Welcome to the Spring / Summer Season at the Royal Exchange Theatre

We are thrilled to present a powerful and energetic programme of work right here in the heart of Manchester’s city centre. The last season to be programmed by former Artistic Director Sarah Frankcom, it sees award-winning new writing sitting alongside great classic plays that are boldly reimagined. These are stories that take an unflinching look at our past, whilst glimpsing the potential of the future. The season is a perfect reflection of everything the Exchange has become in the last five years under Sarah’s leadership. It champions the importance of new plays and the ability the playwright has to redefine our stories, it encourages artists to make work at scale and it highlights how valuable it is to support the future of our industry to be ambitious and brave in the work they make.

Dynamic directors, writers, actors and theatre-makers have been invited to create fresh pieces of theatre for our unique spaces. The stories these exciting creative teams will tell not only entertain, but will provoke, challenge and encourage conversation. From intimate stories of friendship, love and family to epic pieces of drama asking questions about faith, hope and humanity - this season we celebrate the power of imagination and the importance sharing our stories has in our world today.

It is a privilege to be taking this incredible theatre forward, and we can’t wait to share this work with you. We believe that theatre should be for everyone, and we warmly invite you to join us!

Bryony, Roy and Steve
Rockets and Blue Lights

By WINSOME PINNOCK
Directed by MIRANDA CROMWELL

“I am the slave ship. Wrecked. Empty. I am a shark, livid with the desire for blood. I am the sea, boiling with fury.”

Amid the gloom of Victorian England, Thomas, a black sailor prepares to take one last voyage, while an aging Turner seeks artistic inspiration in a half-remembered story. In 21st Century London, an actress finds herself handcuffed by history – two centuries after abolitionists won her ancestors their freedom.

Winsome Pinnock’s astonishing new play retells British history through the prism of the slave trade. Fusing fact with fiction, past with present, the powerfully personal with the fiercely political, this epic production asks who owns our past – and who has the right to tell its stories?

World Premiere

THEATRE
12 March – 4 April 2020

For performance times please see diary on page 36.

ACCESSIBILITY

Audio Described performance
4 April, 2.30pm

BSL interpreted performance
25 March, 7.30pm

Captioned performances
21 March, 2.30pm & 7.30pm

Relaxed performance
24 March, 2.30pm

Theatre Club
Sat 21 March (after the matinee)
(see page 23 for details)

Post Show Discussion
Fri 3 April (after 7.30pm performance)

Winner of The 2018 Alfred Fagon Award
West Side Story

Based on a conception of JEROME ROBBINS
Book by ARTHUR LAURENTS Music by LEONARD BERNSTEIN
lyrics by STEPHEN SONDHEIM

Entire Original Production Directed and Choreographed by JEROME ROBBINS

Originally produced on Broadway by Robert E. Griffith and Harold S. Prince
by arrangement with Roger L. Stevens
Directed by SARAH FRANKCOM

THE THEATRE
18 April – 30 May 2020

For performance times please see diary on page 36.

ACCESSIBILITY

Audio Described performance
23 May, 2.30pm

BSL interpreted performance
13 May, 7.30pm

Captioned performances
9 May, 2.30pm & 7.30pm

Relaxed performance
19 May, 2.30pm

Theatre Club
Sat 16 May (after the matinee)
(see page 23 for details)

Post Show Discussion
Mon 4 May (after 7.30pm show)

Last Spring’s hit production of WEST SIDE STORY returns due to unprecedented popular demand!

‘I’m delighted that our new production has caught the imagination of today’s audiences, and that the electricity of it all is still so urgent. It’s incredible to be able to bring the show back and give people another opportunity to see Leonard Bernstein’s masterpiece.’ Director, Sarah Frankcom

With Andy Coxon and Gabriela García reunited on stage as Tony and Maria, the show that marries stunning choreography to a matchless songbook returns. MARIA, AMERICA, SOMEWHERE, TONIGHT – all feature in this 50s Manhattan ROMEO AND JULIET. It’s the Jets and the Sharks, two rival gangs who make New York’s mean streets even meaner. But it’s also passionate, tender and deeply romantic – the greatest love story ever told. Sarah Frankcom’s production brings a whole new energy to a bona fide Broadway classic.

Theatre Royal Haymarket
24th Street, London, WC2H 9NH

Performed by arrangement with Music Theatre International [Europe] Limited.

L - R Andy Coxon (Tony) & Gabriela García (Maria)

BOX OFFICE 0161 833 9833
royalexchange.co.uk
The Glass Menagerie

By TENNESSEE WILLIAMS
Directed by ATRI BANERJEE

“The past turns into everlasting regret if you don’t plan for it.”

In a shabby apartment, a troubled sister and her brother pick a path through the wreckage of a broken family home. Their mother is desperate to marry Laura off – so when Tom brings home a suitor for her, hopes are high that they may have found the man of their dreams. All this, Tom remembers – but memory is fragile, and the clarity of truth can be clouded over time.

