

BRIGHT STAR

Relaxed Performance Guide



Photograph by Jacinta Moore

Bright Star is a Pursued By Bear production

Relaxed Guide prepared by A_tistic

Essentials

VENUE: Chapel Off Chapel, 12 Little Chapel Street,
Prahran, Melbourne

DATE & TIME: Wednesday 30th October, 7pm

RUN TIME: Act 1 (60 minutes); Interval (20 minutes);
Act 2 (60 minutes)

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What is a Relaxed Performance?

A relaxed performance is intended to be responsive to and inclusive of audience members who may benefit from a considered, relaxed environment at the theatre, including (but not limited to) those with autistic spectrum conditions, anyone with sensory or communication disorders, learning disabilities, anxiety, or anyone who wants more freedom as an audience member.

A relaxed performance works to break down the expectations put onto an audience member, regarding their role as an audience member. Loud noises, bright lights, unclear rules and protocols, and not being confident in going to the theatre can all be detractors to those who would like to come along.

A 'relaxed' performance works to meet that audience halfway, giving reasonable permission for people to be comfortable as themselves, and relaxing the rules of theatre to allow for this.

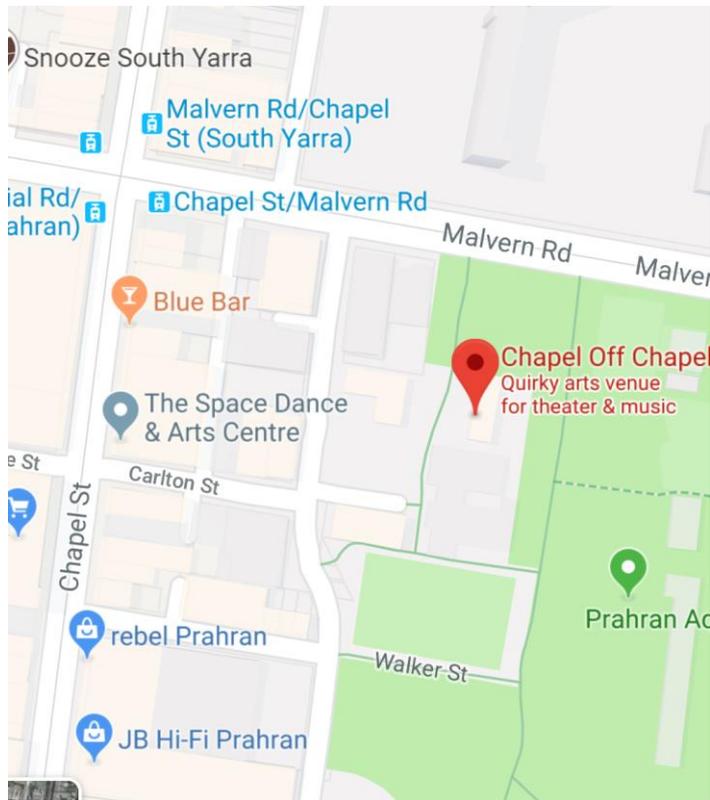
What does this mean for you?

- Practically, the performance on the night will have its tech augmented to make the theatre space more relaxed for those who have sensory requirements and comfort behaviors, including stimming, pacing, rocking, humming, and other noise making.
- The theatre capacity will be capped at 75% of its usual capacity, and there will be a designated pacing area, so there will be space to move and be comfortable.
- The lighting and sounds will be altered to become softer, while still offering the same dramatic experiences to an audience.
- The audience lights will remain on at a low level through the show, so there is never any moment of complete darkness.
- The door to the front of house area will remain open throughout the performance, so that people may come and go at any time.
- Should an audience member want or need to leave the performance and take a moment – to relax or to attend to their own needs or someone else's needs – there will be a designated area, the "relaxed room", provided. Chapel Off Chapel and A_tistic staff will be on hand to take you there and monitor the room.

Getting There

The performance will take place in the Chapel theatre at Chapel Off Chapel, 12 Little Chapel Street, Prahran, Melbourne, Vic, 3181.

The venue is located near the corner of Chapel Street and Malvern Road.



Public Transport

Train

From Flinders Street Station, Chapel Off Chapel can be reached by taking the Sandringham line train to Prahran Station and then walking to the venue (an 11 minute walk).

