

CLOWN & RITUAL: PERFORMANCE RETREAT & FESTIVAL RESIDENCY

Facilitated by Zuma Puma (Founder of Clownlife)

DATES: JULY 1ST-12TH 2021

July 1st- 6th: Part One: A 5 day facilitated performance
Immersion in nature at The Hillyfield (Totnes, Devon)

July 6th- 12th: Part Two: 3 day Buddhafields festival with
early entry (Taunton, Somerset).

APPLICATION

APPLY HERE- Application Deadline is June 12th:
<https://form.jotform.com/211456670528357>

INVESTMENT

Sliding Scale £350- £600

* Includes Part One: veggie/vegan food, facilitation course fees, camping & venue costs. Part Two is an exchange. See final page for more information on the investment.

THE INVITATION

Dear Wild Humans of Expression

It is a great pleasure to invite you to this 2 part performance development retreat this coming July 1st-12th facilitated by Zuma Puma, the founder of Clownlife.org.

Part One:

You are invited to join a community of clowns, fools, movers, shakers and magic makers for this Clownlife Residency nestled in a woodland valley with a lake and a sauna on the edge of Northern Dartmoor.

Part Two:

We will then adventure as a clown company to Buddhafields festival, a lush family friendly alternative festival that celebrates well being, music and nature connection. Together we will host the Word Up stage and literally make magic happen as a popup theatre clown company with the help of visiting artists over 2 days of the festival.

For the first time ever we will be piloting this exciting 2 part Performance retreat & festival opportunity. We will gather to do what we've been craving to do all year! Play, dance and create performance material intended for the stage and beyond. We will be diving deep into the profound worlds of clown, ritual, movement, performance practice with a focus on community, connection, and artistic performance development.

For More Info about the residency visit:
<https://www.clownlife.org/calendar.html>



www.clownlife.org

PART ONE: THE PERFORMANCE RETREAT

THE MISSION:

Our weekend will focus on: Connection, Presence, Humanity, Self-expression, Play, Community, Authenticity, Risk taking/Stepping out of the comfort zone, Being seen, Listening, Expressions of the Ridiculous, performance development and playing/being with nature.

We will be looking at how the practice of Clown can help us to live wholeheartedly, true to ourselves in everyday life as well as improving our performance and developing new acts for the stage. Whether you are a performing artist, comedian or someone who just wants to come out of their shell and take a risk to play and be seen, this Camp is for you.

WHAT YOU WILL GET FROM THE RESIDENCY:

Facilitated Exercises
Performance development
Clown & Comedy training
Connection with community and nature
Being seen and seeing others
Play and expressions of the wild self
Rituals and Ritual Performance on the land
Sharing honestly with vulnerability and sensitivity
Laugh at yourself and see the humour in your world
Having a ridiculously fun time
CampFire hang-outs
Performance Cabarets, immersive happenings
Lake and Sauna nourishment
A ton of laughter

DAILY ITINERARY:

Morning: Movement, dance warm ups and games
Afternoon: Introduction to Clownlife pedagogy and performance practice
Late Afternoon: Performance Generating exercises and act development

Evening: Most evenings will be filled with sharing what we have created throughout our day

- Immersive cabaret in the forest and performance for the farm.
- We will have daily check in's to make sure that we are working at the pace of the group's needs, with an opening and closing ceremony to hold the container.
- There will be some leisure time to swim, sauna, walk, dream, write and create as well.

THE YEARNING

If you are yearning to develop artistically, conjure new inspiration for performance, experience the Clownlife pedagogy, expand your performance repertoire, live in community, immerse yourself in nature, laugh and play and be wild, this performance retreat is here for you.

There will be performances and group social events in the evenings after fully immersing ourselves throughout the day. This will be an intensive process with a full schedule so please apply if you're yearning for an artistically full, in depth enquiry, holistic community based performance development retreat that is connected to and informed by the land, ritual and of course bringing the comedy of you out into the world to shine bright where it's most needed.



OUR LANDING:

THE LAND:

The land is glorious, luscious and green with rivers, forest, hills, a lake to dunk your body in and with great luck a sauna to ease those pandemic aches and pains. We will be living in close proximity to nature as the site is a campground/working farm nestled in a valley in Dartmoor.

THE SITE:

The site is off grid, with solar showers etc. and without "proper" electricity so we will be taking advantage of going mostly unplugged.

ACCOMMODATION:

We will be camping in a field together with a crystal stone circle, a small yurt, a marquee, and a campfire. We will be working outside as much as possible to soak up everything that nature has to offer.

- Participants are expected to bring the camping gear they require- please get in touch if you don't have what you need and we can do our best to help you source equipment.
- Please prepare for outdoors living in close proximity to the land and all of the elements.
- Please note we will be using Composting Toilets, we will supply soap, toilet paper and sanitiser but if you'd prefer to carry a bag with your own essentials, please do.