Hot on the heels of his Stage Debut Award-winning Royal Exchange production of HOBSON’S CHOICE, Atri Banerjee returns with a devastating new take on the masterpiece that made Tennessee Williams’ name. Intimate and intense, THE GLASS MENAGERIE is a domestic play wrestling with global questions as, like Tom, Laura and Amanda, our world stands on the brink of change.

THE THEATRE
5 June – 4 July 2020

For performance times please see diary on page 37.

ACCESSIBILITY

Audio Described performance
27 June, 2.30pm

BSL interpreted performance
17 June, 7.30pm

Captioned performances
20 June, 2.30pm & 7.30pm

Relaxed performance
16 June, 2.30pm

Theatre Club
Sat 20 June (after the matinee)
(see page 23 for details)

Post Show Discussion
Tue 30 June (after 7.30pm performance)
“We’re children of God, Sister. No hunk of metal could replace any one of us.”

Behind the crumbling walls of St Grace’s Convent, the future seems a long way away. Hell, even the present feels like a distant world, until the nuns who call it home make the surprising acquaintance of their unholy new resident. Spirited in by the convent’s Mother, Mary is a robot – but is she a blessing or a curse?

Winner of a Bruntwood Prize Judges’ Award, Tim Foley’s miraculous new play brings together nuns and robots on the Royal Exchange stage for the very first time. Sharp, timely and gloriously funny, ELECTRIC ROSARY asks what faith really means in the age of artificial intelligence – and what it means to be human in tomorrow’s world.

By TIM FOLEY
Director ELIZABETH FREESTONE

THE STUDIO
15 June – 4 July 2020

For performance times please see diary on page 37.

ACCESSIBILITY

BSL interpreted performance
24 June, 7.30pm

Relaxed performance
23 June, 2.30pm
Oh Mother

By RASHDASH

"To have a baby or not to have a baby…"

Having a baby is the Most Important Thing you can do. If you have one. If you don’t, something else can be the Most Important Thing.

What if I can’t have one? Don’t want one? What if the planet can’t take another? What if I like my life now and just want it to continue? What if I’m desperate to have one and I can’t find someone to do it with? What if I don’t want to do it on my own? What will my mum think?

Following the award-winning THREE SISTERS, RashDash and their mums explore having and becoming mothers.

THE STUDIO
16 July – 1 August 2020

For performance times please see diary on page 38.

ACCESSIBILITY
R Relaxed performance
21 July, 2.30pm

A RashDash and Royal Exchange Theatre co-production
“They say he killed them like pigs. Hung them up and watched the blood drain. I’m not lying. Like a pig”

Lonely at home and viciously bullied at school, Oskar retreats into solitude with only his Rubik’s cube and imagination to keep him company. But then Eli moves in next door. Oblivious to cold weather, she never seems to eat, and some days she looks strangely old. Hanging out on the jungle gym, and practising Morse code through the walls, the two teenagers forge an unlikely friendship. When a butchered body is found in a nearby forest and the truth about Eli slowly unfolds, their bond is stretched to breaking point.

One of the most extraordinary cult novels and films of the 21st Century now makes its Manchester stage debut. Directed by Bryony Shanahan, the Royal Exchange’s new Joint-Artistic Director, LET THE RIGHT ONE IN is a compelling vampire coming of age story.
Royal Exchange Theatre in association with Manchester Metropolitan University present

CAROL ANN DUFFY AND FRIENDS

An evening of music and poetry with Carol Ann Duffy. The guest poet will be Andrew McMillan, alongside special guest Ella Duffy launching her first pamphlet NEW HUNGER, plus there’ll be new student readers from Manchester Metropolitan University’s MA Poetry course.

Band on the Wall present

ALFA MIST

Alfa Mist comes to the Royal Exchange Theatre for a special one-night gig.

Growing up in Newham, East London, Alfa Mist began his musical journey as a grime and hip-hop producer. The self-taught pianist and sometimes rapper soon found himself drawn to the jazz, world music and film soundtracks he discovered through sampling. His sound blends melancholy jazz harmony with alternative hip-hop and soul.

His recently released second album ANTIPHON has pushed him forward in the new jazz scene as one to watch, following the warm reception of his first record NOCTURNE which featured the likes of Tom Misch and Jordan Rakei.

Tickets £13/£16/£19

Royal Exchange Theatre, Contact +

Word of Warning present

IDOL

By Jamal Gerald

Who would you rather pray to? Beyoncé or white Jesus?

Jamal grew up Catholic in a Caribbean household, but would rather light a candle and worship celebrities than white saints. Combining African diasporic ritual, music and storytelling, IDOL is a spiritual journey that asks what happens when you don’t see yourself represented. Featuring a host of celebrity appearances.

Jamal Gerald is an artist based in Leeds. His work is conversational, socially conscious and a celebration of individuality.

