**DEPART – CONFERENCE CALL THURSDAY 1st DECEMBER AND FOLLOW UP**

**CAPACITY / SHOW TIME / TICKET PRICING**

* AGREED ideal capacity for each show is 200.
* Conversation about one show or two per evening. LIFT keen to maximise potential audience and also box office income. 2017 raised concerns over:
  + Timings of shows – one would need to be in daylight
  + Ability to attract audience of c.1600 against c. 800
* AGREED. Put one show per evening ON SALE. If sells well within a short time window, then could add in second show. Note, second show would have to be at an earlier time.
* Hull 2017 to come back with:
  + Start time for show.
  + ON SALE date
  + Decision date for second show.
* Discussed ticket prices. London pricing was £20 standard price, plus reductions for concessions and local residents. Hull 2017 suggested standard pricing needed to be around £10 mark.
* Both agreed to look at pricing against capacity and report back to reach agreement.

**Follow up:**

LIFT asked Yaron about raising the capacity to 250 per show

Dates / Timings:

* START TIME, 9:15pm
* ON SALE: 30th January 2017
* MAIN MARKETING ACTIVITY: early Feb
* 2nd SHOW DECISION: 28th February (n.b. this means we have done launch of seasons 2&3)

Pricing**:**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **LIFT suggestion** | | **Hull 2017** | |
|  | Pricing | Forecast share | Pricing | Forecast share |
| Full price | £15 | 50% | £12 | 50% |
| Concession | £10 | 30% | £9 | 35% |
| Cheap price | £5 | 10% | n/a |  |
| Comps / non-sale | £0 | 10% | £0 | 15% |

Nb contract states 25 comp tickets to Hull 2017 per show, so percentage of comps needs to reflect this.

**ACTIONS:**

* LIFT to confirm whether Yaron has agreed to 250 capacity.
* LIFT to agree Hull 2017 dates given above
* Both to agree ticket pricing and comp holds

**CREATIVE**

* Yaron updated on current proposals for show structure in Hull.
  + Use the playground / football pitch at Thoresby School for entrance to site. NB, need to resolve parking for audience is entering site from this side.
  + Audience divided loosely into 7 groups
  + Choir Members and Community Performers embedded in the groups as they move around.
  + Lots of smaller performance sites dotted throughout the site.
  + These will be populated with scenes from
    - Choir
    - Circus performers
    - dancers
  + At any given time, 2 x performance sites will light up and be animated – groups navigate their way towards these.
  + Finale will be on stage with 8 performers (4 x acrobats + 4 x dancers) and massed choir.

**PARTICIPATION**

**Participant Guides / Performers**

* Hull 2017 are currently recruiting 4/5 “Circus Champion”. These are performers, dance teachers, gym coaches, based in Hull who have expressed an interest in developing some skills in circus, either for their own professional performance practice or in order to be able to incorporate some circus skills into workshops / lessons they run for groups of young people.
* These “Circus Champions” will have an introductory training programme delivered by NCCA in London.
* They will then go on to have some engagement with Depart, but also to be offered other opportunities – through Hull 2017 – to develop skills and understanding of Circus through other engagement with other parts of our Circus programme throughout the year.
* AGREED. That the best approach to community participation for Depart is as follows:
  + Participation will focus around the guiding of the audience, rather than any standalone circus or dance performance elements as part of the show.
  + The role of the Guides will still be performative – these will be costumed roles, requiring confidence and performance skill.
  + Hull 2017 will be responsible for finding a cohort of 15-20 Participants. This will include the “Circus Champions” – perhaps taking more of a lead role, plus additional participants, either those connected with Circus Champions, or through in volunteering programme who have expressed an interest in Performing.
  + NCCA teachers will run workshops with this cohort in advance, currently planned to take place over two weekends -one at end Feb and the other at end March.
  + Circa will pass on information to NCCA in order to inform the content of these workshops.

**ACTION**. NCCA/LIFT to clarify timetable for these workshops and for other time commitment required by the participants (e.g. in production week and for performances) asap.

**Choir**

* CHOIR participation. KF requested greater clarity on the role of the choir within the shows in order to timetable and plan the choir workshops with greatest efficiency. Don’t necessarily need all choir members to learn all repertoire if working in specific groups etc. Concern that the conversation is happening in silos, e.g. only between Spitalfields and Hull 2017, without the input of Yaron as Director (or, in practical terms, LIFT as producer making sure that all these ends are tied up).

**ACTION**. LIFT to make sure that Spitalfields and Yaron are in conversation about how the choir will be used in Depart Hull and that this informs the conversations between Spitalfields and Hull 2017.