

ARTS ACTION CHANGE



Photo credit: Jack Offord

MA **Applied Theatre**
Postgraduate Programme


WARWICK
THE UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK

ROOTED IN COMMUNITY, RESEARCH & PRACTICE

WITH

an emphasis on professional practice and development, this taught postgraduate degree addresses contemporary practice in applied theatre and socially engaged performance in national and international contexts.

It invites you to explore, make and interrogate performance practices broadly concerned with contributing to social change in a variety of settings including the criminal justice system, theatre for development, homelessness, learning disability, schools, the elderly and healthcare.

The programme is aimed at recent graduates, emerging practitioners and more established practitioners who want the opportunity to reflect, refresh and enhance their skills.



Photo credit: Simon Peter Green

**THEATRE IS A FORM OF
KNOWLEDGE; IT SHOULD
AND CAN ALSO BE A MEANS
OF TRANSFORMING SOCIETY.**

**THEATRE CAN HELP US BUILD
OUR FUTURE, RATHER THAN
JUST WAITING FOR IT.**

AUGUSTO BOAL



EXPLORE,
MAKE AND
INTERROGATE

MODULES

BRANCH OUT

and explore your interests in applied theatre and socially engaged performance. Question how art can inspire social action and create change.

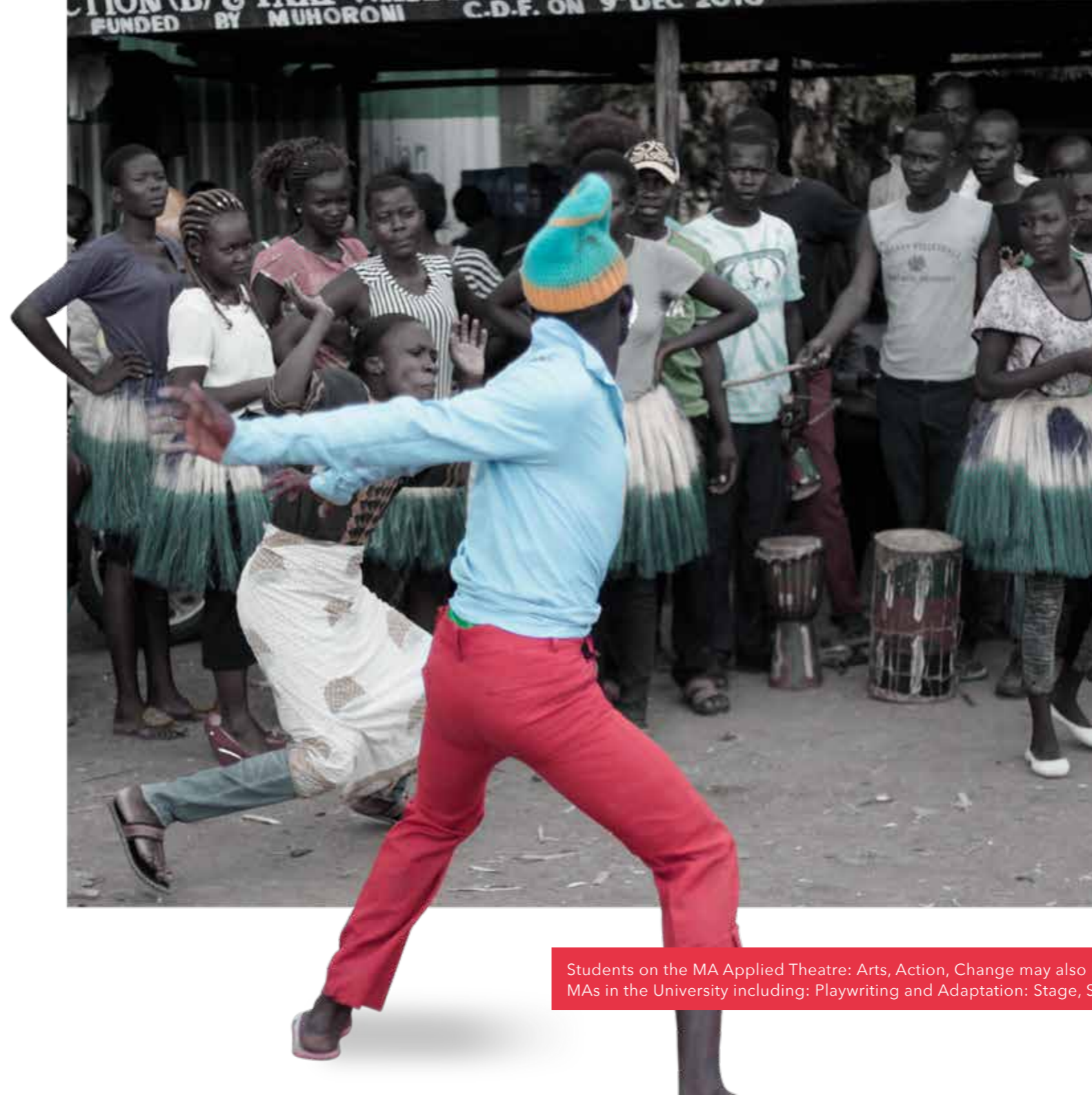


Photo credit: African Women Playwrights' Network

RESEARCHING PERFORMANCE/PERFORMING RESEARCH (CORE)

This module considers the research methods that are central to applied and socially engaged performance making and research.

It addresses a range of research skills, methods, critical frameworks and areas of study that inform processes of making and creating performance in these contexts. It opens up debate around the questions and ethical considerations that arise when employing specific research methods in these contexts in order to develop informed critical perspectives on different approaches in the field.



THEORISING AND FACILITATING APPLIED THEATRE: ETHICS AND REFLECTIVE PRACTICE (CORE)

Through a dynamic combination of theory and practice, this module investigates what it means to be a reflective practitioner by exploring diverse approaches to understanding and facilitating applied theatre projects. It provides a conceptual and practical underpinning for how and why theatre and performance modes are used with specific client groups and in different environments.

Looking at key practitioners and providers in the sector, at its heart is a concern with the politics, aesthetics and ethics of practice and what it means to facilitate applied theatre projects with and for potentially vulnerable people in a variety of contexts.

The module will explore strategies for initiating, making, facilitating, analysing and evaluating applied theatre to create an informed culture of practice.