“Jamal Gerald is, intensely, fiercely himself on stage” Exeunt

Age guidance 16+

THE STUDIO 19 - 21 March

THE THEATRE 1 March

WildChild Productions present

MADAME OVARY

By Rosa Hesmondhalgh

It’s January 2018. Rosa Hesmondhalgh is writing her resolutions. She is going to stop going out with plonkers, start doing yoga and write some really good art. But before she’s had time to delete her dating apps and get into downward dog, she’s diagnosed. With ovarian cancer. And it’s spread. Suddenly faced with hospitals, chemotherapy and her own mortality, Rosa’s new goal for the year ahead is to survive it.

‘Devastating and beautiful and true’ Caitlin Moran

★★★★★
ThreeWeeks, Edinburgh Reporter, Young Perspective

THE STUDIO 25 - 28 March
The Studio
24 – 25 April
BLINK Dance Theatre present
GIRL MEETS BOY
Devised by BLINK Dance Theatre
Sex, Drag and Sausage rolls; BLINK enter into a raw and raucous game of love in their ‘adventurous and radical’ show GIRL MEETS BOY. Set in a weird and wonderful world of millennial mating and seen through their neuro-diverse lens, the group attempt to answer the age-old question is there happy ever after for everyone?

Age guidance 16+

The Studio
31 March – 2 April
SMITH
Adapted from the novel by Leon Garfield by Janine Waters and Simon Waters
Smith was only twelve and, hangings apart, had seen no more than three men murdered in all his life.
London in the 1700s. Highwaymen & the hangman are counted amongst Smith’s friends. Pickpocket by trade, he steals from the wrong country gentleman & witnesses a brutal murder. But not before he’s stolen the document that was worth killing for; the document that could change his fortune, if only he could read. Smith sets off on a quest, that plunges him into the depths of mystery, betrayal & blind justice.

For young adults aged 12+ and their families, filled with music, humour and fast paced action!

The Studio
28 April
OVER MY DEAD BODY
By Ali Wilson
Ali and her Mum are getting better at talking about the hard stuff. In fact, Ali’s Mum loves to talk about it! The end. The afterlife. The dot dot dot … The Romans buried you with your pets, the Egyptians wrapped you up and the Vikings cut all your hair off. Ali knows that one day, everything will change. Julie knows a lot about funerals and this is a rehearsal.

A funny and honest look at preparing for the inevitable.

Age guidance 16+

The Edge, in association with the Royal Exchange Theatre present
GIRL MEETS BOY
Devised by BLINK Dance Theatre
Sex, Drag and Sausage rolls; BLINK enter into a raw and raucous game of love in their ‘adventurous and radical’ show GIRL MEETS BOY. Set in a weird and wonderful world of millennial mating and seen through their neuro-diverse lens, the group attempt to answer the age-old question is there happy ever after for everyone?

Age guidance 16+

Third Angel & Northern Stage present
THE DEPARTMENT OF DISTRACTIONS
The Department of Distractions: an organisation so clandestine you won’t have heard of them. Until now. They say their job is to plant stories in the world “to make life more interesting.” But a story they started has got out of hand, they’ve lost control of it and now they’re in danger of being exposed. How far will they go to maintain their anonymity?

Third Angel brings you a conspiracy-theory documentary-exposé detective story for the 21st Century that asks: What aren’t you looking at?

“Engaging with the big issues about how we live with a fierce intelligence”
The Guardian on Third Angel

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“Engaging with the big issues about how we live with a fierce intelligence”
The Guardian on Third Angel
Ransack Theatre presents

CATCHING COMETS

Written and directed by Piers Black

A disaster movie about falling in love.

Toby discovers a comet heading towards Earth. When nobody listens to his warning, he snaps, turning into an action movie hero on a mission to protect the world.

Flash back a year; Toby is knocked off course when someone new crashes into his life.

CATCHING COMETS is a multi-dimensional mash-up from Royal Exchange Supported Artists, Ransack Theatre.

“Exhilarating, heartwarming and honest” ★★★★★
Voice Magazine

TRANS VEGAS 2020

TRANS VEGAS takes over the Royal Exchange for its finale event filling the main stage, studio and auditorium with performance music and dance.

This unique & vibrant Trans arts festival curated by Kate O’Donnell (seen at Royal Exchange Theatre in TWELFTH NIGHT and GYPSY) brings local, national and international trans artists together to celebrate the trans community here in the heart of Manchester. As TRANS VEGAS enters its third year it promises to be its most ambitious festival yet. Come and enjoy a taste of TRANS VEGAS and remember what happens in TRANS VEGAS stays in TRANS VEGAS.

“Trans Vegas Fighting Transphobia with Fabulous Art”

Get Involved

The Royal Exchange Theatre are committed to giving as many people as possible the opportunity to get involved; to make, to play, to connect, to learn about the shows and to tell their own stories. Take a look at what we have on offer and take part this season.

Visit royalexchange.co.uk/getinvolved for more information or call 0161 833 9833 to book tickets.

Young Company Collective

Be part of the Collective to access workshops throughout the year!