FOOD:

We will delight in delicious Vegetarian meals cooked by all of us. All participants will sign up to a rotar on Day One and work with recipes to be prepared in a covered outdoor very basic kitchen. As this residency is as much about living in community, the way in which we keep clean and care for the land will be a group responsibility.

OUR HOSTS AT HILLYFIELD:

HillyField is an incredibly inspiring farm that is Helping restore ancient woodland and develop a woodland culture on Dartmoor. They are also hosting a forrest school for little ones from Monday-Wednesday.

Check out their website: <https://www.thehillyfield.co.uk>

COLLABORATION WITH THE FARM:

To make this work more regenerative and inclusive within the community that live and work there we will be collaborating in some very exciting ways...

1. We will be offering a performance feast to the farm workers on the Sunday night- which will give us a tangible deadline to work towards in creating performance material.
2. I have invited the forrest school children to take part in a clown games session on the Monday afternoon with all of us. We can gain a ton of inspiration from the little ones, they are truly the best clowns.



PART TWO: BUDDHAFIELDS

THE FESTIVAL JULY 9TH-11TH:

Buddhafield Festival is a joyful gathering of people, celebrating community and connection with the land.

Song, dance, arts and crafts, yoga, meditation, and play blend together, without alcoholic drinks or recreational drugs, to create a loving and life-affirming space.

There will be Buddhist teaching, workshops and ritual, under sun and stars. The Festival is family-friendly and open to everyone, however you practice.

Our theme for 2021 is: Kiss the Earth.

CHECK OUT THE WEBSITE:

<https://www.buddhafield.com/buddhafield-weekender-2021>

OUR INVOLVEMENT: THE WORD UP STAGE:

We will be holding down the Word up Stage at this year's 3 day Buddhafield festival (July 9th-11th). Working as a collective; we will create theatrical delight filled with performance, facilitation or whatever our hearts desire, playing with REAL LIVE AUDIENCES 2 days in a row! Part Two is an opportunity to bring all that we create straight to the stage, to work as a collective and put together a magical once in a lifetime happening for the festival goers of Buddhafields on Friday and Saturday.

If you don't feel called to perform but want to join us in another way, there are other roles needed like space guardians and sound techs for the cabaret. We will work together to decide on the most appropriate roles and time tables for our group. Holding down the Theatre stage will be a collective responsibility and I'm looking forward to exploring how we can make it flow in the most organic, seamless and performatively enriching way.

FRIENDS OF CLOWNLIFE

The best part is that we will be joining an extended group of performers and facilitators from the Clownlife world. There will be opportunities to experience and expand your repertoire with varying performance workshops offered in the space by other invited guests as well as enjoying the bountiful beauty of live music, nature, art and culture from this magical little festival.

EXPECTATIONS:

- **EARLY ARRIVAL:** Tuesday afternoon July 6th.
- Decorate the space and dreaming into the programme for the festival.
- Perform in the Cabaret on Friday night and optional Saturday as well.
- Offer any workshops your heart desires.
- Fill in the blanks on the Word Up stage programme.
- Co-create a Stage guardian Rotor.
- Take responsibility as a collective to look after the space, keeping it clean and filled with theatrical delight!





INVESTMENT

INVESTMENT: £350- £600 (sliding scale) this cost includes;

Part One: Venue, Food and Facilitation for the 5 day retreat.

Part two: Will be an exchange for a Buddhafields ticket & camping pass (worth £145) in return for your helping hand in running and (if you so desire) performing at the Word Up stage.

£350- Low income/Student (covers cost of retreat and small contribution towards facilitation)

£425- General Admission- covers full venue fees & course facilitation

£500- Supporter- Helps cover facilitation costs for a low income participant

£600- Abundant Supporter/ Sharing the love; offers a reduced bursary for someone who could not attend otherwise.

***LIMITED SPACES: 10 participants (please note: the Clownlife retreats have a history of filling up, it is recommended to apply sooner than later to avoid disappointment).**

TRANSPARENCY CLAUSE: With efforts to keep this event affordable for artists after one of the most horrendous years for the arts, this event is divided into Part One and Part Two. The investment paid for the event is for Part One- the retreat, which will cover venue costs, food and facilitation.

Part Two is an exchange- running the stage and performing (if you so desire) in exchange for one ticket to the festival.

***Food and travel to and from the festival are not included. However we are likely to organise ride shares and make collaborative food plans, to help keep costs low.**

APPLICATION

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Please email Zuma Scott via nellyzscott@gmail.com with any questions or concerns you may have regarding the event.

We look forward to hearing from you soon.