



## Virtual Rogue Festival 2021 Policies and Procedures

Link to the application will appear on our homepage when live on October 11.

### **LINK TO APPLICATION FOR VIRTUAL ROGUE 2021**

Application fee: \$10

Virtual Venue fee: \$80

### **About Rogue Festival 2021: March 5 - 13, 2021.**

The Rogue Performance Festival is a 10-day performance art festival. Rogue Festival champions the gritty, got-something-to-say outlook of the independent performer and Fresno's Tower District. By connecting art, artist, and audience in a non-curated, non-adjudicated program every year, Rogue Festival honors those who speak their truth, challenge the status quo, and perform audaciously – creating a distinctly forward-thinking culture as it goes along.

Presented in a Rogue Festival style format, the Festival includes theatre, dance, spoken-word, music, performance art, puppetry and more for fearless Central Valley audiences. The festival is unjuried - artists are chosen through a public lottery - and the festival is uncensored - content is entirely up to the artist, experimentation is encouraged.

Due to the current pandemic, the 2021 Rogue Festival will be first and foremost a Virtual Rogue, with artist programming presented via Zoom. Ticket prices are capped at \$10 (100% of which goes back to the artist, minus ticketing fees to Ticketleap).

If and when it is possible to do so safely, (according to Fresno County Public Health Guidelines, the advice of our public health advisor, with our board of director's approval), the Rogue Festival will move to Hybrid Rogue, combining virtual shows with in-person shows in 1-2 outdoor venues. (See below for more details.)

**For VIRTUAL Rogue Performer Policies and Procedures, please read on.**

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## **THE ROGUE ABIDES**

**Rogue Festival abides by the following commonly accepted Fringe Festival criteria:**

1. Participants will be selected on a non-juried basis (meaning creative works are not reviewed prior to submission and acceptance into the festival) by lottery. We present two lotteries: one for

“In-town” performers (Fresno County or contiguous counties) and one for “Out-of-Town performers.

2. Audiences must have the option to pay a ticket price, 100% of the final receipts go directly to the artists.

3. Rogue Festival producers have no control over the artistic content of each performance. Beyond public safety requirements, the artistic freedom of the participants is unrestrained.

4. The festival is inclusive. Artists from a variety of cultural perspectives and artists from underrepresented communities are encouraged to apply.

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## **VIRTUAL ROGUE**

### **What the Virtual Rogue Provides You**

2 performances (1 per weekend) in a Virtual Venue via Zoom, hosted by Rogue Festival

One 75 minute (max) technical rehearsal via Zoom the weekend prior to the festival’s opening so we can test connectivity, Zoom set up, and technical needs like screen sharing and audio sharing, for your show. Applicants must be conflict-free during those dates to apply. No schedule accommodations are guaranteed.

One Virtual Venue Manager who is your Zoom host and technical manager. One Virtual Crewmember, who is responsible for monitoring your chat, waiting room, etc.

TicketLeap box office/ticketing service, including advanced ticket sales and day-of communication of Zoom link to audience members. Also included, a follow up email encouraging online reviews of your show and link to your TipJar account (Venmo, CashApp, Ko-fi, etc.)

Listing of your company’s name, show title, description, graphic, and performance times on the Rogue Festival website and our PDF and print programs where the public can browse the festival’s offerings, purchase tickets and comment on shows they’ve seen.

Publicity/marketing for the Festival as a whole. (As the Rogue Festival is unjuried, we do not publicize or advertise individual shows over others. ALL companies will receive the same level and amount of advertisement, when applicable, through our press kit, social media channels, the Festival website, and email newsletters during the festival.)

Opportunities to exhibit/preview your work through social media events like the Virtual Teaser Show held in the days prior to the festival, livestreamed from Festival Facebook and Instagram channels.

Artist Passes to see fellow performers' shows. For the Virtual Festival, Rogue performers will be asked to request in advance (1 week prior to the festival) the shows they would like access to. (A comp tickets list will also be available to the performers for their shows).

An environment that facilitates an independent creative process and the opportunity to perform for Fresno audiences famous for being open, hospitable, and encouraging of independent artists.

You set your ticket price between \$0 and \$10 and we return the entirety of that ticket price to you, the performing company, minus TicketLeap fees.

All official communications between Rogue Festival and the artists will happen via email. A monthly email round-up of information and due dates will be sent in the first week of each month. An informal Facebook group will also be set up for performer questions and discussion.

