

fringe

PRESS RELEASE

Supporting audiences and artists alike as C venues introduces a programme of pay-what-you-think shows at C socio at Ibis

Welcome to a venue like no other. In the courtyard surroundings of the Ibis Southbridge, C venues presents a pay-what-you-think programme in an new initiative to support artists and audiences alike in 2016.

A venue steeped in Fringe history

C **socio**, a venue created by C venues in the Southbridge/Cowgate gap site, the site of many original Fringe venues demolished after the Cowgate fire, was home to some of the most spectacular shows at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe between 2007 and 2011. Spanning seven storeys from Chambers Street to Cowgate, the venue hosted companies such as **Belt Up Theatre** and **Jethro Compton**, producer of the renowned Bunker Trilogy, comedy duo **Max & Iván**, winners of the Olivier Award for best new comedy **Mischief Theatre**, and award-winning Australian piece **Six Women Standing Against a White Wall**. The venue's popular Urban Garden saw a beach, a bus, an urban sports ramp, a maze and tented performance spaces, and became a popular outdoor Festival oasis in the heart of the city.

A new C socio venue

With the gap site now replaced by an Ibis hotel, C venues returns with a new C **socio** venue. In the hotel courtyard, right next to our popular main venue C at Adam House on Chambers Street, 2015 saw the debut of our newest pop-up venue, C **socio at Ibis**, with a select programme of hand-picked events. In 2016 C will offer a full daily programme of cabaret, music, comedy, spoken word, storytelling and children's and family shows performed by an eclectic range of artists and companies from around the world.

Excellent shows in an elegant setting

For the first time ever at C venues, audiences at C **socio at Ibis** can see some of the finest shows at the Fringe and pay what they think. With performances running from 10am until late, and food and drink from the luxurious **Ibis Hotel** restaurant and bar, and an outdoor pop-up bar and barbecue, Festival-goers of all ages are sure to find something to enjoy.

Making the Fringe accessible to all

Hartley Kemp, artistic director of C **venues**, said: 'C **venues** prides itself on offering an affordable and professional experience to anyone wanting to be a part of the Edinburgh Festival Fringe. From immersive and site-specific theatre to some of the best up-and-coming international companies, C **venues** has helped many Fringe performers and creatives make their big break. The package on offer to companies performing at our venue C **socio at Ibis** will allow participants to show off new writing, performing and directing whilst allowing audiences to try out new companies and new work.'

Supporting artists and audiences alike

Working with Ibis Hotels, C **venues** has ensured the ideal space for participants wanting to perform at the world's greatest arts festival as part of the programme at a leading Fringe venue without breaking the bank. In pay-what-you-think at C **socio at Ibis**, audiences will enjoy cutting-edge work daily, and then pay what they think is appropriate for the work. Participants wishing to apply to be a part of this year's pay-what-you-think programme at C **socio at Ibis** can find further details and an application form at www.cvenues.com

For more information contact **Nick Abrams** at the C **venues press office** on **0845 260 1060** or email press@cvenues.com

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