



A newly commissioned family musical from

Anne Odeke

A Place for Me?, a newly commissioned family musical from Anne Odeke, continues to build on theatre's commitment to showcase the region's best talent, desire to reach new audiences in the places where they live and share under-represented stories that celebrate the diverse heritage of our place.

Anne Odeke is a name Queen's Theatre Hornchurch attendees may know well. Anne has been working with us over the past four years, both as an excellent performer (Misfits, Princess Essex, Killing Jack) and an inspiring playwright (Misfits, Princess Essex). Anne's success is soaring to new heights as Princess Essex, the show grown and developed as part of a co-commission here at QTH, will be opening this September for a three week run at the Globe Theatre!

This autumn Anne brings a brilliant new family production to our stage called *A Place for Me?*. This is a family musical that tells the story of the



Windrush community through the eyes of a child. It's a tribute to all that the community brought and continues to bring to Essex.

It's 1950. Did you know that there is an Essex in Jamaica? (Yes, really!) and...did you know that 10 year old, Jamaican native Phyllis loves nothing more than Essex? It's her favourite thing in the entire world! So imagine how Phyllis feels when she discovers that her Uncle Edmund (her second most favourite thing in the world) boarded a ship called HMT Empire Windrush in 1948 and now lives in a place called Essex in England! (What are the chances?!) And so Phyllis, along with her best friend Mony (he's a mongoose — FYI) jump aboard a ship to discover the sights, sounds, and tastes of glorious Tilbury.

After opening here at QTH, the show will be touring to community venues in Harold Hill, Orchard Village, Rainham, and Romford with Havering Changing. This is part of a growing programme of new stories commissioned and produced by QTH that are focused on changing the narrative about this part of South Essex and East London, supporting local theatre makers to make exciting new work, and tour productions to community venues where local people rarely, if ever, have the opportunity to see live theatre performed.

"Everything Phyllis sees, does and experiences in the play is through the eyes of a ten-year-old. She approaches everything with great optimism, and has a beautiful sense of humour - we all want to be her best friend and go on adventures with her."

QTH is the host organisation for Havering Changing, a community-led partnership that started in 2019, with the aspiration to bring the changing communities in Havering together to be part of inspiring creative and cultural experiences on their doorstep. Havering Changing supports local people in Collier Row, Harold Hill, Orchard Village, Rainham & Rush Green to choose, create, and take part in arts and culture. They will tour A Place for Me? throughout all of our areas to a diverse community of over 1500 residents.

Following a sold-out community tour of Blouse & Skirt!'s production of *Rice & Peas* across venues in Havering in 2022, QTH and Havering Changing have increasingly worked together to support the best local creative talent to tell meaningful stories about Essex and East London in community settings. In June 2023, Lucy Pitman-Wallace worked with Havering's tattoo community to help tell that behind every tattoo there is a story. Following a sustained period of community outreach and interviews, Inked, a new verbatim play emerged, with a cast made up of local people. In October, the main stage was transformed for Fiesta by Joe Lichtenstein, a new play celebrating the legacy of the Ford Fiesta. Told through stories collected over 6 months, from Ford Fiesta creators, owners, neighbours, and friends at the Orchard Village estate, the place originally built to house the Dagenham Ford factory workers. In July 2023, Spare Tyre theatre company debuted the participatory sensory show 'On The Beach', designed specifically for people living with dementia and their carers, to care settings and community venues across the borough, in partnership with QTH and Havering Changing, and with funding from the Morris Beneficent Fund.

"I'll be honest,
I don't really
know how I did
it, I just heard it
in my head and
wrote it. But why
I chose for there
to be music is
because those are
two important
and communitydefining things
for many of
the Windrush
community."

Writer Anne Odeke

Dates: 30 Oct – 3 Nov 2024

BSL interpreted: Sat 2 Nov | 7pm

Touch Tour: Sat 2 Nov | 1pm

Audio Described performance: Sat 2 Nov | 2:30pm

Tickets:

£12* £10* conc. Under 26s £8 *+70p QNext fee

This production will tour community venues in Harold Hill, Orchard Village, Rainham, and Romford with Havering Changing after closing at QTH.

"It dawned on me one day that the Windrush Generations first ever steps on British soil was Essex soil, and that made me feel extremely proud. It was something I wanted to celebrate and it also got me wondering what happened to those who chose to live where the ship had docked? Hence the story of Phyllis and her Uncle. It took about a year and a half to write. It took a lot of research, I also worked with an incredible Historian called Steve Martin to try and discover what life for Phyllis coming over from Essex Jamaica to Essex England would have been like."

