

QUARANTINE



Trustee Recruitment Pack

Quarantine is seeking two new Board Members to help shape the future of a bold and distinctive company.

We are especially keen to hear from individuals with senior-level experience in finance, organisational development and change management.

This is an opportunity to apply your professional expertise to help support a values-led, internationally-recognised arts organisation who have continued to make complex and openly accessible work across the past 27 years.

Find out more below.



‘Quarantine is quite simply a marvel, a company that’s right at the forefront of British theatre... immensely touching, totally human yet also intellectually rigorous in their examination of the nature of performance and the raising of questions about what makes theatre seem real and reality so strongly theatrical.’

Lyn Gardner, The Guardian

About Quarantine

Quarantine is a group of people working together as artists and producers who are united by an interest in everyday life. Our work across performance and other forms deals with the politics and aesthetics of contemporary experience and how we relate to one another. Rooted in Manchester, since 1998, we make and tour our work around the world. We're widely regarded as one of the UK's foremost contemporary theatre and performance companies – though our work takes multiple forms, and is created in a wide variety of public contexts, from performances in theatres to conversations in curry cafés, from exhibitions in galleries to high street audio walks – and many more...

Founded in 1998 by artistic directors **Richard Gregory** and **Renny O'Shea** with designer **Simon Banham**, our mission is to make theatre, performance and other public events that create new circumstances to talk about contemporary life. We make work of varying scales with and about the people who appear in it, working with a shifting constellation of collaborators. We've worked recently with hundreds of people, including artists, plumbers, physicists, dog groomers, heart surgeons, philosophers, karate teachers – many of them people who've never done anything like this before. In our projects, everyone has their own voice, rather than being an interpreter of somebody's else's ideas.

At a time of great uncertainty, we feel perhaps more passionate and committed than ever about doing what we do. We believe that beauty and creativity have a role to play in everyone's lives and that art can help puncture the bubbles of experience we might find ourselves in.

The work we make finds new languages, approaches and forms to engage with contemporary life, creating situations for encounter between people who might not usually share the same space. We hope that working like this might help to shape a progressive future that accepts difference and dissent, and acknowledges the right of all of us to be here and be heard.

Recent partners include **Perth Festival** (Australia), **Longsight Library** (UK), **Reykjavik Arts Festival** (Iceland), **GIFT Festival Gateshead** (UK), **Chemnitz Capital of Culture 2025** (Germany), **Manchester Museum** (UK), **Tramway Glasgow** (UK), **Battersea Arts Centre** (UK), amongst many others.



‘It reminds us, in the most potent way, that behind every face we pass in the street there beats a life of infinite complexity ... It makes us see others afresh, with a new intensity, humanity and respect; and you can’t ask much more from theatre than that.’

Joyce McMillan, *The Scotsman*

Recent and current projects

[12 Last Songs](#) is 12 hours long. Part-performance, part-exhibition of people – it invites people in to talk about and demonstrate their labour and the way they see the world – perhaps a hairdresser cutting hair; a decorator wallpapering a wall; a chef cooking a meal. It brings together a diverse set of people who live and work in each location to create a complex portrait of people and place.

[Building of spines](#) happens over seven days in a library. During that time a book is researched, written, edited, printed and bound by hand. The book's narrative is shaped by answers people in the library give to a set of questions based on the Dewey Decimal system. It invites us to reflect on our personal histories in relation to the people around us: what questions do we have? What knowledge do we value and hold on to? And how do we choose to spend the time available to us?

[The Questions](#) is a three-part project taking place in 2025 in **Manchester** and **Chemnitz** (Germany), twin cities since 1983. Through performance, conversation and cultural exchange, Quarantine will create intergenerational encounters, exploring the questions that we might have for each other. The project is part of **Chemnitz 2025: European Capital of Culture**.

[No Such Thing](#) is a conversation over curry between two people who have never met. Before the pandemic, every month for ten years we bought strangers lunch in a Manchester curry café in exchange for conversation. Recently we've experimented with passing on the methodology of the project to people in other places, including **Mülheim** (Germany), **Lancaster** (UK), **Cairo** (Egypt), **Istanbul** (Turkey) and **Rochdale** (UK).

Please see our website for details of our current activities: qtine.com

Our funders

Quarantine is an **Arts Council England (ACE) National Portfolio Organisation**. We've recently received multi year funding from the **John Ellerman Foundation** and the **Rank Foundation**, and substantial support from **Allianz Foundation** and **Chemnitz 2025: European Capital of Culture**.

We are a registered charity (1100469) and a company limited by guarantee by £1 (3662113). Board members are signed up as Directors of the Company and Trustees of the Charity.

