The Creative Hustle: How artists make it pay

A project by Kathryn Welch

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There's this element that I devalue myself. So whenever work comes in, I have a rate card to go back to, to go 'What did I tell myself I was worth?'

Anonymous interviewee

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I didn't realise that following the dream of making theatre meant I had to give up on almost every other dream I had.



Anonymous interviewee

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I don't want to say it was a waste of time, because, clearly, I enjoyed it. But it still makes me angry that that's all I got paid, I have to admit.

Anonymous interviewee

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All the [other artists] are getting fees, and they wanted me to facilitate workshops for no fee. It's like, yeah, what the fuck, basically.

Anonymous interviewee

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It's really only in the past year that I've come to realise how many writers have either rich families or they're supported by their partners.

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Anonymous interviewee

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[In order to take paid work] I had to choose to give up Disability Living Allowance, because the system is absolutely incapable of dealing with any kind of nuance.

Anonymous interviewee

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