



GUILD of St GEORGE



Declaration of a Climate & Ecological Emergency, April 2020

We, the Guild of St George, declare a Climate and Ecological Emergency

We pledge to work with and support our communities and local governments in tackling this Emergency, and we call on others to do the same.

These are our intentions:

1. We will tell the Truth

Governments, and their public broadcasters and cultural agencies, must tell the truth about the Climate and Ecological Emergency, reverse inconsistent policies and communicate the urgency for far-reaching systemic change.

We will communicate with citizens and support them to discover the truth about the Emergency and the changes that are needed.

2. We will take Action

Governments must enact legally binding policy measures to reduce emissions to net zero by 2025 and to reduce consumption levels.

We pledge to make substantial reductions in our emissions by 2025, working towards reducing our emissions to net zero* by 2030. We will challenge policies and actions of local and national governments and their agencies, where we interact with them, that do not help to reduce emissions or consumption levels.

We will actively work to imagine and model ways that our organisation can regenerate the planet's resources.

Specifically, the Guild of St George will:

- **Create an Environmental Policy and Action Plan in 2020 to reduce its carbon emissions to net zero, and reduce waste across all operational and cultural activities, by 2030.**
- **Create active education and cultural programmes with Guild Companions, partners and local communities around the UK and abroad which inspire participants and audiences, and ourselves, to see and act differently.**
- **Influence partners and collaborators to respond to the climate emergency.**

3. We are committed to Justice

The emergency has arisen from deeply systemic injustices. Arts and Culture can imagine and forge shifts in the ways we relate to one another and the world, in our values and behaviours.

We will do what is possible to enable dialogue and expression amidst our communities about how the Emergency will affect them and the changes that are needed.

We will support demands for more democracy within our civic institutions and government.

We believe that all truth-telling, action and democratic work must be underpinned by a commitment to justice based on intersectional principles*, led by and for marginalised people.

**Net zero means that on balance one's activities are zero emissions, taking into account all possible Greenhouse Gas emissions and actions taken to mitigate or offset those emissions.*

**Awareness of how systems of power combine to multiply the impacts on those who are most marginalised in society.*