

# **Circa Theatre**

## **Relaxed Performance Pack**

“The Glitter Garden”

Date: 30 Sept - 10 Oct

We have a [Relaxed Performance](#) of The Glitter Garden on Tuesday 6 Oct at 11am.

For further information please contact: [Access@circa.co.nz](mailto:Access@circa.co.nz)

### **What is this pack for?**

To prepare you for your visit to Circa Theatre we have put together this information pack. This is to help you understand the story you are about to see and the Theatre, so you know what to expect during the performance.

### **How will it be different from a regular performance?**

#### Lights

Firstly we will leave the house lights on through the entire show. This means you will not be in complete darkness at any time. We have done this so that you as an audience can see what is happening and if you want to move around or leave at any point throughout the show.

#### Sound

The sound and lighting effect will be lessened. We understand loud noises and sudden or sharp changes in lighting can make you uncomfortable. Therefore we will make them gentler and less likely to frighten or upset you.

#### Seating:

Normally in Theatre you are given an assigned seat; however, for the relaxed performances you will be able to choose where you sit, you can even change seats half way through if you would like.

#### Talking:

Usually during a Theatre performance audience members are expected to be quiet. At Circa you will not be told off for talking. You can talk or chat during the performance.

#### The Theatre:

There will be a pre-show walkthrough of the Theatre half an hour before the show so you have an idea of what everything looks like. This is to ensure you do not get overwhelmed and there are no surprises.

#### The characters:

Circa Theatre  
1 Taranaki Street, Te Aro, Wellington 6011  
04 801 7992  
<http://www.circa.co.nz/>

In this pack are photos of the cast as characters and as themselves. We want you to understand that they are real people underneath their big costumes and make-up.

### Chill out space:

Lastly there is also a chill out area in the Foyer, designed as a safe space or you need somewhere to go to calm down. This space is available at any time, even in the middle of the performance.

### **What to expect at Circa Theatre**

- When you arrive at Circa Theatre you can go inside straight away.
- You will go to the box office to collect your ticket then there will be some waiting around in the foyer.
- Half an hour before the show there will be a walkthrough of the Theatre.
- You can sit down, or go to the bathroom or go to the chill out space.
- When the Theatre doors open you can go into the performance space and there you can pick a seat.
- The show will start.
- It will be 60 minutes with no interval.
- The show will finish
- At the end of the show the cast will bow and you will go home.
- You can go to the chill out space at any time during the show.

If you want a video introduction to the theatre, click here. If you want subtitles, click the closed captions at the right hand corner of the video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=70cUJ3hlILg>

### **This is a photograph of Circa Theatre and the main entrance.**

This is how you will first enter Circa Theatre.



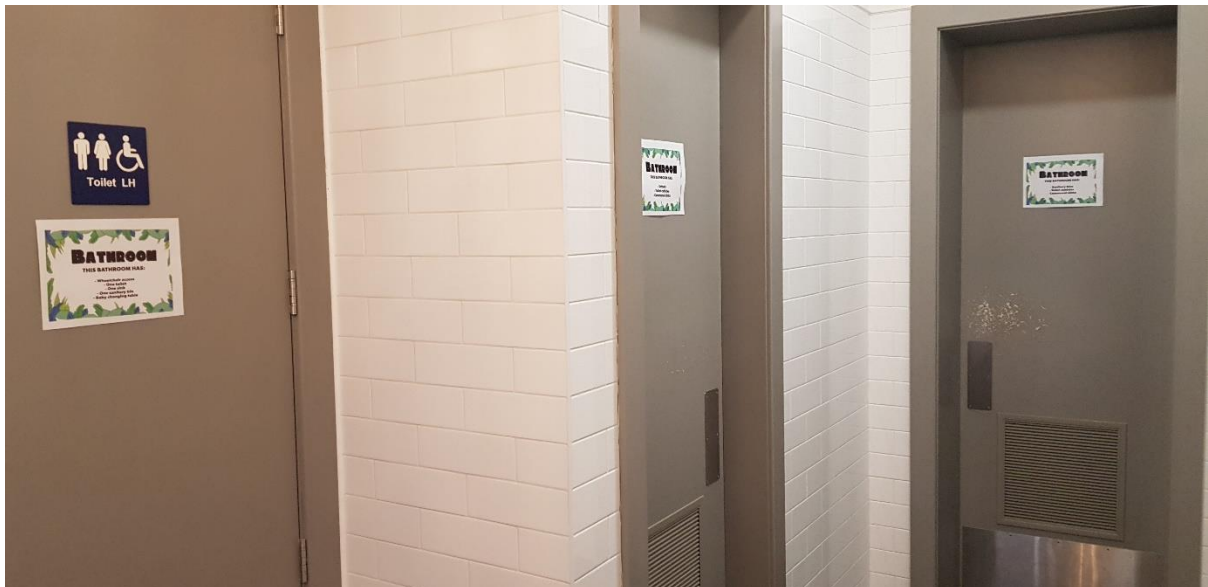
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**This is the foyer and box office area**

