

Quarantine: some more information....

*Everywhere Quarantine delves, it uncovers the extraordinary in the seemingly ordinary and banal...
Lyn Gardner, The Guardian*

We've drafted this brief statement in order to reflect upon where Quarantine is now and to share some of our ideas about where we'd like to be in the future. We haven't talked about past work here, as this information is available on our website.

Quarantine is currently based in Islington Mill in Salford – an old mill which is home to around 60 artists studios and offices, and hosts club nights, performances, a gallery and a lovely B&B.

We research and make new work in theatre, performance and other forms. Quarantine has developed an international reputation as one of the most distinctive performance creators in Britain. The work is applauded by audiences, academics, artists, venues, funders and critics alike. We're aware that we're well-known and respected in some quarters and off the radar in others. There are some radars we'd like to pick us up...

Our work in its content and form asks us to continue to question ourselves and the world around us. For us this also means asking ongoing questions about the company itself – what we want, what we need, who we work with and how, opening up possibilities of alternatives. Our founding artists – Simon Banham, Richard Gregory and Renny O'Shea – have worked together for over 20 years, but we always try to remain open to ways of thinking that are new to us.

Simply put, our aim for the future is to make more, better work that reaches more people....

We want to continue to play with the possibilities of how theatre is made and experienced, placing the specific and the local alongside the epic and universal. Some of our work isn't easily defined as 'theatre' – perhaps sitting more comfortably in territory usually associated with visual art or other forms. We want to continue to explore more and different ways of working – perhaps making films or purely digital projects. We don't limit our thinking within artform boundaries.

Currently on average we make perhaps 2 new projects per year and tour or re-invent an old one. We run a knowledge exchange project called Graft – a brilliant scheme that we get as much out of as we give. We want to open up more possibilities for being light on our feet – investigating low cost, minimal preparation work that allows us more opportunities for creativity and new relationships.

We'd like to build on our solid base and continue to develop new avenues for our work – festivals, galleries, developing partnerships and contexts for our practice that we haven't yet thought of. In recent years we've concentrated on developing our international work - touring more widely abroad and developing co-producing relationships with venues and festivals. We want to continue to develop this area of our work. Looking further afield refreshes our creative thinking and brings new resources as well as inspiration.

We're interested in trying to create the circumstances for a conversation between strangers....

We're currently developing our website – to be relaunched in April 2012 - as a front door that more accurately reflects who we are and how we work – playful, deadly serious, accessible, questioning, intelligent... At some point in the future we'd like to develop a physical base for Quarantine where we can make and present our own work and perhaps that of others – a lively, exciting building that is our home, a place that is truly located and engaged with where it is and also has open doors to the bigger wider world and new ways of working and thinking.

We are regularly funded by Arts Council England and about to become a National Portfolio Organisation. Core support from ACE in 2011/12 is £107,382. Our NPO funding is £160,000 in 2012/13; £163,680 in 2013/14; £167,936 in 2014/15. Turnover in 2010/11 was £224,911.

Quarantine were winners of Arts Council England's art05 award for outstanding achievement and were the inaugural John Thaw Fellows in Theatre at the University of Manchester from 2004 - 2006.