The UK’s Creative Industries

How do the creative industries contribute to the UK?

In 2019...

- £115.9bn in GVA
- 115,900 new jobs created
- 3.5m jobs supported
- 61k new jobs created
- £46bn

Did you know that freelancers in the sector...

- ...spend over 10 yrs or 10K hrs gaining the skills they need to work in the sector
- ...are generally paid per project regardless but often work 14 hours a day
- ...are reliant upon employers for gain
- ...work on a number of short-term contracts with no support between contracts and few employment rights when in work
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Most of the freelancers’ working hours are hidden, expensive and unpaid; these ‘overheads’ include:

- 100% report that they almost always do more work on a contract than they are paid for

40% of young theatre freelancers earn less than £10,000 a year

Only 8% of freelancers earn a wage which would place them in the nation’s higher-rate tax threshold

In order to survive, they have portfolio careers which means juggling many jobs and contributing economically to a range of sectors

This type of work means that they have no official employment status or access to employment rights

The precarious created by freelance work led to 38,000 freelancers leaving the creative industries in 2020