

Professional Study Visit and Job Shadowing

Edinburgh Festival Fringe

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Dates: 17–25 August 2026

Location: Edinburgh, Scotland

Programme: Professional study visit and job shadowing – Edinburgh Festival Fringe

Purpose of the Study Visit

The purpose of the professional study visit to Scotland was to gain an insight into the operation, organisational processes and professional practices of the Edinburgh Festival Fringe, as well as to explore opportunities for international professional connections. A key element of the programme was job shadowing, through which I had the opportunity to observe the professional work of festival organiser Beáta Nagy and gain first-hand experience of the practical aspects of international festival management.

The programme was closely connected to my studies and professional interests in circus arts. The artistic diversity of the Edinburgh Festival Fringe provided an opportunity to explore different forms of contemporary circus, physical theatre, cabaret, acrobatics, puppetry and street performance. The productions presented at the festival offered a broad perspective on current trends and international developments in the performing arts.

Beáta Nagy is an internationally experienced artist, festival organiser and arts manager who works primarily in Germany, as well as in several other European countries. Her professional activities at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe were also connected to the preparation of the 2027 Bوبيennale, where she serves as Artistic Director. Through working alongside her, I gained insight into the preparation of artistic programmes, the development of professional networks and discussions related to future projects.



Professional Programme and Activities

During the study visit, I actively participated in the programmes of the Edinburgh Festival Fringe and attended numerous performances. A key focus of the programme was the study of contemporary forms of circus and performing arts, while also allowing me to explore the festival's broader and highly diverse artistic programme.



The large number of events taking place simultaneously at the festival provided an opportunity to observe first-hand the operation of a major international cultural event. I gained insight into how a large number of productions, artists and professionals can be coordinated, and how a cultural environment functions in which artists and companies from different countries and with diverse artistic backgrounds work alongside one another.

In addition to numerous street theatre and circus performances, the following productions were particularly significant from a professional perspective:



- Capital Theatres – Dracula
- Les Foutoukours – Glob
- Circa – Wolf
- Cirquework – YOAH



Watching these productions allowed me to compare different artistic approaches, performance techniques and stage formats. The performances were highly inspiring from a professional perspective and offered new perspectives on the possibilities for interaction between circus arts and other artistic disciplines.

Alongside the professional programmes of the festival, I also visited several exhibitions with Beáta Nagy during my stay in Scotland. These visits contributed to a broader understanding of the contemporary art scene and encouraged me to consider circus not only as a performing art, but also as part of the wider field of contemporary art.

Professional Outcomes of the Study Visit

The study visit significantly expanded my knowledge of international festival management and the contemporary circus scene. Through the job shadowing experience, I gained practical insight into the professional side of festival organisation, particularly in relation to artistic programming, professional networking and the preparation of international projects. I intend to make use of the experience, knowledge and professional connections gained during the visit in my future work and artistic projects.