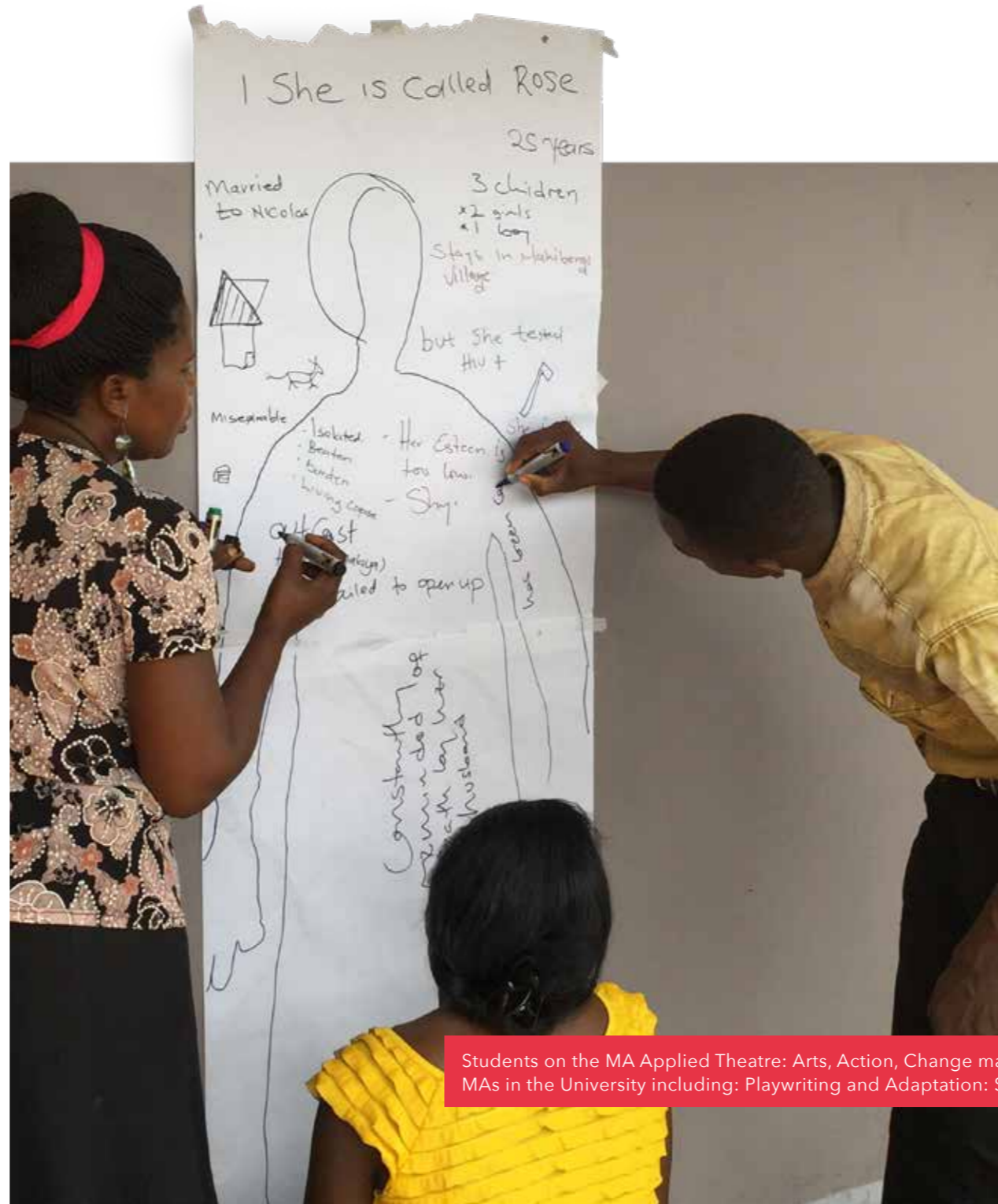
Students on the MA Applied Theatre: Arts, Action, Change may also be interested to take an optional module from other MAs in the University including: Playwriting and Adaptation: Stage, Screen and Beyond and Drama and Theatre Education.

ENHANCING YOUR PROFESSIONAL PROFILE (CORE)

Rooted in advice and guidance from established practitioners in a range of settings, this module offers practical insight into the skills and knowledge you will need to develop and build your professional profile. It will explore what it means to have a portfolio career; how you establish a company and promote your work; the importance of making connections and working with collaborators; project initiation, budgeting, management and evaluation; how to shape funding applications that tap into the cultural zeitgeist and respond to different briefs and the needs of organisations whether they are in the educational, criminal justice, health, charity or international development sectors.

SOCIALLY ENGAGED PERFORMANCE: INTERVENTIONS AND PROVOCATIONS (OPTIONAL)

Working through case studies focused on pressing social issues such as the climate crisis, austerity and homelessness, this module is concerned with how creative methodologies are being employed in activist forms of socially-engaged art and digital based arts practice that are about social change. It focuses on the potential of theatrical and performance modes to pose questions and invite reflection through its ability to intervene, surprise, disrupt, subvert, transform and imagine possible future worlds. It considers how theatre-making and creative approaches to digital practice can foster networks, collaborations and movements that are about tangible change within and across communities.



FINAL PROJECT (WRITTEN OR PRACTICAL)

The programme culminates in an extended independent project that is designed, managed and delivered by the student with support and guidance from a supervisor. It offers an opportunity to draw together knowledge and skills developed on the MA on a project that reflects specific interests, artistic practice and career trajectories. Students undertaking the Final Project can choose to undertake a 15,000-word dissertation or a practical outcome that may take the form of a performance, digital project or community-based output.

THEATRE IS NOT A BUILDING.

PEOPLE MAKE THEATRE.

THEIR LIFE IS THE VERY STUFF OF DRAMA.

