: working on the first Lincoln Frequency Festival of Digital Culture; the Paul Hamlyn funded Young People’s Programme with Lincolnshire One Venues; leading community engagement for the Heritage Lottery funded Boultham Park Restoration Project and Arts Development at North Lincolnshire Council. She is passionate about developing audiences, working with young people, and improving the quality of engagement for people with disabilities, all across a range of art forms including theatre and dance. Chelsey is also studying a Masters in Arts and Cultural Enterprise at Central Saint Martins to explore new business models, policy, markets and innovation. She’s a dedicated amateur dancer and board game enthusiast.

**Chetna Pandya**  
Chetna is a learning practitioner with specialisms in devising responsive theatre and cross-arts collaboration. In 2016 Chetna was appointed as a Board Member for the internationally renowned award-winning theatre company Complicite. Chetna is the Co-Founder & Creative Director of Outspoken Arts C.I.C. Outspoken Arts use the arts to explore the human experience, respond to social issues and create change. They make theatre, offers skills training and creative workshops. Passionate about accessibility to the arts, Chetna is committed to addressing the lack of socio-economic diversity in the industry by educating, sharing & transferring her skills to help train the future generations of changemakers in the creative arts.

**Chloe Garner**  
Chloe Garner is Artistic Director of Ledbury Poetry Festival in Herefordshire. Since 2007 she has programmed this ten-day Festival which features over 80 events including readings, performances, talks, discussions, workshops, walks, films, exhibitions, street events, open mics, slams and combines poetry with other art forms including most recently music, dance, theatre and sound art. The Festival presents world-class poets alongside emerging voices and has a strong reputation for international programming and poetry in translation.
In 2014 the Paul Hamlyn Foundation funded a series of commissions pairing poets with artists from other disciplines and looking at enhancing the listening experience for audiences. The Festival also runs a year-round schools and community programme. Chloe Garner judged the Costa Prize for Poetry is a Fellow of the Clore Short Course Programme and was invited to participate in the 2015 International Literature Showcase in Norwich. Prior to Ledbury Poetry Festival Chloe Garner worked at Charleston, a Bloomsbury House and Garden in Sussex, where she started an award-winning schools programme and helped to launch the first Small Wonder, The Short Story Festival. She also worked at The Wordsworth Trust in the Lake District. Her particular areas of interest and expertise include literature, poetry, literature in translation, cross-arts programming, commissioning and participatory programming including workshops and events for schools and families. Chloe Garner is currently working in collaboration with 10 European Festivals to promote emerging poets and has been invited to Festivals and events in Rotterdam, Berlin, Melbourne, Galway, Slovenia, Warsaw and Krakow.

Claire Gulliver
Claire Gulliver is an independent arts consultant, project manager and evaluator with 17 years’ experience in a range of organisational and policy environments. She has particular expertise in collaboration between contemporary visual artists and museums and evidence-based assessment of cultural and creative programmes. In 2008 Claire initiated New Expressions, a regional scheme to stimulate creative partnership between contemporary artists and museums. Continuing her longstanding association with the programme, which became a national pathfinder project, Claire was consultant-evaluator to New Expressions until 2016.

In a creative production capacity, Claire recently worked with Flow Contemporary Arts to co-produce a ‘curated collection’ of new artist commissions for Burton Art Gallery, Devon. Claire has worked with programming organisations since 2010, articulating complementary programmes as freelance partnership officer for Reach South West MPM consortium. In 2016-17 Claire led on Creative Case for Diversity at The Royal Albert Memorial Museum & Art Gallery, helping to secure National Portfolio Organisation Status. She continues to have a strong interest and inclusion and diversity. Her collections review work with the Royal Albert Memorial Museum & Art Gallery secured a national award for innovative practice.

Claire Horton
Claire works within the circus, carnival and outdoor arts sectors in Producer, Project Manager and General Manager roles. She has ten years’ experience in managing participatory programmes and projects leading to large-scale outdoor performances.
For eight years Claire held the position of Company & Project Manager at the carnival and outdoor arts NPO Mandinga Arts, where she oversaw the delivery of Mandinga’s annual programme of participatory projects and took responsibility for the running of the organisation. During this time, she managed a two-year Creative Europe project and worked in partnership with arts organisations across the UK and overseas to deliver high-quality outdoor performances and activities.

Claire currently works part-time as General Manager for aerial circus company and NPO, Upswing, while undertaking freelance Producer roles in projects that focus on community engagement at their core. Prior to Upswing, Claire held the position of Relationship Manager for Combined Arts at Arts Council England (London) and currently sits on the board for Trinidadian carnival arts NPO, Sunshine International Arts.

**Claire Pring**

Upon graduating from Middlesex University, Claire taught in London for a number of years before joining Cheshire Dance firstly as an amateur, then progressing to the role of director. After eight years she returned to education as an Advanced Skills Teacher and also completed her MA in Dance Studies.