## **What the Virtual Rogue Expects From You**

Select your artistic material (theatre, improvisation, cabaret, dance, music, multimedia, etc.) and have it be no longer than 60 minutes in length.

Rehearse all performance material independently.

Performer uses their own Zoom account, necessary equipment (laptop, phone, tablet), and digital support (internet connectivity) to perform their selection from their location.

Secure the rights for your production to take place if the performance is not an original piece or is not in the public domain. Please be prepared to offer proof of rights acquisition if asked.

Submit all Festival forms and materials (i.e. contractual, technical, promotional, financial, W-9 tax form, etc.) on time. Failure to do so will result in additional late-fee charges to the performing group.

To ensure your promotional materials are proof-read and meet graphics specifications. Take extra care when providing information; we will reproduce your data exactly as we receive it.

Make arrangements for all necessary forms to perform at a Festival based in the U.S. This includes arrangements for receiving payment via check from a U.S. bank. Please note that we

are not responsible for any issues that may arise on the performers end in making these arrangements.

Take the schedules of all of the members of your company into consideration when applying to the festival. We will try to accommodate scheduling conflicts, but cannot guarantee that shows will not overlap.

Create marketing materials, press releases and graphic or photo images for your show. Show descriptions and images are due at the end of November. Press releases in mid-January.

Please note, we DO NOT censor content of any show. However, there may be some restrictions to how your show is marketed to the public, depending on policies of a particular venue, social media platform, and media requirements.

As all official communications between the Festival and performers occur via email, performers are expected to check and read their email regularly to ensure that they are up to date on all deadlines and expectations. Checking your texts and voice mail regularly is also helpful.

## **Applications and Process:**

### **Applications**

**Open on October 11, 2020 - final Deadline: October 30, 2020 at 11:59pm PT**

**\$10 fee for ALL applications (non-refundable)**

The application form is how you enter the Festival process. All required fields must be filled out and application fee must be paid to be placed in the festival Lottery Draw. There are two separate lotteries: local 50% (Fresno and contiguous counties) and out-of-town 50%. If there aren't enough applicants for one lottery, waitlisters from the other lottery will fill in the schedule.

The application will include an opportunity to indicate interest in performing at least 1 in-person slot, should the Hybrid Rogue become available in the spring. A waitlist of both virtual and in-person performers will be compiled in case performer slots become available at a later date.

### **Important Dates**

**November 1: 2021** Rogue Festival Lottery - Lottery winners announced via Facebook Live.

**November 3:** Official notification of acceptance or placement on the waitlist via email. This email contains further information on the Festival.

**November 15:** Schedule assignments announced. Dates and times of performances sent to lottery winners.

**November 30:** Deadline for Virtual Venue Fees, Contracts, and Show Info Form (includes marketing and program information). This form contains all of the performer contact info, marketing materials, and show information for our program. *Late fee: \$50.*

**December 15:** Deadline to withdraw with 90% refund.

**December 31:** Deadline to withdraw with 50% refund (after this date, all fees become non-refundable.)

**January 15:** Deadline for submitting press release and press image for inclusion in our Rogue Festival Media Kit.

**January 29:** Teaser Show promotional videos due - if not received by this date, your promo video will not be included in our Teaser Show Livestream.

**February 5:** Deadline for Zoom Technical Questionnaire. This questionnaire is integral to setting up your Zoom event permissions and your technical rehearsal time. You will receive this questionnaire in early January. *Late fee: \$50*

**February 22 - 28:** Technical Rehearsals via Zoom. You will receive your scheduled date and time by February 12th.

**March 3, 2021:** W-9 for Payouts Due. While there is no late fee for this, Rogue Festival will not issue a payout check unless a current W-9 has been submitted for 2021.

**March 2 & 3:** Teaser Show Livestream on Facebook and Instagram

**March 5-13, 2021:** Rogue Virtual Festival Festival shows will run Fri, Sat, and Sundays each weekend.

**April 2:** Payout Reports delivered via email

**April 15:** Payout checks sent (at the latest)

## **Technical and Performance Information**

As a Virtual Festival, Virtual Rogue requires performances to be Zoom capable. As such, we recommend keeping your show as simple as possible.

For live performance via Zoom, screen sharing and sharing of audio clips can be supported via Rogue's Virtual Zoom Hosts to support your performance. We recommend you keep these cues minimal.