NGŪGĨ WA THIONG'O

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TEACHING METHODS

STUDENTS

will learn through interaction with academics, guest speakers and industry practitioners who will share their expertise and challenge you to think deeply and to work creatively.



Our approach to teaching through seminars, presentations and workshops will provide you with the knowledge, opportunities, and practical support you need to excel in analysing, developing and realising applied theatre and socially-engaged projects.



Photo credit: Jack Offord

DELVE INTO
THE ETHICS
OF PRACTICE

CORE COURSE TEAM

ANNA HARPIN

Anna Harpin's research explores the intersections between arts and health.

Harpin's current project is investigating the politics of tenderness and questioning the meaning, nature, and practice of 'care'.

Her artistic practice with her theatre company, Idiot Child, is likewise engaged with questions around health and wellbeing.

SAUL HEWISH

Saul Hewish is one of the country's leading practitioners in the use of drama and theatre with offenders. In 1999 he co-founded Rideout (Creative Arts for Rehabilitation), which develops innovative and experimental arts-based projects within the criminal justice system.

NADINE HOLDSWORTH

Nadine Holdsworth's research spans questions of representation, participation, citizenship, political change and cultural value.

She explores how theatre, performance and arts-based methodologies can be used to illuminate pressing social issues and marginalised groups.

Rideout, photo credit: Natalie Willats

YVETTE HUTCHISON

Yvette Hutchison is a South African academic whose work focuses on Anglophone African theatre, dance and intercultural performance.

She has taught on and worked in various theatre for development and community theatre projects in Africa and the UK.

BOBBY SMITH

Bobby Smith is a lecturer and freelance practitioner who has worked in settings including schools, youth centres, within the criminal justice system and internationally.

He has worked as a consultant for several charities, writing resources and training staff, particularly in the area of Theatre for Development.

CONNECTING
YOU TO LEADING
PRACTITIONERS

ASSOCIATE COMPANIES

THE MA

Applied Theatre: Arts, Action, Change will provide opportunities to work with and learn from a number of professional companies and practitioners working in the fields of applied theatre, socially engaged performance and arts-based action projects through workshops, guest lectures, weekend intensives, project work and industry placements. Our Associate Companies include:

