

## About A.I.R. Collective:

**AIR Collective (formerly Artists in Residence) is a creative project supporting artists' mental-health and well-being by offering opportunities for community, connection, and collaboration. Founded in August 2020 – the early days of the COVID-19 pandemic – AIR emerged as a virtual hub for artists to connect while in social isolation, and provided a necessary outlet for creative reckoning during a moment of global upheaval. AIR aims to preserve the unique power of live performance as a means of healing, reflection, and joy.**

### **A.I.R. x Fringe 2026: *The Wounds of Love and Other Gifts***

***The Wounds of Love and Other Gifts* represents a significant and timely evolution. AIR Collective (formerly Artists in Residence) was founded during the COVID-19 pandemic, a period that necessitated virtual connection and adaptive modes of creation. We embraced these methods as much as possible to respond to the evident needs of our community – offering a supportive, socially-driven artists' space, where collaborative creation became an antidote to the damaging effects of extended isolation.**

**While this initial phase allowed for resilience and experimentation, it also highlighted the deep human need for embodied, communal, live artistic experiences. *The Wounds of Love and Other Gifts* marks a transition from virtual space into the concrete, shared reality of live performance.**