Shows may be pre-recorded and submitted to be streamed to the audience via Zoom during the assigned showtimes. We recommend this for shows with more technical requirements, movement, or editing needs.

We highly recommend using Virtual Rogue as a way to workshop new material for solo artists or two person shows. We can also facilitate audience Q&A (10-15 minutes) if time permits and the performer plans for it.

## **Fees, Withdrawals, Payments & Fines**

Application fee: \$10

Virtual Venue fee: \$80

Late fees for Show Information and Technical Questionnaire: \$50 each.

Performance Payouts are made by check and require a current (2021) W-9 submitted prior to the festival.

### **Box Office Policies**

- All ticket sales are final. There are no refunds or exchanges.
- Ticket sales for each show will open mid-February and close 18 hours prior to the show. An email with the Zoom link will be sent to all ticket holders the morning of the show. This is to minimize the Zoom link from being forwarded to others early.
- Artists will be asked to provide any links (to merch or tip jars) they'd like provided in the zoom chat and in the post-show e-mail to audience members in the technical requirements questionnaire.
  - Ticket sales will be open worldwide.

### **Artist Payout Information**

- 100% of the Fringe show ticket price goes to the performing company or artist, minus any TicketLeap fees.
- Artists set their own ticket prices between \$0 and \$10 on the Program Information Form.
- Audiences will have the option to donate to Rogue Festival through the ticketing system on each show.
- All ticket sales will be paid out via check postmarked by April 15th.

### **Comp Tickets**

- Since 100% of the ticket price goes to the performing artist or company, complimentary tickets for their own shows will be given at the artists' discretion. However, the names of all individuals receiving comps must be submitted a minimum of 24 hours before the show.
- Other Rogue Artists, Staff and Volunteers will have free passes to all performances of all shows, including yours.
- The Festival Producers also reserves the right to offer complimentary tickets to your show to Press, Sponsors and Donors.

### **Artist Comps**

- Everyone on the cast & crew list in the Show Information Form will be listed for Artist Passes. Each of these individuals should contribute substantially to the production and execution of your show. If we believe this privilege is being abused, we will revoke passes from the entire production.
- Artist Comps are non-transferable.
- The Artist Comps will allow all Rogue Artists to see any of the other Rogue shows for free. A comps request form will be sent out in the week prior to the Festival.
- Offering these passes is a courtesy the Rogue extends in order to encourage artists to see each other's work and to have the fullest experience possible. If you or a member of your group is found to be abusing the Artist Comp privilege, your group's comps may be revoked.

## Housing & Transportation

As a virtual festival, Rogue 2021 will not provide billets for performers.

## Marketing Support

Performers will receive our marketing guide with their showtimes. The Rogue's Performer Marketing Support includes

- Program Listings including short description, promo photo/image, dates and times, rating, genre, and performer website. This guide will be available in PDF for digital marketing.
- Website Listings include all of the program listings plus a longer description and a link to ticket sales and performer website
- Social Media Promotion. FB events will be listed as co-hosts, tagged posts shared, reviews and previews shared, in addition to general promotion of the Festival
- Press Kit. Our press kit includes a listing of every show on the schedule and the program information for each. It also includes all individual press releases from performers submitted prior to the deadline, as well as their promotional images.
- Listings, reviews, buzz, photos, and news in a series of e-newsletters prior to the Festival and daily e-newsletters to our core audience each day of the Festival.
- Virtual Teaser Show: Each performer who wishes to submit a 2 minute "teaser" or promo video for their show will be included in our Teaser Show LiveStreams on Facebook, YouTube and Instagram Live. Each teaser will also be added to our YouTube channel for regular use via social media sharing.

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## HYBRID ROGUE:

The Rogue Festival will be closely monitoring the public health circumstances in Fresno County. Beginning in January, we will consider opening 1 - 2 outdoor cabaret venues in the Tower District. Our outdoor, cabaret venues can be set up with as little as a week's notice, so artists interested in possibly performing live will need to be ready with very little notice.

**Our decision to go Hybrid will depend upon a combination of factors, including but not limited to:** Fresno County Public Health Guidelines, the advice of our public health advisor, access to an appropriate venue, and our board of directors' discussion and approval.

## Artist Selection for In-Person Venue Slots

Slots for In-Person performances will first be offered to artists currently on the Rogue 2021 schedule. These artists will be shifted to Hybrid Rogue schedule with at least 1 in-person show. If there are still slots available for the in-person shows, those slots will be extended to those on an in-person waitlist.

