

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

VISUAL GUIDE FOR DEAR BILLY AT THE TRAVERSE THEATRE



I am going to Dear Billy at the Traverse Theatre, 10 Cambridge Street, Edinburgh, EH1 2ED.



The shows will start at 7.30pm, 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 Traverse Theatre where the performance will be taking place.



There are two sets of automatic doors from the street into the Ground Floor Foyer, where the Box Office is situated.

If I use the doors on the left there is completely level access from the street.



Once I have passed through the two sets of doors from the street, I will find the box office in front of me.

Front of House staff in black t-shirts with yellow writing will be around and are happy to be asked questions.



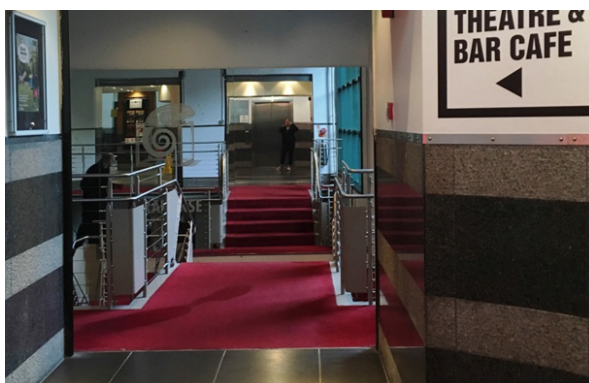
This is the Box Office. This is where I can go if I have any questions about tickets.

I do not need to go here to collect tickets. I should have an e-ticket printed out or on my phone.



If I already have my tickets, I can go straight down to the bar/café area, which is also the Theatre Foyer. This is on level -1.

I can access the bar/café by the lift which is on the left from the box office area.



I can also take the stairs which will be on my right from the box office area. The lift and the stairs take me down to the bar/café.

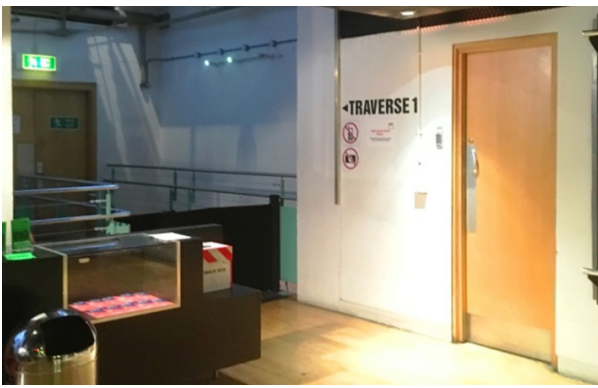
In the bar/café the lights may be dim, and there may be music playing. It may be busy with lots of people around.



There are lots of tables, chairs and sofas which I am free to use before and after the show. I do not need to buy any food or drink to use this space.

I can order something to eat or drink from the long bar on the right hand side of the room where Bar Staff will be happy to help. Food and drinks can be delivered to my table.

If I follow the wall with the larger posters, the toilets and accessible toilet are on the right.



To enter the theatre I will need to go past the accessible toilet and down the set of stairs. An usher will be at the doors at the top of the stairs to guide people down.

If I require lift access I should make myself known to the Front of House staff who will accompany me to the theatre, and wait by the merchandise desk (pictured). I will then be escorted to my seats by the Front of House Duty Manager.



Auditorium/ Performance space: Dear Billy will take place in Traverse 1.

I will watch the performance in this room. An usher can help me find a seat.

When the show is ready to start, the lights will dim and the actors will come out onto the stage. During the show, they may interact with the audience.



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.

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

CAST



GARY MCNAIR

Performer



SIMON LIDDELL

Musician



JILL O'SULLIVAN

Musician

DEAR BILLY - SHOW BREAKDOWN



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.

