

# The eclipse Award

presented by Eclipse Theatre and Summerhall  
Edinburgh Festival Fringe 2020

**Patrons:** Rakie Ayola, Noma Dumezweni and Danny Sapani

## Introduction

The Eclipse Award aims to help UK Black artists and fellow artists who are also marginalised for their race, and who make boundary-pushing performance work, to undertake an Edinburgh Fringe run. This is the second year of The Eclipse Award which is an initiative by Eclipse Theatre and Summerhall to support underrepresented artists presenting work at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe. The first artist to receive The Eclipse Award was Rachael Young, in 2019.

"I'm very lucky and I feel really grateful. I think it's great that Summerhall and Eclipse are doing something to combat a Fringe that isn't very diverse."

**Rachael Young**

The award is for a company or artist to take on a supported run at Summerhall from 7 - 30 August 2020.

## About Eclipse Theatre

A National Portfolio Funded Organisation with Arts Council England, Eclipse Theatre is the leading Black-led touring company in the UK, at the forefront of delivering diverse programming in theatre, film and radio. One of our current missions is to create new work using the insights and experiences of Black British people of African and Caribbean backgrounds and those of us who are also marginalised for our race. Sharing enriching, thought-provoking stories that reflect our nation, we work hard to meet our audiences where they are.

Over recent years, Eclipse has developed the following unique national and international movements:

**Revolution Mix:** Spearheading the largest ever national delivery of new Black British productions in theatre, film and radio. The first Revolution Mix story was the sell-out production of Black Men Walking and the latest, recently opened The Gift.

**Slate: Black. Arts. World:** A three-year project that supported over 2,000 Black artists in the North to work locally, nationally and internationally. With our partners Creative Europe, we are currently leading on a programme of work shared in Amsterdam and Portugal.

With our newly appointed Artistic Director/CEO Amanda Huxtable now at the helm, joined by our Executive Producer Shawab Iqbal, we have moved into our new office in Leeds and are excited about the new horizons ahead.



Rachael Young, The Eclipse Award winner 2019. Photo credit: Tom Forster

## About Summerhall

Summerhall is a venue for diverse programmes of visual and performing arts. It is a place for all kinds of events, parties, workshops, festivals, weddings and meetings. It is home to a varied community of creative artists and businesses, including a pub, café, brewery and distillery. Summerhall's Edinburgh Festival Fringe programmes have "rewired the Fringe" (The Stage), winning multiple Fringe First and Total Theatre awards, and bringing leading theatre-makers to the Fringe - such as Forced Entertainment, Tim Crouch, Ontroerend Goed, Ridiculusmus, Kieran Hurley, Selina Thompson, Graham Eatough, Mind the Gap, Darkfield, Chris Thorpe, Jenna Watt, Rachael Young, Hijinx, Mark Thomas, Inspector Sands, Jo Clifford, Catherine Wheels, Grid Iron, Diane Torr, Greyscale and Reckless Sleepers. We regularly collaborate with UK and international partners including The Place, Paines Plough, Northern Stage, Rose Bruford College, Aurora Nova, Big in Belgium, CanadaHub, From Start to Finnish, the Taiwan season and the Arab Arts Focus.

*"The Fringe is an expensive place to be – without the Eclipse money I just would not be able to come."*

**Rachael Young**



Rachael Young, *NIGHTCLUBBING*. Photo credit: Marcus Hessenberg

## Callout

We are looking for work meeting the following criteria:

- Work by artists from Black African and Caribbean backgrounds
- Work by artists who are also marginalised for their race.
- Engaged, contemporary performance
- Created by artists or a company basing their practice in the UK, outside of Scotland
- Artists who are available to commit to a full Edinburgh Fringe run in 2020
- Artists or companies with the capacity to take advantage of the opportunity to showcase work to press and promoters

## Decisions

We will select the recipient based on the criteria above, the fit with Summerhall's artistic policy, with Summerhall's programme as a whole, and the practicality of the show in a Fringe context.

