



Scratch Festival FAQs

What does Scratch mean?

Scratch is our word for testing and experimenting. To test an idea, we Scratch it (as in the saying '*Starting from Scratch*'). A Scratch is a show that is in development, where an artist is trying out a new idea. Individual Scratches happen at BAC throughout the year and our Festival is a concentrated period with lots of new ideas happening at once.

How long is a Scratch?

This varies between Scratches. A Scratch might be as short as 10 minutes or up to an hour, depending on how developed it is. Each Scratch event page on the website has its running time written at the bottom, and you can download a calendar with running times on the main Scratch page (where you opened this document).

Why is Scratch so important for artists?

Testing a show on an audience allows artists to gauge what works and what doesn't and which parts to focus on for future development of the show.

How do I give feedback? Do I have to tell someone what I didn't like about their show...?

It's entirely up to you. You can feedback anonymously by writing your thoughts on a feedback form or on our chalk walls, tweet using the **#ScratchFestival** hashtag, record your feedback on camera or if you're up for it you can grab the artist in the bar and give it to them straight!

Will my feedback actually get used though?

Absolutely! Scratch doesn't work without feedback. To be able to develop the show further artists need as much feedback as possible. Be honest – tell them what worked and what didn't, what moved you, what bored you and what you'd like to see happen next.

What do I get from Scratch? It sounds great for the artists but what about ME?!

Where to start...

- Being the first to see new work means that you get to feel all smug and self-important when that Scratch you saw becomes the next must-see show. Previous shows that started as Scratches include *Jerry Springer: The Opera*, Nic Green's *Trilogy* & 1927's *Between the Devil and the Deep Blue Sea*. Imagine how jealous your friends would be if you'd been there at the start of any of those shows...
- You get to direct the future and development of the show with your feedback. Not every day that you get to do that is it? (Unless you do this for a living, but even so, how often do you get to do it to a show that you've just paid to see)?

- By giving your feedback about the Scratches you loved and letting us know what you'd like to see happen next, you pick which ones come back to BAC in the future.
- We like to think that BAC is a pretty great place to hang out and hope that you do too. Scratch Festival is also about the experience of a great night out – see a few Scratches, explore the building, enjoy a drink and catch-up with mates.

If Scratches are works-in-progress, does this mean they're still a bit rubbish?

All of the artists in Scratch Festival have been programmed because we like their previous work and think they have a great new idea. Each Scratch will be at a different stage of development, so some may be polished performances, with others a littler rougher around the edges. We can't guarantee you'll like each Scratch but that's part of the fun of Scratch Festival – take a chance and see a few shows in one night with the 3 for 2 offer (available on Scratches only, not finished shows).

Which shows are included in the 3 for 2 offer?

All Scratches are included in the 3 for 2 offer. There are 4 shows during the Festival that aren't Scratches and not available with this offer: *Human Computer* (Will Adamsdale), *Dash Dash Dash* (David Gale), *I Malvolio* (Tim Crouch), *It's Like He's Knocking* (Leo Kay).

How do I see more than one Scratch a night?

Take a look at the calendar and see which shows you can see in one night. To help, we've also put together a list of shows that can be seen together. Or you could ring **020 7223 2223** to have a chat with one of our lovely Box Office team about it.

When planning your night, make sure you have some time to get between the shows (so if a show runs from 7.30 – 8.30, don't then book for a show that starts at 8.30). You'll need to book to see each show you wish to see (except free events, shown in gold on the calendar). The 3 for 2 offer can be spread across the festival, so you can come back on another date if you'd prefer. The 3 for 2 offer must be booked through our Box Office on **020 7223 2223** and can't be booked online.

What can I do between seeing multiple Scratches? I get bored easily...

Grab a drink or snack in our cosy Café Bar, curl up on a sofa and chat about the Scratch you've just seen with your mates, and most importantly make use of the all the ways you can give us your feedback.