**OPEN CALL: Pitching sessions for Deaf and Disabled artists**

**Deadline for submitting applications: 7 August 2022**

**Generation After Showcase** is an intense presentation of the most recent Polish theatre, a new artistic school of thought attended by representatives and programmers from the most important festivals and theatre institutions in Europe, Asia and America.

**GENERATION AFTER 6th SHOWCASE: NEW GEOGRAPHIES will take place in Warsaw on 1-3 September 2022.**

If you look for Warsaw, you will find it, as Sławomir Mrożek ironically put it, "east to the West and west to the East". From here we look at what is known, we look for opportunities and limitations, and we ask questions: Where are we living now? How do we perceive otherness? Which way is our mental map moving? How is the geography of the region changing?

This year we expand the spectrum of authors and artists invited to participate in the Generation After Showcase. These artists undertake a revision of old divisions and ponder on changes in our perception of life caused by recent events.

Our goal is to come up with new stories, and in order to do that, we need to draw new maps.

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This year, **Generation After Showcase** is collaborating with the **British Council**, within the context of the [**Europe Beyond Access**](https://www.disabilityartsinternational.org/europe-beyond-access/) project – which seeks to support and celebrate the works of the current unique generation of European performing artists who identify as Deaf or disabled.

This is an open call for Deaf or Disabled artists who, due to barriers which exist in the cultural sector, have limited opportunities to participate in the mainstream and circulation of art.

On the third day of Generation After Showcase we will host a dedicated pitching session in which six projects led by Deaf or disabled artists can be pitched to the assembled national and international performing arts delegates. These short pitches will allow artists to seek presenters for finished works, or to find national or international collaborators and co-commissioners for work that is currently in development. Short pitches will be followed by Questions and Answers, and a chance to meet national and international delegates in a networking breakfast.

The open call is open and is addressed to artists who:

* self-identify themselves as Deaf or Disabled\* [see note below on what we mean by disabled]
* have experienced barriers to progression in their career
* are currently living in Poland, regardless of age, education, citizenship, etc.

The working language of the Generation After Showcase is English – the artists or their producer should be able to present the pitch in English. We will provide interpretation for artists who use Polish Sign Language or do not feel comfortable to speak English.

Applications will be reviewed by a jury, including representatives of the British Council, NOWY TEATR, and an independent moderator of the Pitch session.

**The artist must be available for one or two days in both August and September to take part in the Showcase.** This is structured as follows:

* 20 August, 12.00 – remote pitching training session (max. 120 mins)
* 3 September, 11.00, Warsaw – in-person pitching session during Generation After Showcase

Projects can be represented in the Pitch session by one or two people.

**Logistics**

Selected projects will receive:

* The remote pitching training session, offering advice on how to present a strong pitch to international delegates
* Travel to/ from Warsaw to attend the Pitching session
* One night’s accommodation in Warsaw on the night of 2 September
* Access provision, including payment of additional access costs such as dedicated transport, Personal Assistant, Sign Language interpreter etc

**Application**

As part of the application, we will ask for:

1. A covering statement (500 words max.) telling us about your work, and how this opportunity will benefit you
2. A description of the project you would like to pitch (500 words max)
3. A description of the barriers you have faced in starting your artistic career
4. A recent or updated CV or biography
5. Examples of your work, these can be attached as files (up to six images of your work or a video/audio extract, no longer than two minutes) or an online portfolio/ website

Regarding points 1, 2 & 3: if preferable to a written submission, artists can submit the application via video in Polish or in Polish Sign Language (maximum 10 minutes in length together).

**The application deadline is 7 August 2022**

Applications should be sent to: showcase@nowyteatr.org

More information about the Generation After Showcase can be found on the website of the [Nowy Theatre](https://nowyteatr.org/en/kalendarz/generation-after-6-showcase).

\*What do we mean by Disabled, or disability?

Since we recognise that people’s perspectives and experiences of disability are very wide-ranging, we have a broad and inclusive approach to what disability means.

Some people will meet with access barriers on a daily basis; others may have a mental or physical impairment or health condition which is invisible to others or that they prefer to keep to themselves; some people may not even have considered themselves to be disabled until something has happened to make them reflect on the issue.

If you consider yourself to be disabled under this broad definition, then please take part in this open call and submit your application.