



Signal Fire: Beyond the Shield

Who are you when you're not, or before you were, shielding?

Spare Tyre is looking for story-makers for whom Covid has meant shielding.

It could be that you are, or have been, shielding.

Or someone you live with has been shielding.

Or maybe you have always been shielding in some way.

But "shielders" is not who we are. We want to know what you care about beyond your shield. What's your passion, your hope, your story? Who do you want to tell? The guiding light for our signal fire is to send a message of hope or warning to people around the UK. What do you want to make people hear?

Read on to find out more about how to create a story for our Signal Fire.

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Send us your story by 11:59pm on Sunday 25 October 2020

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What are we looking for?

Word limit: 600 - **800 words maximum**

For a maximum of 2 performers that we will select.

No longer than **3 minutes recorded** (or up to 5 minutes if you have additional verbal requirements)

Event / performance on **Wednesday 4 November, 8:00pm ONLINE**

Not sure how to get started?

Join one of our FREE workshops!

Curious about an evening of 3-minute plays and want to have a go? Already have an idea and want to share it? Join our Artistic Director, (living with Long Covid) **Rebecca Manson Jones**, for an informal session to help ignite some ideas, and gain some tricks and tips for creating a complete piece for 3 minutes. No experience necessary. All you need is a sense of adventure and a willingness to listen to other people.

Thursday 8 October, 3.00pm – 4.00pm

Tuesday 13 October, 7.00pm – 8.00pm

Please book in advance, by emailing info@sparetyre.org, and let us know any access requirements. Places are free but limited.

How to send us your stories, songs, plays, monologues, poems, and more

In writing

Email : Rose@sparetyre.org

Post : Spare Tyre, The Albany, Douglas Way, SE8 4AG

Video or Audio Recording

WeTransfer.com - email to Rose@sparetyre.org

Upload your video/ audio to privately to YouTube. Email us the link.

Phone/ Whatsapp - send us a video or voice note to 07958 142 058

Got Questions?

1) Do I need to be a professional writer/ theatre-maker?

No. We are a participatory company, meaning we work with everyday artists. We encourage people to create work even if or especially if you've never done this before.

2) Why are you limiting the time and the number of performers?

Our version of Signal Fires is designed to include as many voices as possible and allow breaks and a variety of formats. (And our limited budgets and rehearsal times). The guiding light of our signal fire is the wish to communicate and share with other people across the country. Each piece will be performed “script in hand” meaning that that the performers will be working with the script rather than from memory. The atmosphere will be informal and fun.

3) I am a professional, will you pay me for a submission?

We believe in paying artists fairly. We are offering a handful of mini-commissions (for mini-works) to professional artists who have lived experience of shielding. If that's you, please email rebecca@sparetyre.org by 7 Oct to let us know your interest. We will contact you to chat through the project and see if we can include you in this commission.

4) I have a short play ready to go – can I send it in?

We are looking for short pieces no longer than 3 minutes and with no more than 2 performers. It is likely that the pieces will be created just

for the Signal Fire. You might want to send us an extract, but it does need to tell a complete story in 3 minutes.

5) What happens if you get too many contributions?

We are aiming to get a performance that will last about 1 hour with a short break in the middle. If we get more contributions, we will either:

- a) extend the performance times to include everyone; or
- b) if we are wildly oversubscribed – we'll work something else out!

Trust us we are participatory theatre-makers and we're used to this.

6) I'm terrified but I really want to do this. How do I get started?

It's always tricky to get started. Join one of our writing workshops for ideas. Or check out the videos and resources.

7) Who chooses how this all happens?

Our Artistic Director, Rebecca will curate all the pieces and direct the event. We also must consider the suitability of the material for a public event online.

8) You didn't answer my question.

Email Rose@sparetyre.org with your question and we will see if we can help.



Your submission

About you:

Please include the following information when you send us your submission.

Preferred contact method is vital.

Name	
Email address	
Phone number	
Postcode	
Are you over 16 years old?	
Title of your tiny play	

We look forward to your submission!

And if you need any assistance,

contact info@sparetyre.org