AN OLIVIER AWARD-WINNING COMEDY



A Queen's Theatre Hornchurch production

Bedroom Farce A Comedy

By Alan Ayckbourn

You mean to tell me while I'm — giving you my all — you're lying there thinking about floorboards?

Set over the course of one evening, through a series of misunderstandings and dysfunction, we witness four married couples play out their day-to-day relationships across three very busy bedrooms.

In a world where we view relationships through reality TV, dating apps and magazine shows, Alan Ayckbourn's 1977, Olivier Award-winning Comedy, asks the question, what happens when the honeymoon period is over? What really happens behind closed bedroom doors?

Alex Thorpe (*The Comedy of Errors, RSC*) directs his inaugural production as QTH's Co-Creative Director.

Free Director's Talk on Mon 2 Sep | 6.30pm

Writer Alan Ayckbourn
Director Alex Thorpe
Designer Alys Whitehead
Fight Director Lisa Connell
Production Manager Daniel Steward
Company Stage Manager Becky Brown
Deputy Stage Manager Amy Bending
Casting Director Hannah Miller CDG
Producer Francesca Clark

Dates: 29 Aug - 21 Sep 2024

BSL interpreted: Wed 18 Sep | 7.30pm

Live Audio Description: Sat 21 Sep | 2.30pm

Tickets:

Previews - £12.50* - £19.50* Mon - Thu and Matinees - £19* - £27* Fri & Sat - £21.50* - £29* Under 26s | £8 all performances

Save money with a Jump the Q Season Ticket!

Three great nights out for less than the price of a West End seat. See Bedroom Farce, The Turn of the Screw and Handbagged from just E51**. Visit queens-theatre.co.uk/jump-the-q Offer must end 21 Sep 2024

*+70p QNext fee

**+£2.10 QNext fee



A PSYCHOLOGICAL MYSTERY



A Queen's Theatre Hornchurch production

Henry James' The Turn of the Screw

Adapted by Rebecca Lenkiewicz

'You believe me, don't you?'

Bly, Essex. Angelic 9 year-old Flora and precocious 12 year-old Miles are the picture of innocence, rescuing injured birds and playing make-believe by the shady lake. But, as a new governess arrives at the manor to take care of them, disturbing secrets emerge from beneath the undulating waters. Questioning the truth behind the children's stories, the governess finds it increasingly hard to tell reality from her nightmares – until she is forced to take action.

The inspiration for the West End classic, The Woman in Black and Netflix's The Haunting of Bly Manor, Henry James' classic ghost story, chillingly reimagined by playwright Rebecca Lenkiewicz (Her Naked Skin), is an enthralling mix of Halloween thriller and psychological mystery.

Free Director's Talk on Mon 7 Oct | 6.30pm

Writer Henry James

Adapted by Rebecca Lenkiewicz Director Anna Marsland Designer Stella Backman Production Manager Daniel Steward Company Stage Manager Jason Benterman Deputy Stage Manager Bernice Rayner Assistant Stage Manager Emily Bardwell Casting Director Chloe Blake Producer Anita Singh-Creed

Dates: 3 - 26 Oct 2024

BSL interpreted: Wed 23 Oct | 7.30pm

Audio Description: Available at all performances after Tue 8 Oct

Previews - £12.50* - £19.50* Mon - Thu and Matinees - £19* - £27* Fri & Sat - £21.50* - £29* Under 26s | £8 all performances

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*+70p QNext fee **+£2.10 QNext fee



A WITTY POLITICAL COMEDY



A Theatre Nation Partnerships production, produced by Queen's Theatre Hornchurch

Handbagged

By Moira Buffini

11 years of weekly, behind-closed-doors meetings, where the destiny of a nation is shaped.

Moira Buffini's clever, funny and charming political comedy unlocks the palace door, imagining the untold conversations of two of history's most powerful women, Margaret Thatcher and Queen Elizabeth II.

Ronald Reagan, Denis Thatcher and an ensemble of familiar faces add to the biting satire and sharp humour as the gloves come off and personalities clash.

25 years later, with both women now gone, their shadows still loom large, as this Queen's Theatre Hornchurch and Theatre Nation Partnerships production explores the legacy of this divisive premiership, leaving audiences to question what they truly know about those who decide our nation's destiny.

Free Director's Talk on Mon 10 Feb | 6.30pm

Writer Moira Buffini Director Alex Thorpe Producer Francesca Clark

Dates: 6 - 22 Feb 2025

BSL interpreted: Wed 19 Sep | 7.30pm

Audio Described: Available at all performances after Wed 12 Feb

Tickets:

Previews - £12.50* - £19.50* Mon - Thu and Matinees - £19* - £27* Fri & Sat - £21.50* - £29* Under 26s | £8 all performances

Save money with a Jump the Q Season Ticket!