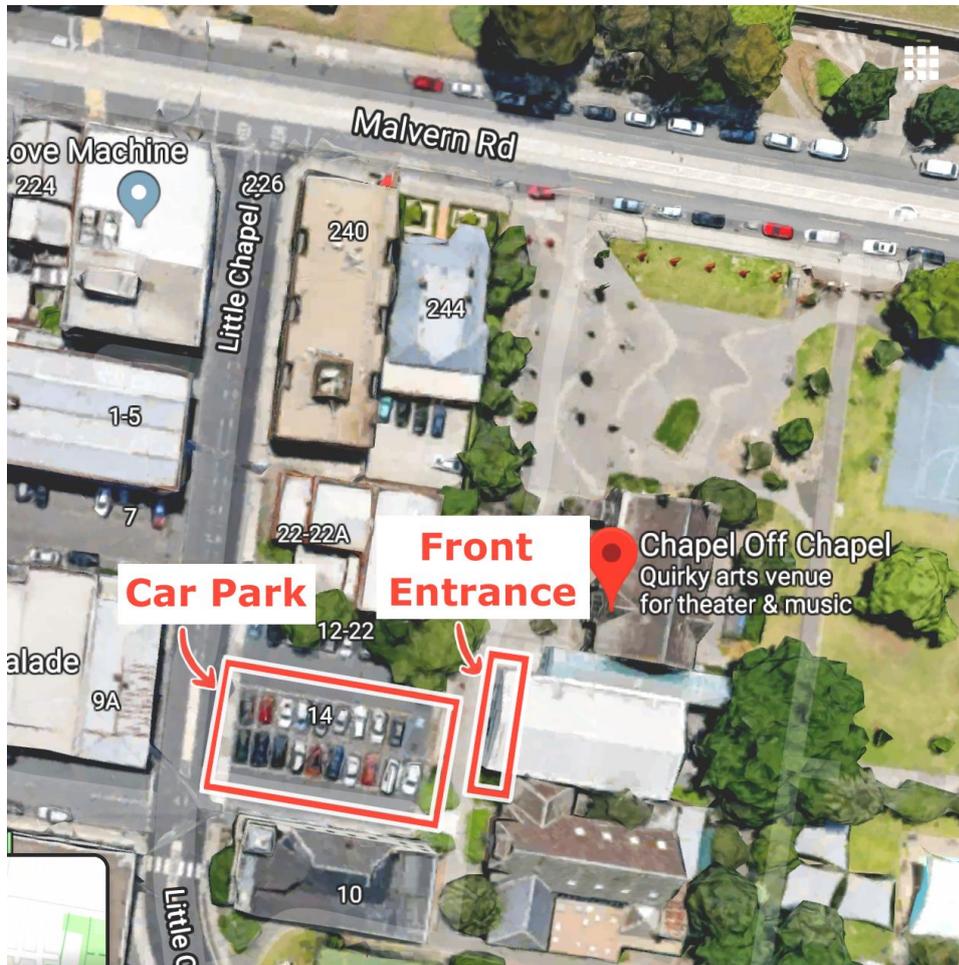
Tram

Chapel Off Chapel can be reached by taking trams routes 72, 78 or 79, stopping at the corner of Chapel Street and Malvern Road/Commercial Road, and walking from there (a 3 minute walk).

Parking

A car park with limited parking is located on the premises, accessible via Little Chapel Street. The car park contains three Disabled Parking spaces. Street parking is available in surrounding

areas. Parking restrictions are enforced, so please check street signs carefully. There are also several car parks nearby; Chapel Off Chapel has provided a list of nearby car parks and their operating hours at <https://chapeloffchapel.com.au/your-visit/>.



Venue Access Information

Wheelchair and mobility device access:

The main entrance of the venue is wheelchair, walker and pram accessible. The door does not open automatically; a staff member will open the door for attendees who may require assistance.

The theatre has facility for wheelchair access and seating that allows more room for the use of mobility aids. To ensure that seating will be arranged for your specific access requirements, call the Box Office to book on (03) 8290 7000.

The chillout room is wheelchair accessible via elevator, and its location will be clearly signposted.