Currently, Claire combines a number of roles including Lead Practitioner for Dance for Derbyshire CC, a member of The Royal Opera House’s ‘Create & Dance’ team alongside being a general freelancer-about-town. Recently she has published ‘First Steps in Teaching Dance’; a guide for non-specialist primary teachers regularly contributes to ‘TES Resources’ and writes podcasts for the BBC’s education service.

**Claire Smith**

Claire Smith is a freelance creative project manager and producer. She currently manages the Rural Touring Dance Initiative which is a national strategic touring project with the aim to increase the quality and quantity of contemporary dance being promoted by community venues. Previously Claire was Co-Director of Cheshire’s Rural Touring scheme, curating a high-quality cross art form performance programme. In this role, she has been an instigator of numerous art form and audience development projects which have included mentoring emerging companies, strategic early years projects, contemporary theatre and spoken word. Claire’s background is in small scale theatre touring – making and producing - working for companies such as Action Transport Theatre and independently. She has been a board member of the National Rural Touring Forum and Theatre in The Quarter (a musical theatre company). Originally training as a teacher and being Youth Theatre leader and lecturer, Claire champions participation.
**Clare McManus**

Clare is a community engagement consultant, performer and theatre-maker. She studied mime and movement in London, Paris and Prague and then worked in small scale touring theatre with, amongst others, Cornwall’s Footsbarn and NE Scotland’s Guizer, which she co-founded. When motherhood put an end to touring she became a drama worker in settings from women’s refuges to a high-security hospital. Subsequently, she worked in youth arts, as a local authority arts officer and freelance project manager, before becoming the director of a cultural regeneration agency. She led on projects as diverse as Sheffield’s Housing Market Renewal Culture Programme, an arts consortium which won over £600K of contracts for small arts organisations, and the community section of an academic research project on images of women and ageing: Representing Ageing: Look at Me! This was ranked as Outstanding for engagement by the ESRC. She has been a mentor and monitor on community engagement for HLF. Recently Clare started to re-visit her performing roots, gaining an MA in Theatre and Performance at the University of Sheffield. She has developed one-to-one performances and is currently researching the ageing body and performance. She has always been passionate about good governance in the arts and is a board member of several arts and environmental organisations.

**Clare Walters**

Clare Walters is an author and journalist who began her career as an infant teacher before moving into magazine publishing. In the 1980s she edited fiction on Woman magazine, and in the 1990s she joined Practical Parenting magazine as books and education editor. In 1999 she was on the judging panel of BookTrust’s first Baby Book Awards. Together with Jane Kemp, she has written more than 30 books, including 24 picture books for pre-school children and seven play/activity guides. Clare has also co-written scripts for the BBC preschool TV series Balamory and Me Too!, as well as contributing to the original parenting section of the BBC website. She has a Master’s degree in Children’s Literature from the University of Roehampton, where her dissertation subject was ‘Wordless Picturebooks’. She reviews books, exhibitions and events for Eye magazine, and regularly participates in children’s literature events, including the annual IBBY conference, the Children’s Books History Society study days, and the CILIP Carnegie Medal shadowing group Roehampton Readers. She also works freelance as a magazine sub-editor and writer for TI Media publications.

**Comerasamy Manick Govinda**

Manick Govinda is a freelance arts writer, commentator, mentor, artists’ producer and project manager. Prior to stepping into the world of freelance, he was Programme Director for SPACE (2018), Head of Artists Advisory Services and Artists Producer for Artsadmin (1998 – 2017) and Projects Officer for Arts & Book Publishing at the Paul Hamlyn Foundation (1993-1996). He was formerly a
trustee/non-executive director for a-n The Artists Information Company and The Showroom, London.

His specialism is curation, commissioning art for public and commercial spaces, live art programming, film/video production management, project evaluation and artistic assessment, conflict resolution, social media PR, free expression and censorship, Brexit and free movement, cultural diversity. Govinda worked as a producer for 2007 Turner Prize shortlisted Zarina Bhimji, Zineb Sedira Larry Achiampong & David Bandy, to name a few. He is an artists’ mentor for Bloomberg New Contemporaries and UAL. Govinda writes about artistic freedom and expression, Brexit and is the arts campaigner for the Manifesto Club.

Craig Warrington Morrow
Craig Morrow is a director, creative producer and arts manager with particular expertise in new writing, contemporary performance and artist support. He is Artistic Director of Lincoln Performing Arts Centre, a small/middle-scale presenting venue operated by the University of Lincoln. Prior to this, he was Artistic Associate at The Brewhouse Theatre & Arts Centre, Somerset for four years with a focus on programming and art form development. Craig is an alumnus of National Theatre’s Step Change, undertaking placements with Paines Plough exploring the role of sustainable new writing in the regions and at Bristol Old Vic, coordinating its Ferment programme in 2010. He also holds a PhD in early modern performance.