

# Report

## ***Wrong Place / Wrong Time?***

Thomas Hescott, 15 February 2015

I was aware that there is some concern that SDUK are talking about fees at a time when much of UK theatre is suffering from Arts Council / local authority cuts, and when many in UK theatre are suffering hardship - not just directors.

I wanted to know what we should do to be a unifying voice, and to shape a national agenda, rather than be seen to bully organisations who are dealing with huge financial challenges.

- We were reminded that commercial theatre (in London) continues to thrive, so there is money available, even though regional and subsidised theatre is suffering.
- There was a feeling the narrative should be about the continual failure of equity to represent directors, and that any confrontation should be directed to equity rather than theatres and companies themselves.
- We talked about the opportunity to create a trade fair / festival for directors that could act as a lobbying tool, and a way of sharing information. Much like theatre designers do with regular exhibitions of their work.
- A Better Direction was a report written in 1989 which was the last national enquiry into the training of directors for theatre film and TV. There is a drastic need for a new report which is as clear and thorough as this one was.

- Possibly a trade fair / festival and the launch of a report could be combined.
- Directors Guild as a registered charity could partner with SDUK (as a charity they have access to more funding pots to finance such a venture)
- Finally we should phrase our statements to be talking about the value of directors work, rather than talking too much about fee's / money.

**Tags:**

directors, Directors, Training, money, festival, Fees, Festival, training, fees, report, Money