



Ropewalk Artistic Statement

The Ropewalk Art Centre is a multi-artform centre with three gallery spaces, artist studios, workshop spaces and a dedicated performance space. The organisation is an Arts Council England National Portfolio Organisation in the market town of Barton upon Humber in North Lincolnshire. Our artistic policy is informed by current strategies of Arts Council England

The Ropewalk receives, develops and commissions professional new artistic work across: music, theatre, film, literature and visual art. We nurture and grow youth, amateur and community art by providing a space for workshops, rehearsals and performances. The artistic policy of The Ropewalk is underpinned by our core values to make the arts accessible for all and to support the development of artists and practitioners. These core values have enabled The Ropewalk to be a dynamic and sustainable multidisciplinary venue for the arts in Northern Lincolnshire for twenty-two years.

We provide a dynamic space for artists, at all stages of their careers, to feel at home and inspired to create and perform to their artistic capacity. This is a resource to which we bring both heart and professional expertise.

The Ropewalk places the artist at the centre of what we do and by remunerating our artists appropriately we ensure that we are placing them at the financial centre too. We recognise that artists cannot sustain a productive career without being economically viable.

Although we are a small venue, we will never ask a music or theatre artist to take a reduced fee. We work with the artist to negotiate a moral guarantee or fee. All visual artists receive an exhibition fee in line with ACE rates to assist with exhibition costs.

We are inclusive in our approach to the arts and sensitive to a diverse audience's art needs. We actively listen to the voices of our audience and develop programmes that resonate with their lived experience. We also believe in challenging our audiences to encounter new experiences through all art forms, always ensuring ambition and quality. Our staff members are encouraged to engage audience members in meaningful conversations so as to broaden our understanding of our audience's lives and current needs.

Work is selected after these considerations:

- Artistic, aesthetic and innovative qualities
- Strength of concept
- Compatibility with current programme
- Audience consideration
- Opportunities for education activities
- Creative Case*

* The Arts Council England Creative Case for Diversity is a way of exploring how arts and cultural organisations and artists can enrich the work they do by embracing a wide range of influences and practices.