

CHRIS WHITE



Hello! My name's Chris. I'm a poet, performer & producer based in Exeter. I write & make work that's silly, surreal & subversive. I'm passionate about creating & facilitating accessible & engaging spoken-word, story-telling and theatre.

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Spoken-word I regularly perform feature & headline sets at nights & festivals including Raise the Bar, Tongue Fu, Latitude, Sofar Sounds & Exeter Pride. I've also won and been a runner-up in a number of slam competitions including winning the Exeter Annual Slam in 2018 and coming third in the National Final of the [Roundhouse Poetry Slam 2019](#)

Residencies & Commissions I've taken part in a number of residencies, responding to themes & creating work for live & digital audiences, such as [Siren Poets \(2020 - 2021\)](#), [Boat Poets \(2018 & 2021\)](#) and, most recently, 2 months as Exeter Cathedral's "[Riddler in Residence](#)," creating work in response to the Exeter Book and facilitating young people.

I've also worked on several commissions including making a short-animated film, *The Island*, for [Exeter City of Literature \(Jan 2021\)](#) and performing as part of [The Hatchling](#).

Theatre I've created several ACE-funded full-length theatre shows combining poetry with music, comedy and story-telling. During my time as an associate artist at Theatre Royal Plymouth, I developed [Moist, Moist, Moist](#); a show about love, the sea and living with HIV. The show was the winner of the National Partnership Award with The Pleasance last year, and is currently coming to the end of a staggered tour, having recently completed a week at the Wardrobe Theatre, Bristol.

Workshop Facilitator I've ran writing workshops at ISCA Academy, Exeter Phoenix & TRP and have recently been working as a shadow facilitator for Take Art's [Word/Play project](#), delivering weekly poetry sessions for adults with learning disabilities and mental health conditions.

I've also delivered workshops for young people with the Prince's Trust, and have recently been working as a facilitator for Poet in the City, delivering weekly sessions for Young Producers in Exeter, in the run-up to their event as part of Herstory Festival.

Producing As well as self-producing my own work, since Oct 2018 I've been running, hosting and promoting the Exeter based [Spork!](#) to bring more poets to the city & to feature & support local talent. In 4 years, Spork! has received 5 ACE project grants, as well as support from Apples & Snakes, Exeter UNESCO City of Literature and Exeter City Council, and recently became a Community Interest Company.

We've delivered almost 50 events and partnered up with organisations including Mothers Who Make, Newcourt Community Centre and Exeter Pride to deliver projects and events for specific communities around the city.

Spork Up! is a branch of Spork! which offers tailored support to local South West artists. We run an artist development program with career advice, writing and performance workshops, opportunities for live gigs and to have work professionally filmed. We also regularly commission local artists to make new work.