This is where you wait before you go into the Theatre



**Here is the bathrooms. They have gender neutral signs. We have attached what they look like up close in the next three images**



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**This is the chill out zone.**

You can come to this room anytime during the performance



**This is the bar/where you can buy food and drink.**

In case you get hungry or thirsty



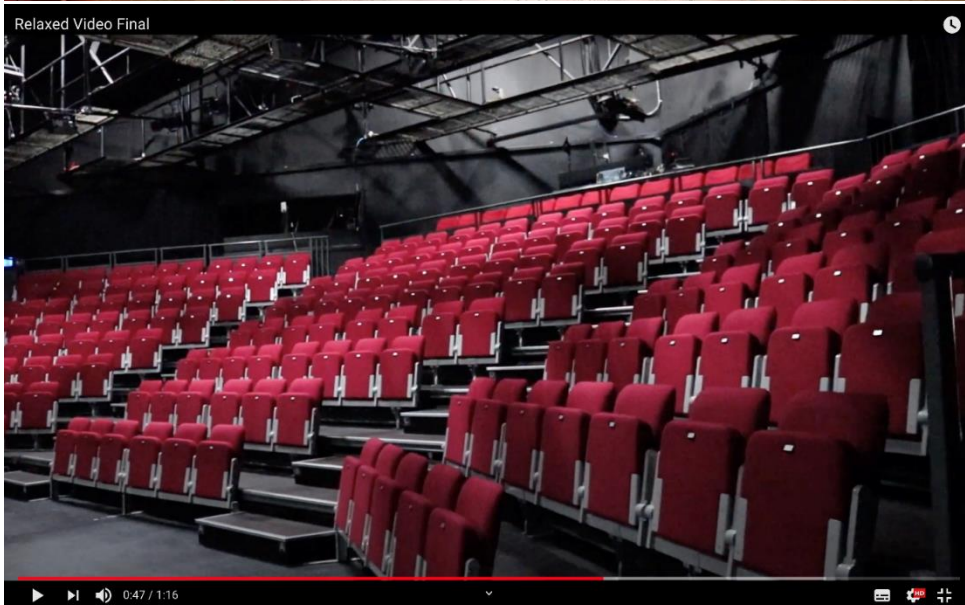
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**Here is the entrance to the Theatre.**



You will watch the show inside

**This is a photo of what inside the Theatre looks like.**



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You can choose a seat wherever you like.

### **Meeting the characters**

In a Theatre performance people pretend to be other characters. It is important to remember even if a person acts like a bad character or a scary character they are just pretending. They are not like that in real life.

Since there are so many different characters some actors will play more than 1 character. If this happens they will have different costumes to show you which character they are.

Below are the actors, in and out of drag. Drag is achieved through costume and makeup and is a bigger, bolder energy than in real life!



The performers of The Glitter Garden in drag, see below for more information.

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George out of drag. When they are in drag, they are called Hugo Grrrl.

George Fowler (Hugo Grrrl) plays Hugo the Gardner.



Bjorn out of drag. When they are in drag, they are called The Ever Changing Boy.

Björn Åslund plays MADDY/DIRT SOIL/BLOOM LUPIN. Stevie Hancox-Monk as their voices.





Nick out of drag. When they are in drag, they are called Eva Goodnight

Eva Goodnight (Nick Erasmus) plays HONEY/DIRT MUCK/BLOOM POPPY.

Pippa Drakeford as their voices.



Monique out of drag. When they are in drag, they are called Robin Ya Blind.

Robin Yablind (Monique Walford) plays SKIPPER/DIRT GRUBBER/BLOOM TULIP. Maxwell Apse as their voices.

Some actors are playing multiple characters, they will show they are different by different costumes and makeup. Here is who is playing who:

Robin Yablind (Monique Walford) plays SKIPPER/DIRT GRUBBER/BLOOM TULIP. Maxwell Apse as their voices.

Björn Åslund plays MADDY/DIRT SOIL/BLOOM LUPIN. Stevie Hancox-Monk as their voices.

Eva Goodnight (Nick Erasmus) plays HONEY/DIRT MUCK/BLOOM POPPY.

Pippa Drakeford as their voices.

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**Hugo The Gardener**

– Played by George Fowler

- Our hero
- Sweet, easily excitable, good at heart and passionate about flowers.

**The Dirts, Soil, Muck, and Grubber**

– Played by Bjorn, Monique, Nick

- Fun mud characters!
- Fast-talking, rough and tumble and relaxed.
- They wear large, fringed costumes, textured to look like mud, embellished with sprigs of plant growth.





