

We have made the very difficult decision to cancel our tour of COMMONISM. There are two reasons for this:

1. One of the two lead artists and performers is Norwegian and is based in Norway. If he travels to the UK and then back to Norway he is required to spend 14 days in quarantine. The Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs also has this general advice now: "The Ministry of Foreign Affairs advises against travel that is not strictly necessary to all countries." This will disrupt his life as a freelance artist in ways that we want to avoid if we can.
2. Following the government's most recent advice, we feel a responsibility to our audiences and staff teams at the venues as well as to ourselves not to contribute to the spread of COVID-19.

We are aware of the potential impact of our decision on casual staff at venues and that they rely on events taking place for their wage. We are working with venues where this is relevant to try and ensure these staff are still paid. One idea is to offer the option to audience members of donating the cost of the ticket they have paid for to the venues in order to ensure as many freelance or casual staff members as possible are still paid.

We do feel that it's important to find a different and new way to spread the COMMONISM word as it feels particularly relevant in these times. We'd like to offer each audience member that has booked the chance to receive a COMMONISM manifesto by post. They would have received one at the end of the show. We have sent the books to the venues in advance and we'd like to suggest that the teams in the venues spend a bit of the time they would have spent on our show this week, sending the books by post. We'll work out with the venues how we cover the cost of postage. We will be working over the coming weeks to develop an online resource that we can make available to people who have booked for the show in advance.

We are three freelance artists and producers and luckily, we have had some funding from the Norwegian Arts Council to make this tour possible. But we have already booked all our accommodation and travel (most of which is non-refundable) and spent all our marketing budgets. This is the reason we have chosen to cancel rather than postpone even though that means it's unlikely that we will receive any guaranteed fees from venues we had planned.

We don't take this decision lightly and thank you for your understanding.

Andy, Amund and Louise
COMMONISM