Workshops are available in performing, technical theatre, digital content, producing, directing, writing and design. From one off sessions to week-long programmes you can learn new skills or hone your craft by developing your knowledge and understanding

February 2020 Half Term – look out for the week-long performing and technical theatre programme for Young Collective members, offering the chance to perform in The Studio, or design and operate a show.

Find out more at royalexchange.co.uk/youngcompanycollective

Children’s Company

For anyone aged 5 – 13. Every Sunday during term time

From drop-in sessions to ten-week courses and week-long holiday programmes, our Children’s Company provides a fun space for your child to make and play. Through drama games and activities, the Children’s Company is a great way to improve confidence, communication and teamwork as well as meeting new friends.

TRAIN! An exciting week-long course during the Easter holiday to encourage your child’s creative thinking in a safe and social space. You can come and see the results at the end of the week, and all participants will gain an Arts Award certificate.

royalexchange.co.uk/childrenscompany

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royalexchange.co.uk/childrenscompany
Schools and Colleges
The Royal Exchange’s work with schools and colleges is a vital part of our Creative Learning and Engagement programme.

During our workshops, your students will learn, create and be inspired through practical sessions delivered by Royal Exchange Theatre practitioners. Students will be up on their feet learning and creating work like professionals!

Workshops include:

**Devising – Something will happen**
No scripts, no preconceived ideas, but by the end of the session there will be a performance.

**Performing – Grit and grace**
How to be a fearless performer (or how to use our fear constructively).

**Writing – Ready, steady, write**
Accessing our inner writers.

**Careers – Who are you and what do you do?**
Learn about jobs in the industry, from front of house to lighting technician.

For more information and to book a workshop with the Royal Exchange, please contact our Schools Coordinator on workshops@royalexchange.co.uk

Find out more about our Productions
Learn more about how we make our productions and discuss what you watched and experienced with creatives and actors from the company or with fellow audience members.

Introducing...
Pre show talk with cast and creatives about the process of making the production, rehearsals, performing on stage and bringing a script to life. £6/£4 student + free teacher for every 10 places
royalexchange.co.uk/introducingworkshops

Post Show Talks
Members of the cast and creative team return to the stage to answer your questions about the show. Free
royalexchange.co.uk/postshowtalks

Backstage Tours
Join us backstage and discover the hidden world of a busy theatre. Tickets £5. For dates & times see royalexchange.co.uk/backstagetours

Theatre Club
An informal, friendly book club, but for plays. For anyone who has seen the production and wants to discuss it with others. Air your views freely with a complimentary tea or coffee!
Free – Booking required

ROCKETS AND BLUE LIGHTS
Introducing Thu 26 March, 10.30am
Post Show Talk Fri 3 April
Theatre Club Sat 21 March, 5pm

WEST SIDE STORY
Introducing Thu 7 May, 10.30am
Post Show Talk Mon 4 May
Theatre Club Sat 16 May, 5pm

THE GLASS MENAGERIE
Introducing Thu 18 June, 10.30am
Post Show Talk Tue 30 June
Theatre Club Sat 20 June, 5pm

LET THE RIGHT ONE IN
Introducing Thu 16 July, 10.30am
Post Show Talk Tue 4 August
Theatre Club Sat 1 August, 5pm

Elders Exchange Day
Sunday 10 May
Free workshops, performances, discussions and activities celebrating older people as makers and artists.

Elders Mondays
On the first and third Monday of the month (excluding Bank Holidays and 6 April) we host events for older people to stay creative, be playful and keep learning about theatre into later life. Elders Mondays are a great way to meet new people in a relaxed and friendly way. Take part in free activity in the hall or book onto a workshop (£6). For full details visit our website or contact Box Office.

Dementia Café
Are you living with dementia? Do you care for someone living with dementia? The dementia café is a relaxed and welcome opportunity for individuals and groups to come and relax at the Exchange as well as take part in creative theatre-related activities. If you would like to discuss attending with a group or as an individual please contact Box Office. For more information please visit royalexchange.co.uk/elders
Over two weeks we welcomed over 900 people

17 performances
4 workshops
1 artist mixer

ALL free or pay what you decide tickets

The Den

In August 2019 as part of our three-year engagement programme LOCAL EXCHANGE, we created a two-week festival in the Den at Stalybridge Civic Hall, Tameside.

The Den is a new sustainable travelling theatre, that lives in a found space within the communities we are working in as part of LOCAL EXCHANGE. The Den was made possible by an incredible gift from The Oglesby Charitable Trust and designed by award winning architects Haworth Tomkins with Expedition and Xylotech.

The programming was developed with our Tameside Ambassadors, 13 passionate and dedicated residents who have helped to shape the work happening across the borough. This included family shows and storytelling, new work created as part of our CO:LAB festival, STALYBRIDGE OLD BAND, a unique performance of our main house production THERE IS A LIGHT THAT NEVER GOES OUT: SCENES FROM THE LUDDITE REBELLION and UTOPIA, the brand-new show from the theatre’s Young Company.