D/deaf and Hard of Hearing access:

A hearing system is available at Chapel Off Chapel – in The Chapel and The Loft theatre. The system provides coverage to patrons wearing headphones or neckloops available from the Box Office. There is no extra charge for this service, simply ask Box Office staff for assistance when you arrive.

The Relaxed Performance will not be Auslan interpreted.

Companion Card booking

To book for someone to attend using a Companion Card, call the Chapel Off Chapel box office on (03) 8290 7000.

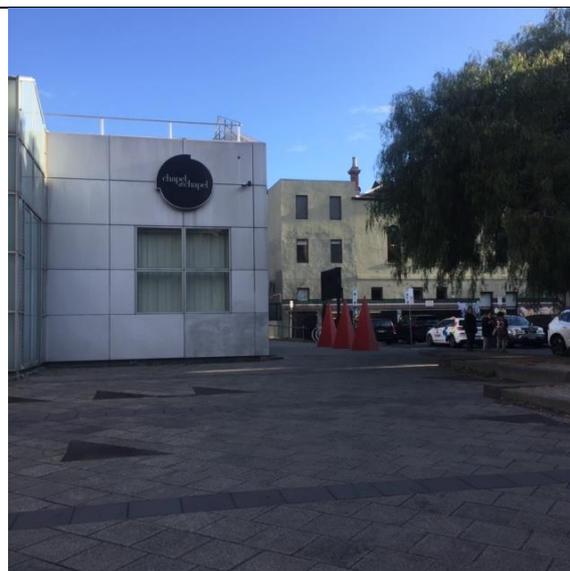
Other access requirements

If you want to let us know about any other access requirements, you can choose between calling Chapel Off Chapel on (03) 8290 7000 or emailing atistictheatre@gmail.com to discuss.

Venue Images



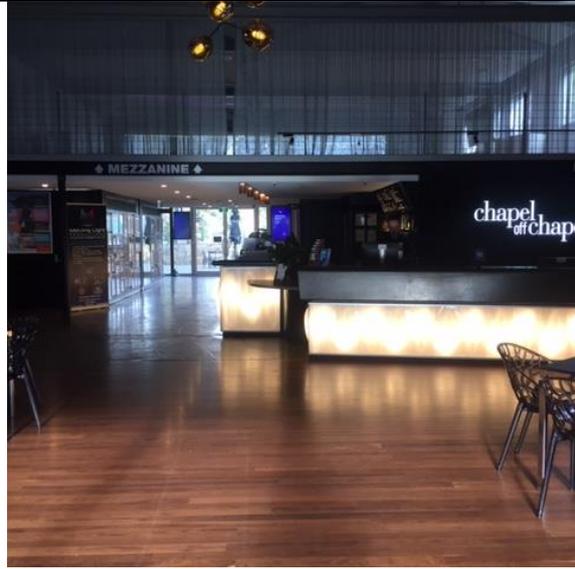
If you approach the venue from Malvern Road, you'll see the old Chapel building and the silver box attached to it. Go toward the silver box ...



When you reach the silver box, keep walking until you reach the red pointy sculptures near the front entrance, then walk between the sculptures and the silver box ...



... and you'll see the front entrance and the car park. Go through the front doors ...



... and you'll enter the foyer, and see the box office/bar. If you selected the "pick up tickets" option when you booked, go to the box office ...



... and pick up your tickets here. (If you chose to print out your tickets at home, you won't need to do this.)



The performance will be in the Chapel theatre; the chillout room will be in the Mezzanine. When it's time to head into the Chapel theatre ...



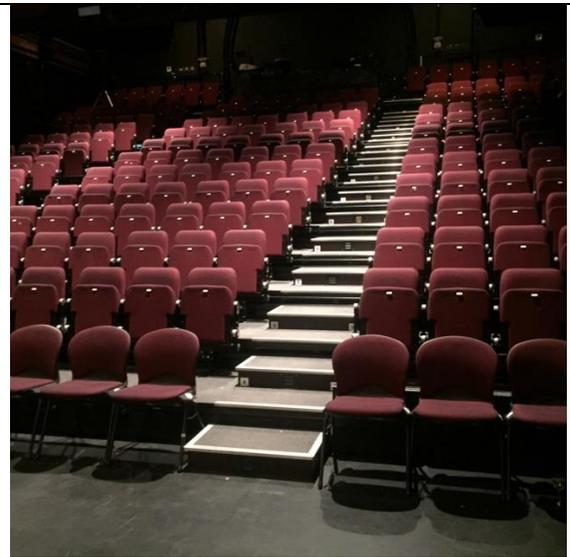
Come to the Chapel entrance, where a staff member will be waiting to take your ticket and show you inside.



