

# Shop Front Theatre

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## **About its community, for its community, and loyal to its community**

*Arcade* was a brilliantly written two-hander by Chris... and the Shop Front Theatre itself became the restaurant that my character worked in, nostalgically reflecting its original status as the legendary Fishy Moores.

Chris' work always has a truly authentic working class voice, with beautifully drawn, genuine and fulfilled characters – so much so that as the action, a scene containing a disagreement between the characters spilled out onto Corporation Street, I was asked by a passer-by if I wanted them to 'sort my boyfriend' out!

Shop Front Theatre was literally immersed in Coventry's community; it was about its community, for its community, and loyal to its community, encouraging mentoring and providing a space for local writers and theatre makers.

Julia, Chris and Shop Front Theatre will be so sorely missed in the city, but their Legacy of support and generosity will filter down through local artists for very many years to come.

**Katy Stephens**