We also worked with Tameside Women’s Centre, supporting 10 women through an accredited customer service programme which included training and placements at the Royal Exchange Theatre. They went on to operate Front of House at the Den.

We are continuing to work with the Ambassadors and partners in Tameside to deliver projects throughout the year as well as taking the Den to Leigh and Cheetham Hill this summer for two exciting festivals co-created with our Ambassadors and partners in the areas.

A TAMESIDE STORY opened the Den for the very first time on Tuesday 13 August with pieces made with Royal Exchange artists working with the community. This included young people in their summer holidays, a project with Age UK in Ashton and residents in Dukinfield. It also featured internationally renowned carnival arts organisation Global Grooves who are based in Tameside.

It was so good to see our Market Hall back in good use and what could be better than for these reasons? Normally we can’t afford the theatre, but this was too good a chance to miss. Everyone was friendly and the little theatre was an amazing thing to be in.

I can’t believe I could have so much fun at the age of 83.

Thank you RET for the opportunity you have given my son. To grow in confidence and find his voice.

It was a wonderful experience, not just the performance, but what I noticed and experienced was how as strangers, we as an audience engaged with each other before the show, during the interval and after. A unique experience.

Thank you
Nurturing new talent, supporting artistic risk and investing in new ideas is a huge part of what we do. Explore the creative opportunities from our four interlinked programmes of artist development.

For more information, please visit royalexchange.co.uk/creativeopportunities

**Open Exchange**
Open Exchange provides a series of opportunities for emerging artists within Greater Manchester from all disciplines, in the belief that collaboration creates great art, and brilliant theatre doesn’t always begin with a script.
royalexchange.co.uk/openexchange

**Writers Exchange**
We work with local, national and international playwrights, to offer mentoring, workshops, readings and unique projects. Our goal is to help writers develop their craft, give them access to support and networking opportunities, and create ambitious new work for our iconic spaces.
royalexchange.co.uk/writersexchange

**Actors Exchange**
Actors Exchange supports people who are experiencing barriers to accessing quality acting training and skills development, especially from D/deaf, disabled, and diverse ethnic and socio-economic backgrounds.
royalexchange.co.uk/actorsexchange

**Directors Exchange**
Observer Mondays allow local emerging directors to observe the journey of a production through rehearsals to press night. We also work in partnership with Regional Theatre Young Directors Scheme to provide further opportunities for directors from communities currently underrepresented in theatre.
royalexchange.co.uk/directorsexchange

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**The Bruntwood Prize for Playwriting 2019**

On Monday 4 November 2019 Phoebe Eclair-Powell was announced as the winner of the Bruntwood Prize for Playwriting 2019.

Her searing drama SHED: EXPLODED VIEW wowed the judging panel with its experimental structure, and portrayal of a complex subject matter. The play is inspired by Cornelia Parker’s installation Cold Dark Matter which presents the contents of a shed blown apart and frozen in mid-air, and is described by the writer as ‘explosion in action’.

Bryony Shanahan, Royal Exchange Theatre Joint Artistic Director and one of the judges said: “This year’s Bruntwood shortlist was exceptional, the plays continually surprised us as judges and kept us debating for hours. SHED: EXPLODED VIEW is ambitious, nuanced and goes right to the heart of the human experience.”

Phoebe Eclair-Powell

Winners - Bruntwood Prize for Playwriting 2019

Other winners included –

**Original New Voice Award** – AKEDA by Michael John O’Neill

**Judges Award** – GLEE & ME by Stuart Slade

**International Award** – UNTITLED F*CK MISS SA* GON PLAY (SRSLY THIS IS NOT THE TITLE) by Kimber Lee

The incredibly high calibre of scripts in this year’s competition resulted in 2 commendations also being awarded to Dave Harris and Jody O’Neill for their captivating plays, TAMBO & BONES and BALLYBAILE respectively.

There were 2,561 entries to the 2019 Bruntwood prize – the highest number of submissions to date and a 35% increase in entries from 2017. The winning plays join the Bruntwood Prize’s prestigious alumni of playwrights including Katherine Soper, Phil Porter, Duncan Macmillan, Alistair McDowall, Vivienne Franzmann, Anna Jordan, Janice Okoh and Tim X Atack.

If you’re interested in playwriting then check out the wealth of resources available to get you started or improve your skills on the Bruntwood Prize website writeaplay.co.uk

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#Bruntwood Prize
writeaplay.co.uk

@bruntwoodprize
bruntwoodprize

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#Bruntwood Prize
writeaplay.co.uk

@bruntwoodprize
bruntwoodprize
Access

We offer a range of accessible performances which are listed below. To book for the BSL (British Sign Language) or Audio described performances, please contact the Box Office directly on box.office@royalexchange.co.uk or 0161 833 9833 as there are specific seats held for each show to ensure you have the best experience possible.