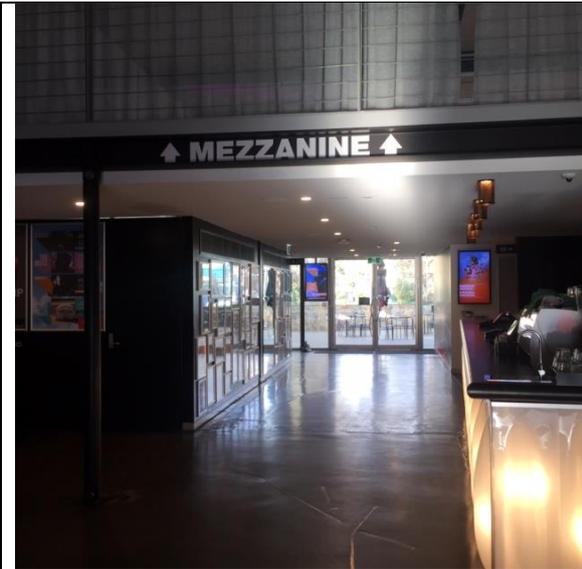
You'll go through this corridor...



... and into the theatre ...



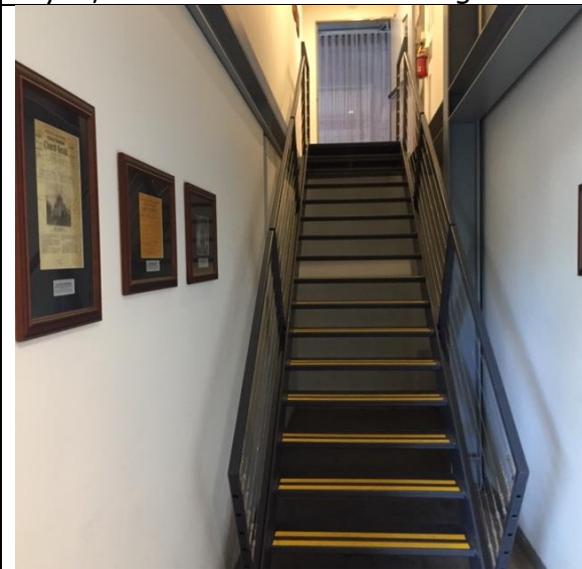
... which looks like this.



The Chillout room will be located in the Mezzanine. To get there from the foyer, follow the Mezzanine sign ...



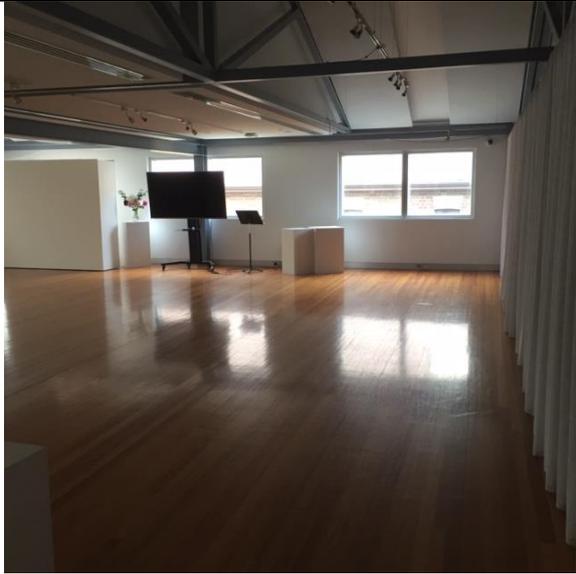
... and you'll find an entryway with stairs up to the mezzanine on one side, and an elevator up on the other.



The stairs look like this.



The elevator looks like this.



This is the chillout room. It may be slightly smaller via use of artificial walls. It has a view of the foyer ...



