

# **A VISUAL GUIDE IS AVAILABLE FOR THIS PERFORMANCE.**

It is available on the National Theatre of Scotland website and also from Box Office.

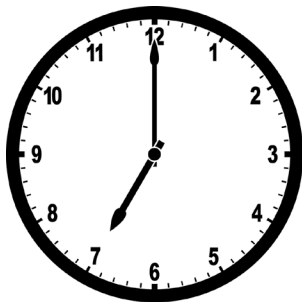
Please ask a member of Ticketing Services staff for more information.

If you have any feedback, please contact us at  
**[access@nationaltheatrescotland.com](mailto:access@nationaltheatrescotland.com)**

# VISUAL GUIDE FOR DEAR BILLY AT THE PALACE THEATRE



I am going to Dear Billy at the Palace Theatre, 9 Green St, Kilmarnock, KA1 3BN.



The show will start at 7.00pm, I should arrive a little earlier than this.

The show will last approximately 1 hour and 15 minutes and will not include an interval break.



This is the Palace Theatre where the performance will be taking place. This is the main entrance.



This is the accessible entrance. I can find it to the right of the main entrance.

This entrance will take me to a lift which goes to the ground floor where the Box Office, Kiosk and Stalls are located. It will also take me to the upper level, Balcony and Café Bar.

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When I walk inside I will see this area called the Foyer.

There will be staff who can help with any questions about the event. It might be quite busy and noisy with other members of the audience.

If I want to wait for the performance in a quieter space, I can go to the Kiosk or Café Bar.



This is the Box Office. This is where I can go if I have any questions about tickets.

If I have an e-ticket on my phone, or already have my tickets, I do not need to go to the Box Office.

When I have my tickets, I can go into the theatre.



There is a Kiosk and a Cafe Bar where I can buy drinks and snacks before the show begins.

This is the Kiosk. I can find it on the ground level.



This is the Cafe Bar. I can find it upstairs.

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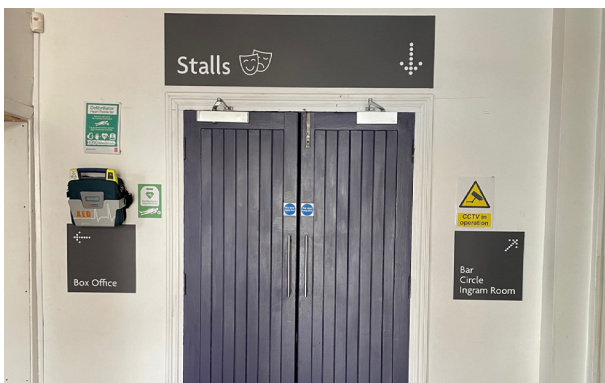




I can use these stairs to get to the upper level, Balcony and Cafe Bar upstairs.



I can also use a lift. If I have trouble finding it, I can look for a sign that says “Lift” or ask a member of staff for directions.



When I am ready to enter the theatre, I should check where my seats are located. This is the entrance to the Stalls on the ground level.

If I am not sure where my seats are, I can ask staff for help.



This is the upstairs level where I can access the Balcony. Here, I can also find more toilets and a Cafe Bar.

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**Auditorium/ Performance space:** Dear Billy takes place in a traditional theatre.

I will watch the performance in this room. My seat number is on my ticket. It will have a letter for the seating row and a seat number. An usher can help me find it.

When the show is ready to start, the lights will dim and the actors will come out onto the stage. The actors might occasionally interact with the audience.



If I would like to take some time out during the play I may leave at any time and find a seat in the Kiosk, the Cafe Bar or this additional waiting space in the theatre.

Staff will help me find the most suitable space.



If I find any sounds or lights disturbing during the show, I can ask for earplugs, ear defenders or dark glasses at any time at the Box Office.

I will need to return these after the performance.



At the end of the show the audience will clap to show the actors that they enjoyed the show.

When the clapping has ended, the lights will get brighter. This means the show is over.

I can now leave the theatre.

I should exit back through the way I came in.

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# VISUAL STORY SYNOPSIS

## DEAR BILLY

Dear Billy is a new National Theatre of Scotland production celebrating the Scottish icon, Billy Connolly, also known as The Big Yin. The play is written and performed by Gary McNair who has collected tales about Billy Connolly and, with a team of musicians, transformed them into a show that celebrates what Connolly means to people to the people of Scotland and beyond.

Dear Billy is a joyful and touching piece that uses music and humour, plus plenty of audience interaction. During the show, Gary recounts the numerous personal stories about Billy Connolly the team have collected, describing his background, personality, rise to fame and why we hold him so dear.

Things to know about the show:

- The show features live music and songs, neon lights and smoke effects. Sometimes all these elements happen at once
- The lighting on stage is brightly coloured at points while the auditorium remains dark
- The performer moves from microphone to microphone taking on different voices to tell the stories
- There is one performer and two musicians on stage
- The text includes swear words
- There is dark humour within the play and at points the telling of stories is emotional

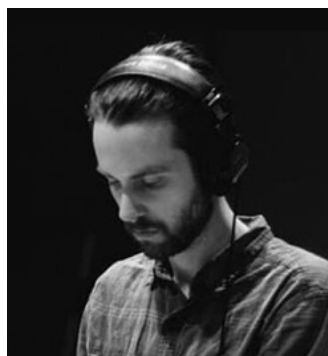
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## CAST



**GARY MCNAIR**

Performer



**SIMON LIDDELL**

Musician



**JILL O'SULLIVAN**

Musician



# DEAR BILLY - SHOW BREAKDOWN

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The two musicians are on stage at the start of the show and remain seated in the same space throughout with various instruments.

On the back wall are curtains with chains at the centre. Above the stage is a giant pair of neon glasses.

There is a banana seat and boot on stage that lights up.



The performer moves between the banana seat and a number of microphones at the front of the stage.

Throughout the piece the performer retells recollections from the People of Scotland on their meeting of The Big Yin.



The performer goes between being these “storytellers” and being himself.

When being himself the performer is at the front of the stage and in front of the microphones.