Audio described performances
Audio description provides blind and visually impaired audience members with access to visual aspects of a performance. It is delivered through personal headsets, which should be booked via Box Office when you book your ticket. Our audio described performances are preceded by a touch tour of the set.

Rockets and Blue Lights 4 April, 2.30pm
West Side Story 23 May, 2.30pm
The Glass Menagerie 27 June, 2.30pm
Let The Right One In 1 August, 2.30pm

BSL interpreted performances
Interpretation is provided by a live interpreter, who may sometimes be on stage and on other occasions visible via a screen.

Rockets and Blue Lights 25 March, 7.30pm
West Side Story 13 May, 7.30pm
The Glass Menagerie 17 June, 7.30pm
Electric Rosary 24 June, 7.30pm
Let The Right One In 29 July, 7.30pm

Captioned performances – extra shows added!
Captioned dialogue gives audience members access to the actors dialogue via text displayed on screens, which are situated all round the front of our First Gallery level.

Rockets and Blue Lights 21 March, 2.30pm & 7.30pm
West Side Story 9 May 2.30pm & 7.30pm
The Glass Menagerie 20 June 2.30pm & 7.30pm
Let The Right One In 25 July 2.30pm & 7.30pm

Relaxed performances
These are specifically designed to welcome anyone who will benefit from a more relaxed performance environment, and are very popular with anyone who might be anxious about attending the theatre for a range of reasons. These include people who are neurologically diverse, people with dementia and parents with babies. Everyone is very welcome - they are an inclusive, enjoyable experience for all.

For a relaxed performance we will:
- Introduce the cast to the audience
- Have a relaxed attitude to noise and movement
- Leave the doors to the theatre open, for people to come and go anytime

Rockets and Blue Lights 24 March, 2.30pm
Girl Meets Boy 28 April 2.30pm, 7.30pm
West Side Story 19 May, 2.30pm
The Glass Menagerie 16 June, 2.30pm
Electric Rosary 23 June, 2.30pm
Oh Mother 21 July, 2.30pm
Let The Right One In 28 July, 2.30pm

We also offer:
- Wheelchair spaces in the Theatre and Studio
- Lift access from St Ann’s Square to the Great Hall
- Infra-red assisted hearing facilities
- A warm welcome to assistance dogs

We really want to improve the theatre experience for people with access requirements and will be holding meetings about this in the future. If you’d like to find out more, please email access@royalexchange.co.uk

If you would like to speak to a member of staff before your visit, please contact our Box Office in one of the following ways:
Telephone: 0161 833 9833
Email: box.office@royalexchange.co.uk
For more information about parking, visual guides and booking go to royalexchange.co.uk/access
Eat, drink and celebrate

Host your parties, meetings, weddings or informal drinks at the Royal Exchange.

With a variety of spaces available, our dedicated events team ensure your event runs like clockwork and our talented catering team can provide bespoke menus for all types of event. Just get in touch and let us know what you need!

**THE RIVALS**
Cafe, Bar and Restaurant

Situated in the Great Hall of the theatre, The Rivals offers the very best in modern British food for both lunch and dinner, alongside an excellent wine list, real ale and craft beer.

**THE RIVALS CAFE** is open from 9.30am
**THE RIVALS RESTAURANT** is open Monday – Saturday from 12 noon until midnight serving lunch 12 noon – 3pm and dinner 5pm – 10pm (last orders at 9pm). To book a table, please call 0161 615 6666.

The Rivals is always open during performances and on non performance dates.

View the seasonal a la carte and bar snack menus at royalexchange.co.uk/therivals

“Wow your party guests with the luxury and style of our elegant and secluded spaces. Drinks receptions, parties and private dining are all available with exquisite hospitality from The Rivals.

Welcome your delegates for meetings and away days. With spaces for 5 – 80 people, and a 750 seat theatre-in-the-round, we can cater for all your seminars, product launches and conference needs. We can provide AV equipment and bespoke hospitality – with the chance to enjoy breakfast, lunch and afternoon breaks in the spectacular Great Hall.

royalexchange.co.uk/venuehire
For more information contact hires@royalexchange.co.uk
Telephone 0161 615 6763

“Eat, drink and celebrate”

“Welcome your delegates”

“Celebrate your wedding”

“Welcome your delegates”

“Celebrate your wedding”

“Welcome your delegates”

“A terrific location to meet people. You can drink or dine pre theatre, pop in while a production is being staged or visit when there are no shows at all.”

Cheshire Life
Visit royalexchange.co.uk/therivals or royalexchange.co.uk/venuehire
Telephone 0161 615 6666

“The Royal Exchange provides a unique, inspiring venue for a design and tech event like Camp Digital. It’s a pleasure to hold our conference here and we have great feedback on the venue and the setting from our attendees.”