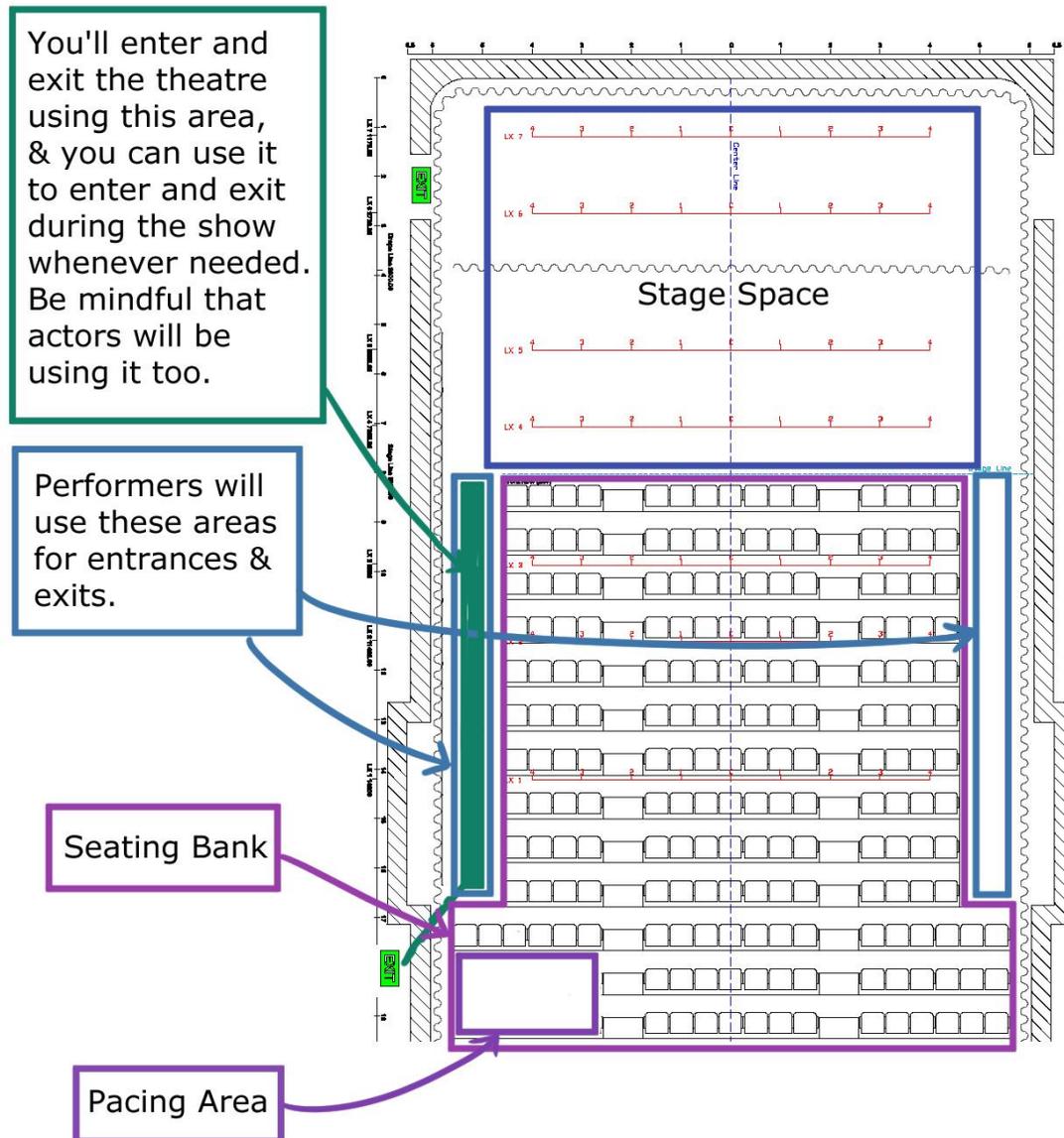
... which looks like this.



The bathrooms are on the ground floor right past the box office/bar, and will be labelled as gender neutral on the evening of the Relaxed Performance.

There will also be signage in the venue to help with navigation on the night!