Our current Board Members

Chris Bishop

Managing Partner
Slater Heelis Solicitor

Frances Healey

Not For Profit Consultant
Finance, Strategy,
Project Management

Natasha Howes

Principal Curator
Light Night Leeds

Anna Pickard

Head of Communications
Chetham's School of Music

Mandla Rae

Independent Artist

Michelle Rocha

Head of Touring
Factory International

Bethan Ward

Senior Development Manager
Royal Northern College of Music

Who we're looking for

We're seeking two new members to join our Board, preferably with experience and expertise in:

- policy, organisational development & change management
- finance experience with a recognised accountancy qualification*

*Finance experience in an arts/cultural setting might be helpful though not essential, but an interest in art/theatre/performance is important. In addition to normal Director/Trustee responsibilities, we would ask you to be part of our Finance sub-committee, which meets quarterly, usually one week ahead of full quarterly Board meetings. We'd expect you to take the lead – alongside another finance expert on our Board – on behalf of the board, for all financial matters, in liaison with staff. Our Executive Director (FT) is responsible for financial management, supported by our Finance Manager (1 day/pw).

We welcome and encourage applicants from diverse backgrounds.

Previous experience of being on a Board is not necessary, but interest in and enthusiasm for our work is!

We're particularly excited about working with people who can help us look at things differently and uncover new opportunities.

About the role

At the end of the current **National Portfolio Organisation** funding round from the Arts Council in 2028, Quarantine will have been in existence for almost 30 years. The Board will play a pivotal role in imagining what the future of the organisation might look like.

As a Board member, your role is to be the Management's critical friend, ensure the organisation is achieving its charitable role and strengthen the company's resilience. This is especially pertinent in our volatile world.

The role of a charity trustee is unpaid and voluntary but offers a lot in terms of personal and professional development. As well as playing a pivotal role in a world-renowned performance company, you'll have the opportunity to see our work, access training and build new relationships and networks. You'll be reimbursed for any travel and other associated expenses relating to your engagement with Quarantine.

Our board meets four times a year (usually **6–7.30pm on a weekday, usually online** – via Zoom), plus at least one further strategy/planning half-day each year in person (usually a weekday afternoon or afternoon/evening). There are also occasional sub-committee meetings and training opportunities.

As a Board member we would ask you to:

- sign up as a Director of the company (limited by guarantee) and as a Trustee of the Charity
- attend our performances and other live events
- act as an advocate for Quarantine, including supporting fundraising, making use of your networks on behalf of Quarantine (if appropriate/relevant)
- ensure the effective, efficient administration and financial stability of Quarantine; ensuring the organisation complies with its governing document, charity law, company law and any other relevant legislation or regulations
- ensure that the Board has put in place satisfactory systems of control in respect of legal, operational, financial and risk management
- provide governance overview for Quarantine, ensuring delivery in line with our business plan and strategic objectives
- offer support and guidance to Quarantine staff team in achieving the company's aims

For more information on the role of a trustee then please do [visit the Charities Commission information page here](#).



Main terms

- Salary – none/voluntary
- Term – there is no minimum or maximum term length; but the longest serving Trustees/Directors retire at each AGM and can be re-appointed.
- Meetings – quarterly online + one in-person half-day session normally in January/February
- Location – we are based in Manchester but meet online; this means that although proximity to Manchester is preferable, we are open to people who are based outside of Manchester (nationally or internationally).

Diversity, Equality & Inclusion

Quarantine's Artistic Directors identify as disabled. We have an active and thorough 'Human Policy' which underpins our approach working together and with other people. Access and inclusion are at the heart of how we operate and the work that we make. We recognise that institutional racism, discrimination and inequality exists in our sector and we're dedicated to helping to address this, in policy and practice.

We particularly welcome expressions of interest from people with disabilities and those with lived experience of racism or marginalisation, people with dependents and those who have had unconventional career paths.

We will support any access requirements you may have during this process, and if you join the Board, we will make adjustments to ensure you can contribute comfortably and effectively in liaison with you.

If you require any access support relating to the expression of interest process, or require further information, please contact **Richard Gregory**, Artistic Director via **richard@qtine.com**.

Next steps

To express your interest in this role, please **send a copy of your CV** or equivalent and your **responses to the prompts below** to richard@qtine.com, and complete an [Equal Opportunities Monitoring form online here](#).

Responses to the prompts below can be written (no more than 1 side of A4) or provided in audio or video form (no more than 3 minutes), and should address:

- why you are interested in joining Quarantine's Board
- reference the knowledge, experience, qualities and skills you could bring to the role
- what you hope to get out of being part of Quarantine's Board

We'll get back in touch and potentially arrange an initial conversation with our Artistic Directors and Chair of our Board.

If you do join our Board, we have a Board Induction Process that we will follow to help introduce you to our organisation and the role.

Many thanks for your interest in Quarantine.

