



# What's So Special About The Circus?

## CIRCUS SLEUTH PARTICIPANT INFORMATION SHEET



You're being invited to take part in a research project. Before you decide whether or not to take part, it's important for you to understand why the research is being undertaken and what it will involve. Please take time to read the following information carefully (and discuss it with others if you wish).

Thank you for reading this.

### 1. What is the purpose of this research project?

The purpose of this research is to investigate how audience members evaluate their experience of attending circus performances. This is part of a PhD project that will compare audience evaluations with those found in the mainstream media to see if and how audience values are being publicly represented.

### 2. Why have I been invited to take part?

Because Glastonbury is the biggest festival of performing arts in the world, and you're spending time in one of the main circus venues. I want to hear what you think!

### 3. Do I have to take part?

Nope, it's up to you! Participation in this research project is entirely voluntary and you choose whether or not to take part. If you decide to take part, I'll ask you to sign a consent form. If you decide you don't want to take part, you don't have to explain your reasons and it won't affect your legal rights.

You're free to change your mind about taking part without giving a reason, even after signing the consent form.

### 4. What will taking part involve?

After you've watched some of the performance on offer, I'll ask you some questions about your opinions and thoughts on it. I'll also ask you about your thoughts about circus in general. These answers will be recorded on a dictaphone. You'll be given some tokens to put into the voting tubes to share some info about your background in an anonymous way. The whole experience should last between 15-30 minutes, plus however long you want to watch the performance for beforehand. If you'd like to take notes while watching I can provide a pencil and paper.

### 5. What are the possible benefits of taking part?

There's no payment for taking part, now or in the future (sorry!), but there is evidence to suggest that talking about the art you see helps you enjoy it more deeply\*. Your contribution will help us understand the value of circus more clearly. Your answers will be seen as a gift, and taking part in this research as a Circus Sleuth will be another part of your rich and varied Glastonbury experience ☺

### 6. What are the possible risks of taking part?

You might get carried away and miss another act you wanted to see. Check your schedule before you sign up! If you'd like to come back another time instead just let me know.

### 7. Will my taking part in this research project be kept confidential?

Absolutely. All your answers will be kept confidentially and any personal information you provide will be managed in accordance with data protection legislation. The next section gives more details...

### 8. What will happen to my Personal Data?

Cardiff University is the Data Controller and is committed to respecting and protecting your personal data in line with your expectations and Data Protection legislation. Further information about Data Protection may be found at <https://www.cardiff.ac.uk/public-information/policies-and-procedures/data-protection> (or ask me for a copy if you'd like to read it now). This includes:

(a) Your rights (b) The legal basis under which Cardiff University processes your personal data for research (c) Cardiff University's Data Protection Policy (d) How to contact the Cardiff University Data Protection Officer (e) How to contact the Information Commissioner's Office

Your 'Personal Data' is defined by the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) as any information that you could be directly or indirectly identified by—in this case, that is your signed consent form, your voice recording, and your email address if you choose to give it.

Your signed consent form will be held confidentially in locked storage. If you wish to provide your email address you will receive one email from me after the festival, after which your email address will be detached and destroyed. If you later contact me to stay informed about the project, I will store your contact details in a separate confidential database that cannot be linked to your consent form or interview data.

Your recorded interview will also be stored confidentially. After the end of July 2022 it will be transcribed so that the information can be stored anonymously (any personally identifying data will be removed or replaced with pseudonyms). The audio recording will then be deleted from storage. The anonymous transcripts and your signed consent forms will be stored according to the University Records Retention Schedules. Your consent form may be accessed by members of the research team and, where necessary, by members of the University's governance and audit teams or by regulatory authorities, who will maintain the confidentiality of the data provided. This is to ensure that I did gain consent from all participants. The form will be kept for no less than 5 years after the project ends or at least 2 years post publication. Current estimates for the completion of the project are September 2023. Your anonymized interview data may be published in support of the research project and/or retained indefinitely, where it is likely to have continuing value for research purposes.

You are free to withdraw from the research project at any time until your data is anonymized. If you decide to withdraw after the interview is complete, please contact me on [kavanaghk@cardiff.ac.uk](mailto:kavanaghk@cardiff.ac.uk) before the end of July 2022.

**9. What happens to the data at the end of the research project?**

After this research project is over, the anonymous interview transcripts may be made available to other scholars interested in audience research, circus studies, or other linguistic fields. Publications resulting from the research may appear in academic journals, magazines or online publications, or discussed in public presentations. Any quotations from your interview will remain anonymous and you won't be identified in any report, publication or presentation.

**10. What will happen to the results of the research project?**

The results will be submitted as part of my PhD assessment and are likely to be published as described above. If you'd like to be kept informed about the results you'll be offered an opportunity to sign up to a dedicated contact list for this purpose.

**11. What if there's a problem?**

If you'd like me to explain something more clearly please ask! If you wish to complain, or have grounds for concerns about the way you've been approached or treated during the course of this research, please contact my Supervisor, Dr Amanda Potts, on [potts@cardiff.ac.uk](mailto:potts@cardiff.ac.uk). If your complaint is not managed to your satisfaction, please contact the school's Research Ethics Officer at [encap-researchintegrity@cardiff.ac.uk](mailto:encap-researchintegrity@cardiff.ac.uk).

If you are harmed by taking part in this research project, there are no special compensation arrangements. If you are harmed due to someone's negligence, you may have grounds for legal action, but you may have to pay for it.

**12. Who is organising and funding this research project?**

The research is organised by PhD researcher Katharine Kavanagh in the School of English, Communication and Philosophy (ENCAP) at Cardiff University. The study is currently funded by The Economic and Social Research Council, and the academic supervisor is Dr Amanda Potts.

**13. Who has reviewed this research project?**

This research project has been reviewed and given a favourable opinion by the ENCAP Research Ethics Committee, Cardiff University.

**Thank you for considering taking part in this research. If you decide to participate, you'll be provided with a copy of the Participant Information Sheet and Consent Form to keep for your records.**

If you have any questions relating to this research project you may contact me at [kavanaghk@cardiff.ac.uk](mailto:kavanaghk@cardiff.ac.uk), or my supervisor Dr Amanda Potts at [potts@cardiff.ac.uk](mailto:potts@cardiff.ac.uk) / on 02920 874912 during normal working hours.

**Cheers! Kate ☺**