## Decision Panel

Amanda Huxtable: Eclipse Theatre Artistic Director/CEO

Verity Leigh: Summerhall Programme Manager

Shawab Iqbal: Eclipse Theatre Executive Producer

Tracy Gentles: Co-Director of The Sick of the Fringe

Other panel members TBC

### What's included in the Award?

- £10K cash bursary
- A full run at one of Summerhall's venues on a straight box office split, 70% to the company and 30% to the venue.
- A bespoke package of marketing support including press, PR and some magazine advertising.
- Some technical support.
- Producing guidance.
- Full backing of the UK's principal Black-led touring company.
- Fringe registration
- Mentorship
- The Love Package – a considered package of care named in honour of a generous legacy from Mrs Lovedale Kanu. The Love Package honours real life unsung Black British Sheroes, heroes and superheroes. Supported by the Sick of the Fringe and for 2020 additional cash investment from Eclipse Chair Stella Kanu in honour of her mum Mrs Lovedale Kanu.

**The award is not designed to support the creation of completely new work nor to fully fund a run at the Fringe.** Instead, it removes the upfront venue rental cost and includes a contribution to the direct costs of presenting work at the Fringe (such as technical hires, access, marketing and networking costs, accommodation and travel) to reduce the risk to the artist and allow you to present your work to the highest standard, in the best possible conditions. The successful company or artist will still have to work really hard to reach audiences and thus generate box office income. We will prioritise existing work rather than brand new work in order to maximise the chances of a successful Fringe run.

### Information

Summerhall's festival information pack can be found here:

<https://www.summerhall.co.uk/summerhall-performance-programme/summerhall-festival-fringe/>

The information pack includes details of the regular venue spaces at Summerhall. As well as work which would suit these spaces, we are also interested in hearing about work which doesn't fit the typical one hour Fringe slot, so if your piece is installation, durational or site-specific, please do still apply, using the form to tell us about the needs of your show.

### Who can apply

Artists based in the UK, outside Scotland

Artists from Black African and Caribbean backgrounds

Artists who are also marginalised for their race

Student and non-professional companies are **not** eligible to apply.

Arts Council England NPOs are **not** eligible to apply.

### How to apply

Please read this guidance and Summerhall's festival information pack carefully and then [FILL IN THIS ONLINE FORM.](#)

Please note: There isn't the facility to save and return to the form, so the questions are listed below. If you need to use another format for your application for access reasons, then please email [programme@summerhall.co.uk](mailto:programme@summerhall.co.uk).

### Timescale

Deadline for applications 12noon **Monday 2 March 2020.**

We will be in touch with the successful applicant/s by Friday 13 March. We will need to confirm arrangements with you by Tuesday 24 March and you will need to provide all the information needed for Fringe registration by Thursday 2 April to meet the Fringe brochure deadline.

### **Any questions?**

For more information about taking part in the Edinburgh Festival Fringe please see:

<https://www.edfringe.com/participants>. The website includes invaluable resources about all aspects of bringing a show to the Fringe, including budgeting, press and PR, marketing and the support services offered by the Fringe Society.

If you have any questions about Summerhall or would like to arrange a site visit please contact Verity Leigh [verity@summerhall.co.uk](mailto:verity@summerhall.co.uk) or Tom Forster on [programme@summerhall.co.uk](mailto:programme@summerhall.co.uk).

### **QUESTIONS**

Company Name

Show Title

Primary Contact Name

Email

Phone Number

Address

Please give a brief description of your previous work (500 words)

Please give a brief description of the show you are proposing (500 words)

Supporting Material

*Please include or attach any material that will help us to get a sense of your show. If you have video documentation of the show in performance, however simply shot, then please send that – it's much more helpful than a trailer.*

Website (URL)

Video (URL)

Links to any reviews of this or previous work

Why are you interested in doing a Fringe show? (500 words)

Why would you like to come to Summerhall? (300 words)

Why would you like to work with Eclipse? (300 words)

What do you aim to achieve? (500 words)

Describe the audience for your show? (300 words)

How will you reach them? (300 words)

How do you plan to make your Fringe performances as accessible as possible to different audiences? (300 words)

Please tell us how you plan to manage and deliver your Fringe run, – including any preparatory work you've done, any risks you've identified and any previous relevant experience of the Edinburgh Fringe or similar contexts? (500 words)

Please also attach a budget for your Fringe run, showing how you will spend the £10,000 cash award.

The logo for Eclipse, featuring the word "eclipse" in a lowercase, rounded, orange font.The logo for Summerhall, featuring the word "SUMMERHALL" in a bold, uppercase, black font, with the letter "A" stylized to resemble a building facade. Below it, the tagline "Open Minds Open Doors" is written in a smaller, black, sans-serif font.