Stage Plan



Seating Note

For the relaxed performance, the theatre will be booked at a reduced capacity so that there's less chance of the audience feeling crowded.

Seating will not be specifically allocated for the relaxed performance; when you book online, you'll see that all seating is general admission seating. However, specific seats can still be allocated if you have an access requirement involving specific seating arrangements – please let the box office know on (03) 8290 7000.

Show Notes

Bright Star is a musical, and will be performed with a live band. The volume of microphones for the singers and band will be somewhat lowered during the relaxed performance, but will still be at a volume loud enough to create a live musical atmosphere.

Some of the band members will also perform as actors in the musical. Some performers will play multiple characters.

There will be no strobe lights used during this performance. During the final scene before intermission, there will be **some use of cycling, non-strobing lights** to simulate movement. There will also be use of a **smoke machine** in the scene before intermission. This will be the only time these effects are used during the performance.

In this performance, sound will be created using not just conventional instruments but also props and set, including milk crates which will be used to make percussive sounds. The sound will be dampened for the relaxed performance.

At the end of the intermission, the band will begin playing in the foyer, and will encourage the general audience to re-enter the theatre for the second half of the show. It's ok to ignore the band's encouragement, and they won't pressure you to re-enter if you're not ready – remember you can come and go from the performance whenever you wish.

Performers will enter and exit using the aisles and walkways in the seating bank. There will be no direct audience interaction, except for the band's encouragement to the whole audience to re-enter after intermission.

Bright Star contains some difficult themes and performance of heightened emotional moments. A detailed list of content warnings is provided below.

Performer Images

These are pictures of all the performers who will appear as part of the performance, including both the actors and the band. Some performers will play multiple roles, or perform as both actors and band members.



Aaron Searle as mandolin player



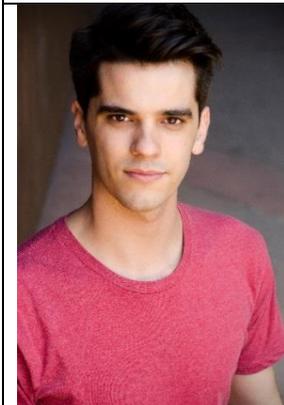
Andy Rousch as drum player



Anthony Craig as Max, banjo player and Ensemble Member



Bradley Beard as Ensemble Member



Callum O'Malley as Billy Kane



Daisy Calvin as Well-Dressed Woman and Ensemble Member



Deb McLeod as cello player



Ellie Nunan as Lucy



Evangeline Victoria
as viola and fiddle
player



Kala Gare as Alice
Murphy



Lachie Hewson
as Daryl Ames



Lauren
Jimmieson as
Kate and
Ensemble
Member



Lindy Yeates as
Mama Murphy



Matthew Prime as
Jimmy Ray Dobbs



Mike Gardiner
as Mayor
Dobbs



Mitchell Roberts
as bass player



Nathan Fernandez
as Stanford and
Ensemble Member



Nathan Firmin as
Musical Director,
Keyboard and
Autoharp Player



Ned Wright-
Smith as piano
player



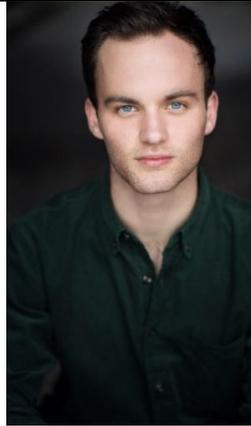
Rowan Pattinson
as guitar player



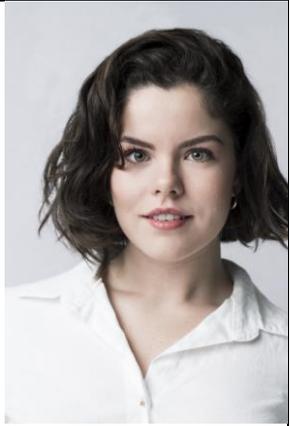
Ruby Clark as Edna,
violin player &
Ensemble Member



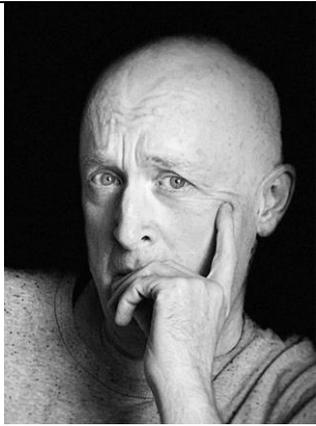
Sarah Krndija as
Margo Crawford



Shay Debney
as Dr Norquist
and Ensemble



Teagan Nowiki as
Florence and
Ensemble
Member



Tom Blair as Daddy
Cane



Tref Gare as
Daddy Murphy

Content Warnings List

This is a content warning list for Bright Star, with warnings sorted by general categories.