## **Venue Information for In-Person Venue**

Cabaret venues are in Tower District patios, typically connected to a bar or bar/restaurant. They provide only basic LED lighting, a PA system with one microphone. Performers may bring additional equipment that can be safely added to the system and takes less than 15 minutes to load in and set up (and less than 15 minutes to strike and remove).

The venues will seat no more than 40. The final audience capacity will depend upon public health guidelines at the time. Venues will have a venue manager and volunteer ticket-takers for any in person shows.

## **Box Office and Ticketing**

The same listing as their virtual show will be used for ticketing purposes. The listing will shift to a live-venue mode and ticket sales will be available at the door, 30 minutes prior to showtime. (Card only, no cash).

If a waitlisted performer is added to a live in-person slot, a new ticket listing will be added for them and Rogue Festival will handle their box office sales, reconciliation, and payout.

Payouts will remain on the same schedule as virtual Rogue.

## **Fees, Withdrawals, Payments and Fines**

No additional fees will be applied to any virtual Rogue performer who goes Hybrid. Waitlisters who take a live, in person performance time will be given a prorated fee depending upon the number of slots assigned.

## **Marketing Support**

Live, in-person and Hybrid shows will be given the same marketing available to Virtual Shows. (In fact, we anticipate that interest in the live, in-person shows will be greater due to the lack of opportunities for live-entertainment in our current circumstances.).

## **Housing & Transportation**

In the event of an in-person venue opening up, billets and transportation will not be provided and traveling performers will be required to acquire their own accommodations. We highly encourage discussing quarantining requirements of your accommodation hosts in advance.

## Contact Information

The 2021 Rogue Producers are:

- Co-Producer, administration: Heather Parish ([roguefestival.heather@gmail.com](mailto:roguefestival.heather@gmail.com))
- Co-Producer, operations: Amber Strid ([roguefestival@gmail.com](mailto:roguefestival@gmail.com))
- Associate Producer: Wendy Berry ([sunflower44wb@yahoo.com](mailto:sunflower44wb@yahoo.com))

The Rogue Festival Staff is always happy to help answer any questions. Feel free to contact co-producer Heather Parish at [roguefestival.heather@gmail.com](mailto:roguefestival.heather@gmail.com). She is also available on FB, Twitter and Instagram: [@heatherdparish](https://www.instagram.com/heatherdparish)

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## Final Information & Acknowledgment of Information

Companies accepted into the Rogue Performance Festival cannot sell or transfer their spot in the Festival to another artist or group. If a company sells, transfers or trades their space to another company, both companies will be removed from the Festival and all paid fees will be forfeited. Changes in the Festival program are at the discretion of the Festival producers only.

The Rogue Performance Festival reserves the right to cancel confirmed applications should unforeseen circumstances arise. This includes anything that would interfere with the mounting of the production or the Festival as a whole.

The Rogue Festival will accept no liability for performance cancellations as a result of natural phenomena, war, public health, or the actions of third parties. The Festival makes no guarantee whatsoever regarding the suitability of any particular venue - virtual or in-person - for performance presentation. In the event of a loss of a venue (or an unforeseen loss of Festival revenue needed to operate a venue) the Festival reserves the right to cancel the performances in that venue. In such an event, cancelled groups will be placed at the top of the waiting list or they may withdraw from the Festival and receive a 100% refund.

All performing companies agree to adhere to the laws of Fresno, California, the USA, and the policies, procedures and safety restrictions of the Rogue Performance Festival and each of its participating venues. All companies are obligated to act in the best interests of the Festival as a whole at all times. The Rogue Performance Festival reserves the right to cancel any or all performances of any performing company not adhering to these regulations or not adhering to our Code of Conduct as posted on our website.

Upon acceptance to the Rogue Performance Festival, participants are required to submit all requested materials and information in full and on time. Failure to do so may result in additional charges to the performing company or artist, or removal from the Festival. In addition, all

promotional and publicity materials must include the Rogue Festival logo and/or mention of the Rogue Festival as a presenting body. No additional producers or presenters will be permitted.

Submission of the application and subsequent payments indicate your acceptance of and agreement to all listed terms and conditions of participation with the Rogue Performance Festival contained herein.

### **Acknowledgment of Information**

By accepting a spot in the 2021 Rogue Performance Festival, you agree to adhere to all of the above policies and procedures.