**Skipper Le Snail –**  
Played by Monique Walford

- A snail with a French accent
- A bit of a baddie
- He wears giant bobbing antennae, a huge spiral shell backpack and camp platform boots.



**Honey The Bee –**  
Played by Nick Erasmuson

- An adorable friendly bee.
- She had a warm energy and skittering, upbeat movement style.
- She wears a huge circular buzzy bee outfit.



**Maddy Madelina  
Monarch Butterfly  
Ballerina** – Played  
by Björn Åslund

- A beautiful soft-spoken monarch butterfly
- She embodies magic, hope and grace and loves ballet.
- She has a cocoon costume which transforms into huge butterfly wings.



**The Blooms, Lupin,  
Tulip, and Poppy** –  
Played by Monique  
Walford, Nick  
Erasmuson, Björn  
Åslund.

- The bloomed flowers – joyful and fun.
- They wear huge, glittering, wearable-art style,





abstracted petal costumes.	
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Please note that the songs in the show have been pre-recorded so most performers are lip syncing to the lyrics in the music. This means that the performers pretend to sing along to a song with their lips as if they are singing it. This is very popular thing to do in the drag community and lots of fun!

### **The performance**

The performance is told in 2 parts. There will be an interval between each part.

We understand loud noises can be frightening and can upset people so we've tried to let you know when there might be a loud moment with an ACCESS NOTE.

The Glitter Garden has wonderful performances and colourful lights. We will make sure it's not too loud and that it's not too dark/colourful but if you want a break, you can head to the breakout zone outside of the theatre.

## **ACT 1**

### **Scene 1: Hugo's Garden**

We see the house of Hugo the Gardener.

Hugo wakes up and there is a large clattering as he excitedly exits the house to meet the audience.

Hugo greets the audience and explains that he's been waiting for so long for anything to grow in this garden. He asks for the audience's help.

**ACCESS NOTE:** You don't have to respond if you don't want to.

Hugo sings **Today's The Day**. Hugo will sing live to music that plays through the speakers in the theatre.

**ACCESS NOTE:** Colourful lights and dancing for the songs.

Hugo finishes singing and is scared and starts to cry.

Hugo wishes for a perfect garden and sneezes, sending a dandelion flowers to spin away on the wind.

**ACCESS NOTE:** The stage is darkened and a mirror ball descends from the ceiling to evoke the dandelion.

## **Scene 2: Meet The Dirts, Soil, Muck and Grubber.**

There is a magical sound and the Dirts, Soil, Muck and Grubber appear. They are wearing costumes to appear muddy.

They sing **Dirty Werk**. Please note that the songs have been pre-recorded so the performers are lip syncing to the lyrics in the music. This means that the performers pretend to sing along to a song with their lips as if they are singing it. This is very popular thing to do in the drag community and lots of fun!

**ACCESS NOTE:** Colourful lights and dancing for the songs.

Hugo feel more comfortable with The Dirts and gives them three seeds.

## **Scene 3: Skipper the Snail.**

But Hugo is impatient for the seeds to grow, he gets a bit mad at the soil.

**ACCESS NOTE:** Hugo gets angry at the soil. He's not really angry.

He tries to water them and splashes water on himself. He will 'lose control' of the hose (but not really) and spray some water on the audience.

**ACCESS NOTE:** On our performance we won't spray water but a hose will be briefly pointed at the audience.

Because of the water Skipper the Snail appears! He has a French accent.

Hugo tries to shoo Skipper away.

**ACCESS NOTE:** Hugo yells at Skipper. He's not really angry.

Skipper sing **Snail's Pace**. He sings in French and English.

**ACCESS NOTE:** Colourful lights and dancing for the songs.

Hugo shoos him away. He feels bad about it and slaps himself and then hears a buzzing.

**ACCESS NOTE:** Hugo slaps himself but he is fine. The he pretends to swat at a bee but it's all pretend.

#### **Scene 4: Beehive Jive**

Honey sings about sharing and caring.

Hugo learns to be kind, Skipper returns and Hugo gives a dandelion to Skipper.

#### **Scene 4: Maddy Madeline Monarch Butterfly Ballerina**

Maddy Madeline Monarch Butterfly Ballerina appears.

**Maddy sings a song about spreading your wings.**

**ACCESS NOTE:** Colourful lights and dancing for the songs.

From what Hugo learns from Maddy, the flower buds start to rattle and out pop POPPY, LUPIN, and TULIP

**ACCESS NOTE:** From the boxes, the actors will appear as a surprise. This will happen twice in the song. Once with the flower buds and once with Hugo.

**They sing about being the new buds of Hugo and that it's important to grow.**

**ACCESS NOTE:** Hugo and the flowers will ask you to dance along. You don't have to if you don't want to.

At the end of the show the actors will stand in front of the stage and take their bows. After that the door will be opened and you'll be invited to leave.

**ACCESS NOTE:** At any point you are welcome to leave if you'd like a break.