



Coventry  
University



1<sup>st</sup> May, 2026

Dear Designer,

**The Society of British Theatre Designers (SBTD)**, in partnership with **Coventry University**, is delighted to invite you to apply to participate as an Exhibitor in **design | stage**, our national exhibition celebrating contemporary performance design across the UK.

**design | stage** brings together creative and diverse work from across theatre, live performance, opera, dance, events, and related disciplines, offering a platform to showcase the breadth of design practice today.

#### **Who can Apply**

This opportunity is open to current members of **The Society of British Theatre Designers (SBTD)**, the **Association of Sound Design and Production (ASDP)**, and the **Association for Lighting Production and Design (ALPD)**.

#### **What You Can Submit**

You may submit professional productions realised between 2023 and 2027. Each Exhibitor will present:

- 1 production within the physical exhibition
- Up to 3 productions within the published catalogue

Please note that inclusion in the catalogue is contingent on participation in the physical exhibition.

#### **About the Exhibition**

**design | stage** will take place at the Delia Derbyshire Building, running from 15th February to 7th March 2027. Alongside the exhibition, a wider public programme including talks, workshops, and symposia, exploring current and future directions in performance design.

Exhibitors may also opt to be considered for **The Designer Lens**, and to contribute to **Making Unmaking Remaking (MUR)**, a series of public-facing events led by Kristina Penna.

#### **Exhibitor Contribution**

A fee of £120 supports exhibition production, installation, venue costs, catalogue production, and marketing. Payment is made in two instalments, with further optional contributions available.

We are committed to accessibility and inclusion. A limited number of bursaries will be available for those for whom cost may be a barrier, and we encourage confidential enquiries.



## How to Apply

Applications open on Friday 1st May and close at midnight on Sunday 12th July 2026. You can apply via the online form here:

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfuLsz5jFa3YVdH2NrM64WC9R\\_NM\\_yShu4My2-fi76e44lajA/viewform?usp=header](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfuLsz5jFa3YVdH2NrM64WC9R_NM_yShu4My2-fi76e44lajA/viewform?usp=header)

Further information can also be found on the SBTD website:

<https://www.theatredesign.org.uk/designstage/>

## What to Prepare

Before applying, please ensure you have:

- A 150-word biography (third person)
- A 150-word description per production (third person)
- Full production and photo credits
- A proposed list of exhibition items
- Your catalogue order quantity
- Due to space constraints, you will also be asked to indicate whether you require 1 or 2 display boards for the production you will be exhibiting.

## Key Dates for your Diary

Applications open: Friday 1st May 2026

Deadline: Sunday 12th July 2026

Exhibition: 15th February – 7th March 2027

Installation period begins from 8th February 2027

If you have any questions or wish to discuss your application, please contact:

Dana Pinto – Curator [exhibitions@sbtd.org.uk](mailto:exhibitions@sbtd.org.uk)

Lexa Kirty – **design | stage** Administrator [designstage@sbtd.org.uk](mailto:designstage@sbtd.org.uk)

We welcome and encourage you to take part in this exciting national platform and contribute to a collective snapshot of contemporary design practice.

With best wishes

Dana Pinto

Curator, **design | stage**

**The Society of British Theatre Designers**