



At our home in the Lake District and out across Cumbria, Theatre by the Lake produces and presents nationally acclaimed theatre, made with passion, that is seen by audiences from across the globe.

We believe that theatre has the power to transform lives and we create vital opportunities for Cumbrian artists, young people and communities to come together, be inspired and explore their creativity.

From our origins as 'The Blue Box', our theatre was willed into existence by the local community and opened by Dame Judi Dench in 1999.

Now under the co-leadership of Artistic Director, Liz Stevenson and Executive Director, Simon Stephens, we continue to be inspired by our unique place and its extraordinary people.

Winner of the 2025 UK Theatre Award for Excellence in Touring for the Regional and National Tour of Steel

Winner of the 2026 Cumbria Tourism Award for Accessible and Inclusive Tourism

"Artistically sharp and stunningly situated" - New Statesman

Theatre by the Lake (as Cumbria Theatre Trust) is a registered charity, number 516673.