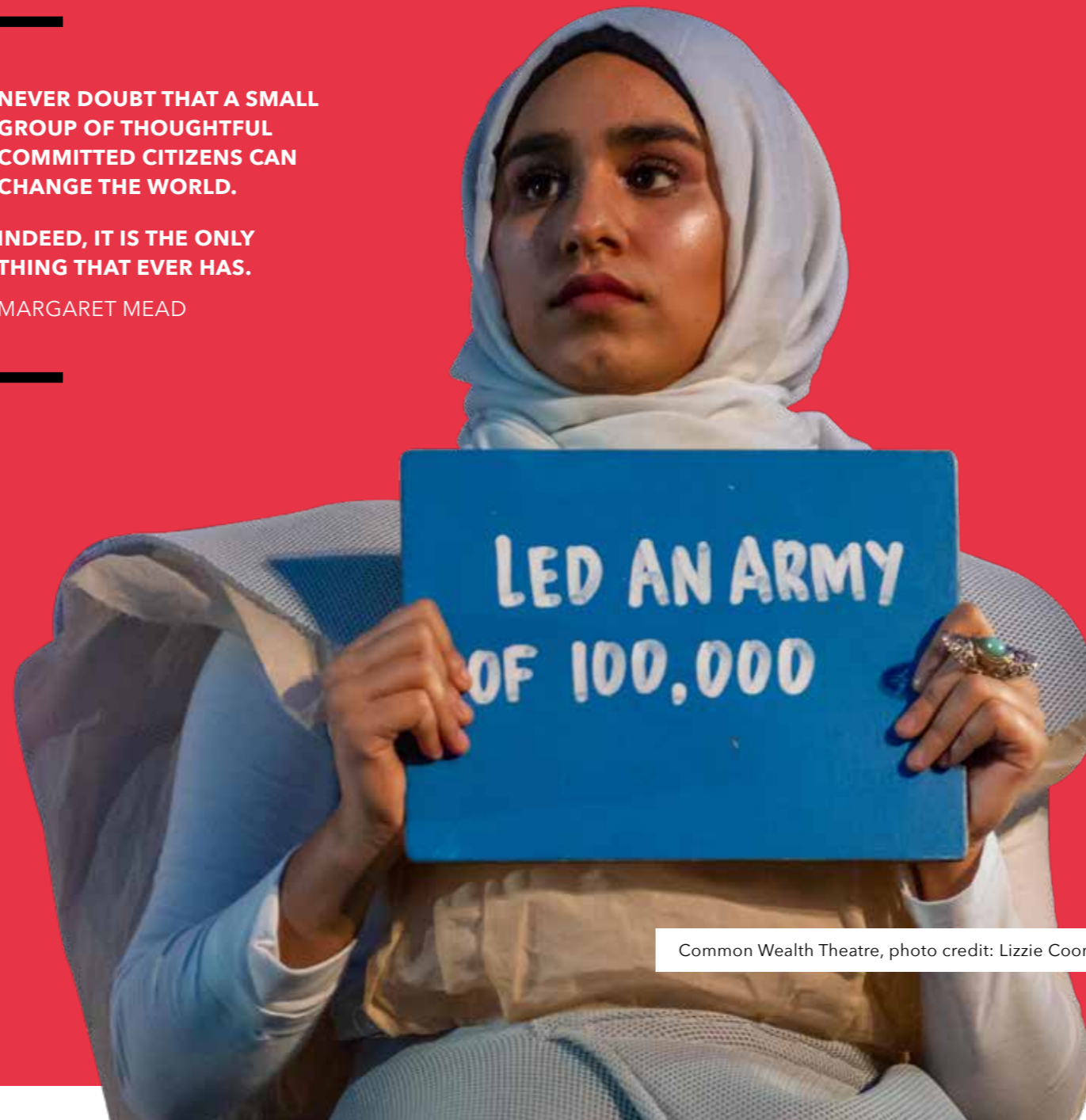


Common Wealth Theatre, photo credit: Lizzie Coombes

NEVER DOUBT THAT A SMALL GROUP OF THOUGHTFUL COMMITTED CITIZENS CAN CHANGE THE WORLD.

INDEED, IT IS THE ONLY THING THAT EVER HAS.

MARGARET MEAD



Common Wealth Theatre, photo credit: Lizzie Coombes

B ARTS

A combined and participatory arts organisation that designs multidisciplinary arts projects that creatively intervene in people's lives.

C & T

A company combining applied theatre methodologies with digital technologies to explore and grow creativity with children and adults.