Shaun Gomm, Camp Digital
The Theatre Prices
ALL PREVIEWS HALF PRICE
(Based on Fri & Sat prices)
£10 TICKETS
Each day we will offer a number of day seats for sale at £10 each. These will either be located in the second gallery or they will be the traditional banquette seating. These will be available in person from 9.30am on the day of the performance only, then via phone from 10am.
No discounts available on banquettes or day seats.
Ticket prices may vary for different performances according to demand. We guarantee that a number of £10 tickets will be released on the day of the performance.

Please note
Row B 1st & 2nd Gallery and Rows F & G on Stage Level are not feet on floor seating, but raised, with a foot rest.

The Royal Exchange Theatre Costume Hire has a huge range of hand-made clothing, jewellery, hats and shoes suitable for any event, party, film shoot or show. Whether you’re looking for the perfect Dickensian suit, a suffragette or Game of Thrones inspired costume, we have an amazing variety of clothing available from a wide range of historical periods.

Book an appointment by contacting Ludmila Krzac and her team on 0161 819 6660 costume.hire@royalexchange.co.uk royalexchange.co.uk/costumehire

The Studio

Electric Rosary, Oh Mother

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>All seats</th>
<th>Concessions</th>
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Studio Visiting Companies

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<td>£13.00</td>
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Unless otherwise stated
ALL STUDIO PREVIEWS HALF PRICE
Concessions & Discounts

Under 16s, Unwaged & Disabled people
Half price tickets Discounts available for companions where necessary.

UNDER 26S & STUDENTS
Every weekday evening. Tickets just £7.
(1 ticket per booking. Subject to availability. ID to be shown on collection)

Groups of 10 — 39
Save £3.50 per ticket plus one free for every 20 purchased.

Groups of 40+
Save £4.50 per ticket plus one free for every 20 purchased.

Schools
£15 tickets are available for Monday to Friday performances. Limited availability.

Gift vouchers
The perfect gift for any occasion! Gift vouchers are available to buy from our Box Office.

How to Book

Phone (from 10am) 0161 833 9833
Mon — Sat: 10am — 6:15pm
Sun: from 11am

Schools and Teachers 0161 615 6702

Group Bookings 0161 833 9833

Online
royalexchange.co.uk/bookonline

In Person
Box Office, Royal Exchange Theatre,
St Ann’s Square, Manchester M2 7DH
Mon — Sat: 9.30am — until the show begins.
Sun: from 11am

Please note that day seats will go on sale at 9.30am to those queuing up in person, then via phone from 10am.

Parking
We are partnered with Q-Park Deansgate who offer 10 hours of safe and secure parking for just £6. (see page 39 for details)

See More and Save More with a Season Ticket

‘If you live near Manchester and went to every single show in the main house and studio at the Royal Exchange, you’d have a pretty good grasp at what is going on in British Theatre.’

Lyn Gardner, The Stage, July 2017

‘It’s never been easier to see every show — our flexible season ticket means you can sit wherever you like, whenever you like.

• Get priority booking periods
• Sit in different areas of the theatre for different shows
• Free ticket exchange if you want to change dates

3 PART SEASON TICKET — 20% off ticket prices
(Rockets and Blue Lights, The Glass Menagerie, Let The Right One In)

3 PART SEASON TICKET — 20% off ticket prices
(Rockets and Blue Lights, The Glass Menagerie, Let The Right One In)

Seating Area
Mon–Thurs Eve Fri–Sun Eve & Weekend Matinées
Row A — 1st Gallery, Row D Stage Level £92.40 £102.00
Row B — 1st Gallery, Rows B, C, E, F, G Stage Level £80.40 £90.00
Row A — 2nd Gallery £60.00 £67.20
Row B — 2nd Gallery £45.60 £48.00

4 PART SEASON TICKET — 25% off ticket prices
(Rockets and Blue Lights, The Glass Menagerie, Let The Right One In and EITHER Electric Rosary or Oh Mother)

Seating Area
Mon–Thurs Eve Fri–Sun Eve & Weekend Matinées
Row A — 1st Gallery, Row D Stage Level £97.86 £106.86
Row B — 1st Gallery, Rows B, C, E, F, G Stage Level £86.61 £95.61
Row A — 2nd Gallery £67.50 £74.25
Row B — 2nd Gallery £54.00 £56.25

5 PART SEASON TICKET — 25% off ticket prices
(Rockets and Blue Lights, The Glass Menagerie, Let The Right One In, Electric Rosary and Oh Mother)

Seating Area
Mon–Thurs Eve Fri–Sun Eve & Weekend Matinées
Row A — 1st Gallery, Row D Stage Level £109.11 £118.11
Row B — 1st Gallery, Rows B, C, E, F, G Stage Level £97.86 £106.86
Row A — 2nd Gallery £78.75 £85.50
Row B — 2nd Gallery £65.25 £67.50

Book online at royalexchange.co.uk/seasontickets or call the Box Office on 0161 833 9833

