



about PAST WORKS RECYCLING PLANT

Out with the new, in with the old!

Emergency Chorus's night for Scratch Renaissance is called ***Past Works Recycling Plant***, and the first edition will take place on **Friday 23rd January 2026** at Chisenhale Dance Space.

It is a night for 'recycled' performance — **a chance to revisit an 'old' work or aspect of your performance practice**. You might propose, for instance:

- a retired piece that only got a couple of outings but deserved a longer life
- material which has been reworked or remixed in some way
- a condensed retrospective of your whole body of work
- B-sides and offcuts from the studio that were never seen by the public
- the very first piece you made 5, 10, 20, 30 years ago and which is horribly embarrassing to you now

Or something that is not any of those things. It can involve making something new from old stuff, but it can also just be doing the old stuff.

Past Works Recycling Plant is a celebration of the ways that artists change and remain constant; how artists' work is always composted and fed back to itself. It's an invitation to time-travel, making room for the unseen, the almost-forgotten, the scribbles-in-the-margins, the what-was-was-there-all-along.

Unlike some scratch nights, there won't be a formal Q&A or feedback process as part of the night, but there'll be plenty of opportunity to chat about the work during breaks.

WHAT ARE WE LOOKING FOR?

From this open call we are looking to select **3 performances which have been recycled in some way** (the night will consist of 4 acts in total: those selected from this open call and 1 which has been invited).

We are looking for artists who make **contemporary/experimental performance in any field** — dance, theatre, Live Art, writing, music and sound art, expanded film and the intersections between these disciplines. We're not looking for work that exists firmly in what we'd call 'traditional' art forms — narrative drama, classical dance, etc.

We imagine that each performance would last around **15-20 minutes** on average, but it's possible some could be shorter and some longer. We're open to whatever the work asks for and is practically feasible.

THE OFFER

We are offering base fees of **£100 for solo artists or £150 for duos and groups**.

On top of this, ticket income will be split between the presenting artists, Chisenhale Dance Space, and Emergency Chorus, so there will be a degree of top-up to the base fees (if the event were to sell out at 70 tickets, you could expect an additional ~£100 per act).

We have a very limited travel budget. Those based outside of London are welcome to apply, but please note we will be limited in the number of slots we are able to offer to those requiring travel expenses.

The selected artists will also be able to access a combined total of 8 hours of free Last Minute Space at Chisenhale Dance Space (bookable 7 days in advance).

Each artist will have about 20 minutes of technical rehearsal on the day. There will be lighting, projection, and sound capabilities, and a technician will be provided to operate your performance.

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact us on emergencychorustheatre@gmail.com.

We look forward to reading about your ideas!