CREATIVE ENGLISH

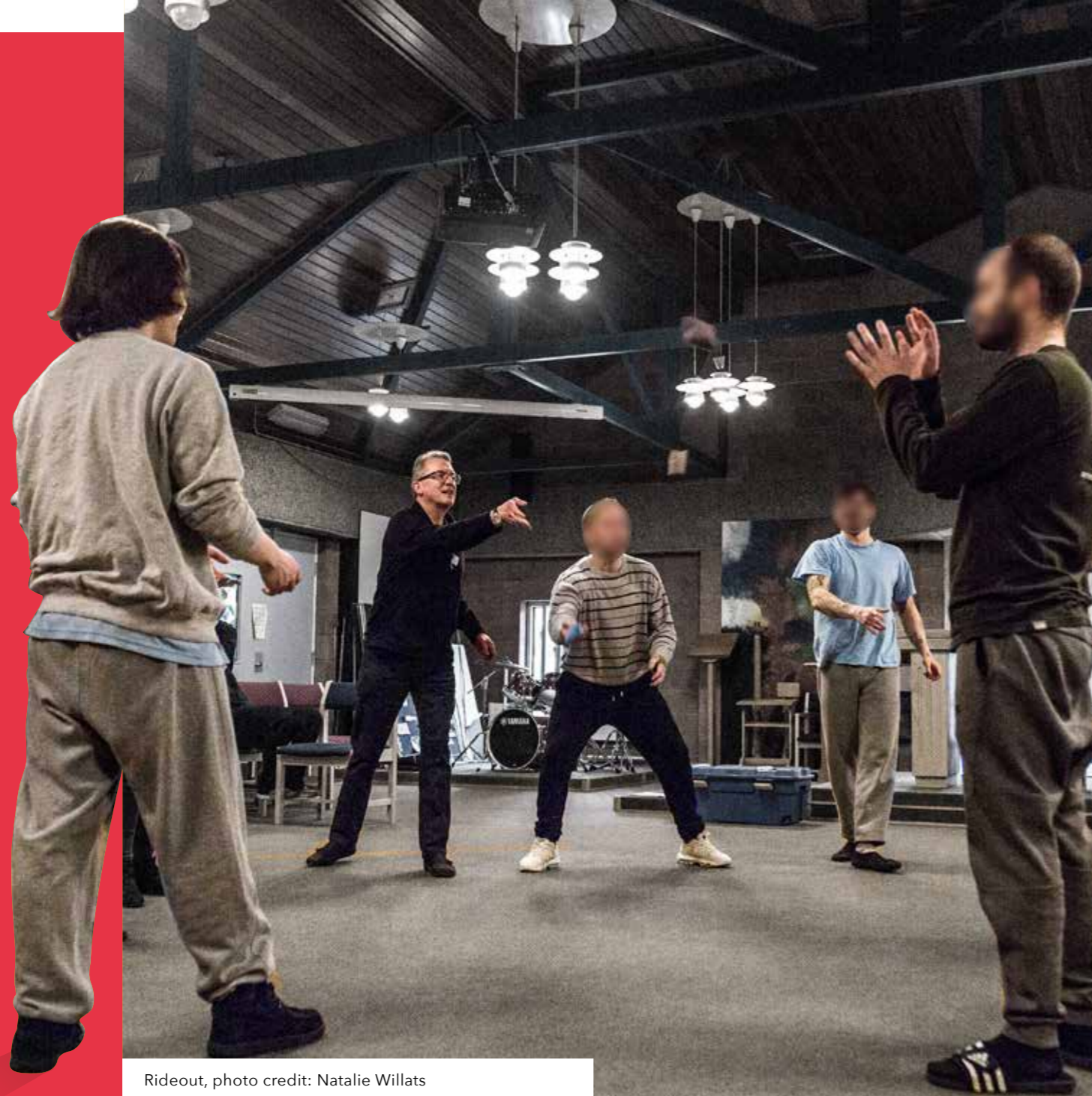
A company that develops language skills by using drama, puppets and games.

COMMON WEALTH

A socially-engaged company producing site-specific theatre events for and with communities.

CARDBOARD CITIZENS

An organisation that has been making Theatre with and for homeless people for twenty five years.



Rideout, photo credit: Natalie Willats

OPEN THEATRE

A company working with young people with learning disabilities through non-verbal physical theatre.

RIDEOUT (CREATIVE ARTS FOR REHABILITATION)

A company employing arts-based approaches when working with prisoners and staff in UK prisons.

PHOSPHOROS

A company undertaking theatre projects with refugees and asylum-seekers.

TENDER

A company using theatre-based methods to encourage healthy relationships amongst young people to help tackle domestic abuse and sexual violence.

WARWICK ARTS CENTRE CREATIVE LEARNING

Generating hands-on learning opportunities for schools, audiences and members of the community as part of a large-scale arts organisation.



Photo credit: C&T

FIND OUT MORE

For more information see:

<https://warwick.ac.uk/study/postgraduate/taught/courses-2020/appliedtheatre/>

For enquiries please contact:

SCAPVCpostgraduate@warwick.ac.uk

For information on current fees please see:

<https://warwick.ac.uk/services/academicoffice/finance/fees/postgraduatefees/>

Photo credit: Chris Collier

We are pleased to offer a **10% reduction** in fees for continuing students and alumni from the Theatre and Performance Studies undergraduate programme.