Ticket prices may vary for different performances according to demand. We guarantee that a number of £10 tickets will be released on the day of the performance.
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**May**

| Fri 1 | West Side Story | 7.30pm |
| Sat 2 | West Side Story | 7.30pm |
| Wed 3 | West Side Story | 7.30pm |
| Thu 4 | West Side Story | 7.30pm |
| Fri 5 | West Side Story | 7.30pm |
| Sat 6 | West Side Story | 7.30pm |
| Sun 7 | West Side Story | 7.30pm |
| Mon 8 | West Side Story | 7.30pm |
| Tue 9 | West Side Story | 7.30pm |
| Wed 10 | West Side Story | 7.30pm |
| Thu 11 | West Side Story | 7.30pm |
| Fri 12 | West Side Story | 7.30pm |
| Sat 13 | West Side Story | 7.30pm |
| Sun 14 | West Side Story | 7.30pm |
| Mon 15 | West Side Story | 7.30pm |
| Tue 16 | West Side Story | 7.30pm |
| Wed 17 | West Side Story | 7.30pm |
| Thu 18 | West Side Story | 7.30pm |
| Fri 19 | West Side Story | 7.30pm |
| Sat 20 | West Side Story | 7.30pm |
| Sun 21 | West Side Story | 7.30pm |
| Mon 22 | West Side Story | 7.30pm |
| Tue 23 | West Side Story | 7.30pm |

**June**

| Fri 28 | West Side Story | 7.30pm |
| Sat 29 | West Side Story | 7.30pm |
| Sun 30 | West Side Story | 7.30pm |
| Mon 31 | Childrens Company | 11am |

**July**

<p>| Fri 4 | The Glass Menagerie | 7.30pm |
| Sat 5 | The Glass Menagerie | 7.30pm |
| Sun 6 | The Glass Menagerie | 7.30pm |
| Mon 7 | The Glass Menagerie | 7.30pm |
| Tue 8 | The Glass Menagerie | 7.30pm |
| Wed 9 | The Glass Menagerie | 7.30pm |
| Thu 10 | The Glass Menagerie | 7.30pm |
| Fri 11 | The Glass Menagerie | 7.30pm |
| Sat 12 | The Glass Menagerie | 7.30pm |
| Sun 13 | The Glass Menagerie | 7.30pm |
| Mon 14 | The Glass Menagerie | 7.30pm |
| Tue 15 | The Glass Menagerie | 7.30pm |
| Wed 16 | The Glass Menagerie | 7.30pm |
| Thu 17 | The Glass Menagerie | 7.30pm |
| Fri 18 | The Glass Menagerie | 7.30pm |
| Sat 19 | The Glass Menagerie | 7.30pm |
| Sun 20 | The Glass Menagerie | 7.30pm |
| Mon 21 | The Glass Menagerie | 7.30pm |
| Tue 22 | The Glass Menagerie | 7.30pm |
| Wed 23 | The Glass Menagerie | 7.30pm |
| Thu 24 | The Glass Menagerie | 7.30pm |
| Fri 25 | The Glass Menagerie | 7.30pm |
| Sat 26 | The Glass Menagerie | 7.30pm |
| Sun 27 | The Glass Menagerie | 7.30pm |
| Mon 28 | The Glass Menagerie | 7.30pm |
| Tue 29 | The Glass Menagerie | 7.30pm |
| Wed 30 | The Glass Menagerie | 7.30pm |
| Thu 31 | The Glass Menagerie | 7.30pm |
| Fri 1 | The Glass Menagerie | 7.30pm |
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| Mon 4 | The Glass Menagerie | 7.30pm |
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| Wed 6 | The Glass Menagerie | 7.30pm |
| Thu 7 | The Glass Menagerie | 7.30pm |
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**July**

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<tr>
<td>Sat 39</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun 40</td>
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**Orchestrating tense and relaxed performances**

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<tr>
<td>Sat 60</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**How to find us**

**Royal Exchange Theatre**

**St Ann’s Square**

**Manchester M2 7DH**

We have two entrances - one at St Ann’s Square and one on Cross Street. Our St Ann’s Square entrance is accessible for wheelchairs, with a lift directly to the Great Hall, where the Theatre is located.

**How to get here**

**Metrolink**

The nearest tram stops are Market St and Exchange Square. We recommend you double check the service you need before travelling at metrolink.co.uk.

**Bus**

Many bus stops are within a five minute walk. The free Metroshuttle Bus 3 from Piccadilly Station stops at Cross St. Check tfgm.com/buses

**Train**

We are a 10 minute walk from Victoria Station and 15 minutes from Oxford Road and Piccadilly Stations.

**Parking**

We are partnered with Q-Park Deansgate who offer 10 hours of safe and secure parking for just £6. Your parking ticket can be validated at the Theatre Box Office to receive the discount. Q-Park Deansgate North is located underneath the new Embankment development on Chapel Street, Manchester, M3 7WJ. The car park is a short distance away from Manchester Arena and Victoria Station.

**Photography:** Lee Baxter

Joel C Fields, Chris Payne, Johan Persson, Richard Davenport, Annaka Morley