

3 – 5 JUNE 2024

# CONNECT

CONFERENCE + SHOWCASE



SHOWCASE EOI  
APPLICATION GUIDE

## CONTENTS

- Overview
- Deadlines
- Showcase Opportunity Types
- Curatorial Framework
- Selection Process
- Locals Expo
- Eligibility
- Technical Support
- Information Session
- Need More Info?

More information on the **CONNECT 2024** program, including registrations when announced can be found here: <https://stagequeensland.com.au/conferences/>

## OVERVIEW

Stage Queensland's *CONNECT* conference is back with an arts market twist.

Across **June 3 – 5** at **The Events Centre, Caloundra**, we're being bolder than ever in our goal to connect Queensland's presenters, producers and artists through showcases and more.

The *CONNECT* performing arts conference + showcase will feature keynotes, panels, workshops and Q&As with industry experts; networking between presenters, producers and artists; pitches and excerpts of exciting new work to tour; company updates from local artists; and a slew of performances from great artists to get us all talking.

*This is Queensland's performing arts market by and for Queenslanders.*

**This Application Guide aims to assist artists and producers who would like to showcase at *CONNECT* 2024.**

## DEADLINES

Showcase EOIs Open	<b>Friday, 26 April 2024</b>
Information Session (virtual)	<b>Saturday, 4 May 2024</b>
Showcase EOIs Close	<b>Friday, 10 May 2024</b>
Notification of EOI Outcomes	<b>W/C, Monday 16 May 2024</b>
CONNECT Conference + Showcase	<b>Monday, 3 June to Wednesday, 5 June 2024</b>

## SHOWCASE OPPORTUNITY TYPES

There are four types of opportunities to showcase your work at *CONNECT*:

- 1. Pitches** (up to 8 minutes) — Tell us about a specific idea or work.
- 2. Excerpts** (up to 15 minutes) — Perform an excerpt of your work.
- 3. Company Update** (up to 8 minutes) — Tell us about what you're up to and where you're going. *Individuals may also apply for this if they have a demonstrated body of practice with a consistent form, style, theme and/or audience.*
- 4. Locals Expo** (unstructured pitching between sessions) — Table space at event.

For more information about the technical support available, please see page 6.

## CURATORIAL FRAMEWORK

### *"Making places through performance"*

This year's program aims to foster a reciprocal relationship between artist, presenter and community, to develop a shared value for new, bold and diverse Australian work.

Through *CONNECT*, we are looking to highlight works, ideas and artists which: speak to Queensland audiences, have a focus on engaging with communities across Queensland, and who are innovative in their approach to practice.

Presenters know their local communities intimately, and as such *CONNECT* aims to connect communities (through presenters) with the right artists — artists who understand who their work speaks to and how it can help build stronger communities.

## SELECTION PROCESS

All applications to the showcase program will be reviewed and shortlisted by a Curatorial Panel consisting of presenters and independent artists/producers. Successful applicants will be chosen based on the eligibility criteria and curatorial framework outlined in this guide. Presenting slots will be finalised by Stage Queensland with consideration for ensuring diversity of forms, audiences, artist demographics, and regional/metro representation across the program.

## LOCALS EXPO

The *Locals Expo* is an additional offering as part of the *CONNECT* program. The expo is an unstructured pitching opportunity which will occur on **Tuesday, 4 June**. Across the afternoon, presenters will have the chance to talk in depth with showcasing artists, and discover upcoming artists beyond the showcase program.

All showcasing artists will be offered a space. Applicants who are not selected for a formal showcase spot, but register to attend the *CONNECT* Conference + Showcase, will be invited to set-up a table showcasing your work as part of the *Locals Expo*.

If you would like to attend the *Locals Expo* without applying for the wider showcase program, please email Nicholas Southey at [nicholas@stagequeensland.com.au](mailto:nicholas@stagequeensland.com.au)

## ELIGIBILITY

### For Pitches and Excerpts:

#### 1. The work must be a Queensland work.

This requires fulfilling at least *two* of the below:

- a. Queensland-based artists made a significant contribution to its development;
- b. It was mainly developed, and/or first presented, in Queensland;
- c. It is produced by a Queensland-based company or producer; and/or
- d. It tells a Queensland-based story.

#### 2. The work must be original.

This requires fulfilling at least *one* of the below:

- a. It is based on an original concept/story/idea from the artists;
- b. It is an existing work which the artists are adapting into another artform; or
- c. It is a new production of an existing work AND the new production premiered in the last 3 years.

#### 3. The work must perform.

This requires fulfilling at least *two* of the below:

- a. It has a live performance element;
- b. It works in a theatrical environment;
- c. The audience can interact with it; and/or
- d. It activates public spaces.

### For Company Updates (and *Locals Expo*):

#### 1. The producer / artist / collective / company must make work in Queensland.

This requires fulfilling at least *two* of the below:

- a. They are based in Queensland;
- b. Most of their work over the last 5 years has been developed in Queensland;
- c. They mainly work with Queensland-based artists, producers and presenters; and/or
- d. They tell Queensland-based stories.

#### 2. The producer / artist / collective / company must perform.

This requires fulfilling at least *two* of the below:

- a. Their practice is based in live performance;
- b. They make work for theatrical environments;
- c. Audiences can interact with their work; and/or
- d. Their work activates public spaces.

## TECHNICAL SUPPORT

All showcases will be allocated time for a short tech check on the morning of their presentation, and will have access to limited tech including microphones, audio playback, lectern, projector for slides, etc.

Excerpts will have access to additional technical support, if reasonable and achievable with the equipment available. Please be accurate in the application if you require any unique technical elements (including specials) as part of your presentation. All technical requirements must be confirmed prior to the conference.

**Please note, the venue does not have rigging capabilities.**

## INFORMATION SESSION

A virtual information session will be held on **Saturday, 4 May 2024** from **3:00 – 4:30pm** (AEST) via Google Meet. This session is a great opportunity to ask any questions you have about your applications. You can join here: <https://meet.google.com/rrd-hdgv-tft>

## NEED MORE INFO?

We hope this Application Guide helped. If you have any remaining questions, feel free to reach out to the team and we will aim to get back to you as soon as possible:

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*CONNECT is supported by the statewide touring service, an initiative of the Queensland Government through Arts Queensland.*