

**We are a feminist theatre company. The theatre we co-create calls for revolution.**

It ignites activism and places theatre at the heart of personal, social and political change.

We create spaces for women, inclusive of trans women and non-binary individuals, to be creative, share, and discuss. Women gather as experts in their lived experience to highlight the issues and what needs to change.

Our high quality theatre influences opinion, service providers and policy.

*"With its motto of changing the world one play at a time, Open Clasp Theatre Company has a long history of not just telling the stories of those often overlooked on stage, but involving those people in that telling."*

**THE STAGE**

Thank you to our funders, donors and everyone who has supported the company this year including:

**Arts Council England, Comic Relief, Newcastle City Council, Community Foundation North East, Arts Award, Sir James Knott Trust, The Badur Foundation, Clothworkers Foundation, Community Foundation, Catherine Cookson Community Foundation, Community Foundation, Margaret and Dorothy Gordon Community Fund, The Hadrian Trust and the Sir Halley Stewart Trust.**



Scan the QR code to donate to our work to help us co-create performances with women and girls.

**Make a donation online at [openclasp.org.uk/donate/](https://openclasp.org.uk/donate/)**

**Live Tour**



In a split-second decision, Destiny finds herself on the roof. She can see fireworks. She hopes her kids can see them too. This is the story of one woman who takes back control. Rupture is a compelling one-woman show inspired by the real-life experiences of mothers in prison.

*"I love all the imagery and storytelling and how involved you felt in Destiny's life. I found it really powerful, especially as the vultures continued to appear, and the sounds of the women singing."*

**AUDIENCE MEMBER - LIVE THEATRE**

*"A really good representation of how we are in jail."*

**AUDIENCE MEMBER - HMP LOW NEWTON**

**11** performances

**6** post-show panels to

**822** audience members across prisons, theatres and community centres.

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**Film Tour**

**MYCELIAL**

"Revolutionary...a product of activism and inspiration for more activism."

AUDIENCE FEEDBACK

"This meant a great deal to me, having some lived experience that I struggled to reconcile with, this performance was so empowering."

AUDIENCE FEEDBACK

91% of audiences who attended a screening of mycelial rated it as 'excellent'

The award-winning Open Clasp are back with their first major international production co-created with sex work activists from Aotearoa/New Zealand, Ireland and the UK.

An underground community of sex workers scattered across the globe and rooted in their fight for justice, unknowingly stand together deciding enough is enough.

**Us Too**

Written by Julie Tsang  
Directed by Katja Roberts  
Co-Created with the #UsToo group

Us Too: Alisha's Story is a compelling film co-created with women from the #UsToo group in Devon and Cornwall. It brings to screen the real-life experiences of women with learning disabilities and/or autism who have courageously reported sexual assault or rape to the police. Us Too: Alisha's Story was created 2022 in partnership with Durham and Sunderland Universities and with ARC England.

Over four days, Open Clasp trained 103 staff from Durham County Council, using Alisha's Story and drama, in developing best practice when working to support service users with learning disabilities and/or autism.

"I loved how interactive and fluid the training was. It really helps the learning stick in my brain."

PARTICIPANT

**Annual Review 2024-2025**

**OPEN CLASP THEATRE COMPANY**

"This was excellent. A stimulus for debate and action at all levels."

AUDIENCE MEMBER



**I CARE!** is a story about love, duty and struggle. It's a story about people giving care, despite the challenges, and coming together to ask a simple question.

**We care, do you?**

Sharon Bailey for 8 months met with several groups and went out to visit homes to 'shadow' carers. After Sharon collated her findings, she commissioned Artistic Director, Catrina McHugh, to write the script for two sides of the same coin.

In association with Open Clasp Theatre Company, the production was presented at the Grainger Market and in Jarrow, each performance had between 40 to 50 people present. 600 people saw Sharon's protest placards made with paid and unpaid carers across the region.



*"I forgot I was in prison for a second until the lights came back on."*

AUDIENCE MEMBER - HMP DEERBOLT



Co-created with **Women from HMP Low Newton**  
Written by **Catrina McHugh MBE**  
Directed by **Rachel Glover**



Scan the QR code to sign up for our newsletter to receive updates on events and new show developments.

Stay updated and sign up for newsletter here: [openclasp.org.uk/signup](https://openclasp.org.uk/signup)

