



## Background

Edinburgh Fringe Festival is an international event and is the largest arts festival in the world. It emerged alongside the advent of the Edinburgh International Festival which was Founded in 1947 to provide hope and inspiration following the Second World War to the people of Europe.

**In 2021 there is a different impetus... to keep the lights burning and build a bridge to following years in bricks and mortar venues, and provide a stage for American creators.**

## Welcome to the American [in] Tent - 6th to 30th August 2021

exploring the art of the possible *and* the probable

## Introduction

American [in] Tent was conceived by [Stephanie Vlahos](#) in 2019 as a platform to create better visibility and engagement with the Edinburgh Fringe Festival for American creators, curators and performers. Since then the world has been changed by COVID but also by greater reckoning as to the impact of carbon use and a wider concern as to sustainability.

As a performer and creator Stephanie has developed her practice by reflecting on 'the artists as thought leaders', and the contribution art can make to wider social, economic and cultural activities.

"The American [in] Tent is a collective of artists interested in speaking to the American narrative. We honor diversity and positive inclusion while freely exploring everything what ails us. We are also interested in promoting fruitful cultural exchange, greater global awareness, and exploring ways to ensure that even in the darkest of times, the artist's voice is heard."

As the lights went out on performance spaces in 2020 there were multiple challenges for performers.

## The Art of the Possible - Bringing Voice to the spoken word

The American (in)Tent is, in part, inspired by the potential of the Spoken Word. We see the Spoken Word as a platform for artists to persist in what they do best despite the worst of times, a place for artists motivated to speak on tough life subjects with eloquence. Audio-form productions create an intimate space where the actor speaks directly to *us* in the same room – our heads.

[Visit](#) - A virtual spoken word venue at this year's Edinburgh Fringe Festival featuring a diverse collective of artists and performers - [www.werareglobal.show](http://www.werareglobal.show)