

11/02/25

Arts Council England

Unit A, Level 4, New England House
New England Street
Brighton
BN1 4GH

Re: Letter of Support for Slovak Theatre in London Grant Application

Dear Members of Arts Council England,

I am writing to express my strong support for the grant application submitted by Slovak Theatre in London. As CEO of Centrala CIC, I have seen firsthand the impact of their work in fostering cultural exchange, artistic innovation, and community engagement.

Slovak Theatre in London is the only UK-based organisation dedicated to supporting Slovak and Czech artists, creating original productions that blend traditional storytelling with contemporary themes. Their commitment to representation, inclusion, and high-quality performance has established them as a vital part of the UK's cultural landscape.

The "Portraits of Slovak and Czech Britain" Project

This project will bring together Slovak and Czech diaspora communities across generations through:

- A portrait photography exhibition by Robert Viglasky, celebrating the contributions of Slovak and Czech individuals in Britain.
- A theatre production inspired by personal stories, using performance, movement, and visual storytelling.
- A series of workshops, engaging young people, emerging artists, and local audiences in storytelling, performance, visual arts, history, business and science.

The exhibition will launch in London for two weeks before moving to Birmingham, broadening access and engagement.

Our Involvement

Centrala has engaged with **Slovak Theatre in London** through the **CEE Creatives Network meetings in London**, where the company contributed to discussions on Central and Eastern European cultural initiatives. We have also supported their work by sharing and promoting their **crowdfunding campaign for their Edinburgh Fringe performance**, helping to amplify their reach within our networks.

For this project, **Slovak Theatre in London has pre-confirmed Centrala Space as the venue for their exhibition and workshops**, further strengthening our connection in supporting Central and Eastern European artists in the UK. Their commitment to **community-led arts, intercultural dialogue, and authentic storytelling** aligns with our mission to provide a platform for underrepresented voices.

We recognise the significance of this project in showcasing the stories of **Slovak and Czech communities** through multidisciplinary art forms, fostering a deeper understanding of migration narratives. We fully support their efforts to create a **meaningful, accessible, and high-quality cultural programme**, and we look forward to hosting this important work at Centrala.

Final Endorsement

We fully support Slovak Theatre London's grant application and believe their work is essential in promoting cultural diversity, artistic excellence, and meaningful community engagement.

Thank you for your consideration. Please feel free to contact me for further information.

Yours sincerely,

Alicja Kaczmarek,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "A. Kaczmarek".

11/02/2025

CEO