
TECHNICIAN

Job Description

About Sauna Sessions Arts Club

Sauna Sessions Arts Club is a new company founded by [Lucy](#) – a scenographer and venue designer – and [James](#) – a theatre director. Together we have made numerous theatre productions stretching back over 20 years. We also built the world's first pop-up plug-and-play theatre called [Roundabout](#), which has become one of the UK's best loved theatres.

We love sauna. We are passionate about the potential for sauna to become a space in which more art and culture is presented and enjoyed. We think combining heat and art doubles the benefit and doubles the joy. 37 million people attended a UK theatre in 2024; we think many of those people would love to experience theatre in a sauna.

So we are building the UK's first purpose-built Sauna Theatre. It will also be the largest sauna in the UK with 80 seats. It will feature a state-of-the-art lighting rig and sound system – like a theatre. It will be portable so we can tour it around the country and pop up in different places from city centres to seashores.

We are going to launch the Sauna Theatre in Edinburgh as part of the [Edinburgh Festival Fringe](#) in August 2026.

Our Sauna Theatre will sit within the grounds of [Summerhall](#), which is a year-round arts centre and one of the leading and best loved Fringe venues. It is renowned for avant garde and international theatre. Our programme will run every day 5-31 August 2026.

The Programme

During the Fringe, our Sauna Theatre will play host to an eclectic programme of events, ranging from straight up sauna sessions to theatre performances, literary salons and raves. We'll be open from 9am-11pm every day throughout the festival.

Our programme will introduce audiences to Aufguss - a multisensory sauna ritual that involves storytelling through heat, steam, aromas, towel waving choreography, narrative and music - while also exploring how it can intersect with other art forms.

We aim to introduce and establish a new way to experience live performance in a sauna. Beautiful, profound, moving, entertaining, transformative theatrical experiences that bring people joy and help them lead healthier, happier lives.

ABOUT THE ROLE

Role Overview

Job Title: Technician

Location: Edinburgh, Scotland

Contract Period: 1 August – 1 September 2026 inclusive

Contract Type: Freelance

Working Hours: Six days per week, full-time up to 51 hours per week

Reporting to: James Grieve and Lucy Osborne, Creative Directors

Fee: £3,150

Two Technicians will oversee the day-to-day technical operation of the Sauna Theatre venue during the Edinburgh Festival Fringe.

This role will include (but is not limited to):

- Assisting with the change-over between performances.
- Operating lighting, sound and video for performances.
- Maintaining technical equipment and repairing where possible (or contacting suppliers as required).
- Deputising for Site Managers or Hosts when they go on breaks.
- Assisting with the cleaning of the space between performances.

The Technician will help to ensure that the Sauna Theatre runs smoothly, safely and professionally while maintaining the warm, welcoming and distinctive atmosphere that defines Sauna Sessions Arts Club.

You will work closely with the artistic team, Aufguss artists, site manager and front-of-house staff to deliver an exceptional experience for audiences and performers.

This is a hands-on role suited to someone who is organised, calm under pressure and excited by the challenge of working in a new type of venue at one of the world's largest arts festivals.

Key Responsibilities

Technical Operations

- Oversee the daily technical operation of the Sauna Theatre venue.
- Ensure the sauna theatre and surrounding spaces are safe, clean and fully operational.
- Manage daily opening and closing power up and power down procedures.
- Monitor the sauna environment and ensure safe operational practices.

Artist & Programme Support

- Liaise with visiting artists and performers over their technical requirements.
- Ensure performances run on schedule and that artists have the support they need.
- Work with the artistic team to resolve operational challenges.

Audience Experience

- Ensure every visitor receives a warm welcome and a positive experience.
- Maintain the distinctive atmosphere of hospitality and community that defines Sauna Sessions Arts Club.
- Support front-of-house staff in managing audience flow and session transitions.

Health & Safety

- Ensure all site procedures and risk assessments are followed.
- Monitor sauna safety and staff wellbeing.
- Respond calmly and effectively to operational or safety issues.

Site Maintenance

- Ensure all equipment and facilities remain in excellent working order.
- Coordinate maintenance or technical support when required.
- Ensure the sauna and site cleaning procedures are rigorously followed so the site is scrupulously clean at all times.

Timeline of Engagement

Pre-festival (from 1 August)

The Technician will arrive in Edinburgh ahead of the festival to support the installation and preparation of the Sauna Theatre. This will include:

- Familiarisation with the venue and operational procedures.
- Supporting staff induction and training.
- Testing site systems and operational workflows.

Festival Period (6–31 August)

The Technician will oversee the daily operation of the Sauna Theatre venue. Typical responsibilities may include:

- Managing technical operations throughout the day
- Supporting multiple sauna sessions and performances
- Operating Lighting, Sound and Video equipment
- Ensuring smooth transitions between events

Working Environment

This role takes place in a busy festival environment and includes working in and around a high-temperature sauna space (although shows will be operated from outside of the sauna itself). The work can be fast-paced and physically active, particularly during peak festival periods. The Technician will play a key role in maintaining a safe, calm and welcoming environment for both staff and audiences.

Contract Terms and Benefits

Fee: £3,150.

Working Hours: Six days per week, full-time up to 51 hours per week.

Accommodation and Travel: Applicants based outside of Edinburgh may choose either accommodation with breakfast provided or a weekly living allowance of £493.57 to source their own accommodation. Plus return travel to their home base.

Additional Benefits: Summerhall venue pass providing free access to all shows at the venue. Assistance securing performer discounts and offers across the festival. Free sauna (as long as a session isn't sold out).

PERSON SPECIFICATION

Essential Requirements

- Strong organisational and leadership skills
- Calm and effective when solving problems under pressure
- Excellent communication skills
- Reliable, professional and collaborative
- Available for the full festival period
- Good knowledge of ETC eos and QLab systems
- Experience of operating theatrical performances

Desirable Experience

- Experience managing a festival venue
- Experience working with artists or live performance events
- Experience or knowledge of sauna environments

Our Commitment to You

We believe great work happens when people feel supported, respected and valued. As part of Sauna Sessions Arts Club we commit to:

- Treating you with respect as both a colleague and a person
- Creating a collaborative and welcoming working environment
- Supporting you throughout the intensity of the festival period
- Ensuring you are paid fairly and promptly
- Helping make your experience of the Edinburgh Festival Fringe creative, exciting and memorable.

HOW TO APPLY

To apply, please email a CV and a one page cover letter, to hello@saunasessionsartsclub.com, with the subject line APPLICATION - Technician.

The application deadline is Friday 12th June 2026. We actively welcome applications from individuals with backgrounds currently under-represented in the arts.