Reading the content list may give you some hints or generalised spoilers about the plot of the show. If you're comfortable with that, then we advise that you read it carefully, to familiarise yourself with some of the difficult content the show engages with.

Content	In the performance?
Swearing	D*mn.
Rape and Sexual Assault	None. Depiction of a consensual but slightly surprising kiss following a flirtation between characters.
Abuse (physical, mental, emotional, verbal, sexual)	Depictions of controlling behaviour and threat of physical abuse by parents toward teenager See also "Child abuse/pedophilia"
Child abuse/pedophilia	Depiction of possible murder of a baby (man throws a baby in a valise from a moving train)
Severe Emotional Display	Depiction of several characters experiencing significant grief and shouting/crying Description of a person sobbing and banging fists on the floor (comedic)
Self-injurious behavior (self-harm, eating disorders, etc.)	None.
Talk of drug use (legal, illegal or psychiatric)	Depiction of taking legal medicine Numerous depictions of and references to drinking alcohol and getting drunk Use of alcohol as self-medication Joke about writers being obliged to drink alcohol and feel sad
Suicide	Descriptions of loss of desire to live
Descriptions/pictures of medical procedures (even if	See "Miscarriage/abortion" below.

they don't contain blood or gore)	
Descriptions/pictures of violence or warfare (including instruments of violence, such as knives or guns)	References to fighting in WWII Comedic abstract reference to decapitation (joke about decapitating words)
Corpses, skulls or skeletons	None.
Needles	None.
Discussions of -isms, shaming, or hatred of any kind (racism, classism, hatred of cultures/ethnicities that differ from your own, sexism, hatred of sexualities or genders that differ from your own, anti-multiple, non-vanilla shaming, sex positive shaming, fat shaming/body image shaming, neuroatypical shaming)	Depiction of sexism and shaming of sex, including sexism/sex-shaming associated with religious beliefs Enforcement of masculine-coded norms of speech/writing Depiction of classism (reference to "hicks"/"Hicksville") Brief appearance-shaming of a character who does not appear onstage
Any time slurs are used (this includes words like "stupid" or "dumb", which are still widely considered to be socially acceptable)	Use of variant on "dumb" ("dumbbell")
Trans* degendering, or anti-trans* views of bodies	None.
Dismissal of lived oppressions, marginalization, illness or differences	None.
Kidnapping (forceful deprivation of/disregard for personal autonomy)	Coerced removal of child from mother
Discussions of sex (even consensual)	Implied consensual sex Allusions to characters engaging in consensual sex

Death or dying	Description of death of characters; depiction of mourning; reference to potential ongoing presence/voice of deceased loved one
Spiders, Insects, Snakes, Scorpions, other potentially alarming animals	None.
Vomit	None.
Pregnancy/childbirth	Depiction of unintended pregnancy
Blood	None.
Serious injury	Descriptions of a baby being "banged and bruised" (see "Child abuse/pedophilia")
Scarification	None.
Nazi paraphernalia, and other Hate Symbols	None.
Animal cruelty or animal death	None.
Depictions of Violence, realistic or comic	See "Child abuse/pedophilia"
Depiction of pornography (including child pornography)	None.
Incest (including consensual relationships)	None.
Miscarriages/Abortion	Depiction of character considering abortion
Torture	None.
Jump Scare scenes	None.
Mental illness	Depiction of implied suicidality; depiction of significant sorrow impacting on characters' mental states.

Contact Us

Got all the information you needed? Wanted to request something else, keep up with future Relaxed Performances, or learn more about A_tistic's other work, including theatre, workshops and consultations?

Contact A_tistic at atistictheatre@gmail.com

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