Three great nights out for less than the price of a West End seat. See *Bedroom* Farce, The Turn of the Screw and Handbagged from just £51**. Visit queens-theatre.co.uk/jump-the-q

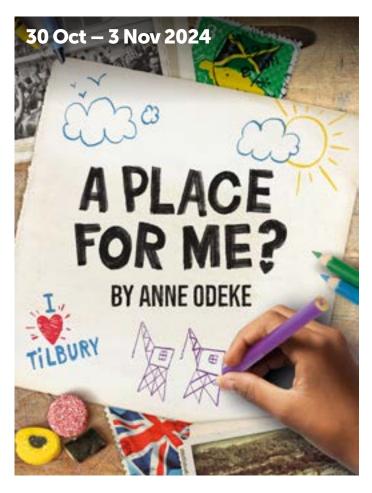
Offer must end 21 Sep 2024

*+70p QNext fee **+£2.10 QNext fee





FAMILY SHOWS



A Queen's Theatre Hornchurch and Havering Changing co-production

A Place For Me?

By Anne Odeke

It's 1950. Did you know that there is an Essex in Jamaica? (Yes, really!) and...did you know that 10 year old, Jamaican native Phyllis loves nothing more than Essex? It's her favourite thing in the entire world!

So imagine how Phyllis feels when she discovers that her Uncle Edmund (her second most favourite thing in the world) boarded a ship called HMT Empire Windrush in 1948 and now lives in a place called Essex in England! (What are the chances?!) And so Phyllis, along with her best friend Mony (he's a mongoose - FYI) jump aboard a ship to discover the sights, sounds, and tastes of glorious Tilbury.

A Place for Me? is a family play that tells the story of the Windrush community through the eyes of a child. It's a tribute to all that the community brought and continues to bring to Essex. This production will tour community venues in Harold Hill, Orchard Village, Rainham, and Romford with Havering Changing after closing at QTH.

£12* | £10* conc. | Under 26s £8

Free Director's Talk on Thu 31 Oct | 6pm

*+70p QNext fee

Writer Anne Odeke

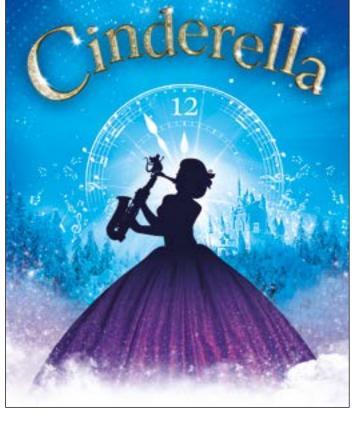
Dates: 30 Oct - 3 Nov 2024

BSL interpreted: 2 Nov | 7pm

Touch Tour: Sat 2 Nov | 1pm

Audio Described performance: Sat 2 Nov

| 2:30pm



21 Nov 2024 - 4 Jan 2025

A Queen's Theatre Pantomime

Cinderella

Written by Andrew Pollard Original music and lyrics by Tom Self

You shall go to the ball, as the classic panto family favourite Cinderella makes a grand entrance!

Cinderella dreams of a glamorous life far removed from the everyday grind of primping and preening her vain stepsisters, and an invitation to the Prince's royal ball is just the ticket! But the Wicked Stepmother has other plans for Cinders, confiscating her ticket to the party of the decade... Fear not, for her Fairy Godmother arrives in the nick of time ready to weave her magic and transform Cinderella's fortunes! But can she sashay away from the sensational soirée before the clock strikes midnight and her riches turn back to rags once more ...?

Writer Andrew Pollard Original music & lyrics Tom Self Director Kate Lovell Designer Gemma Compton Musical Director Tom Self Production Manager Carrie Croft Company Stage Manager **Jason Benterman** Deputy Stage Manager **Melody Wright** Assistant Stage Manager Emily Bardwell

Casting Consultant Sarah Hughes Producer Anita Singh-Creed Dates: 21 Nov 2024 - 4 Jan 2025 Access performances available

see website for more details

Tickets:

£13* - £34.50*

Under 18s, Group and School discounts available on select performances - see website for more details

Early Bird Special: Ticket Price Freeze!

Lock in your magical experience without breaking the bank! Enjoy our exclusive
Ticket Price Freeze – secure your seats early to avoid any price changes. Plus, early birds get to choose preferred dates and prime seating.

Don't miss out – book now!

*+70p QNext fee

GUEST SHOWS



Create and Play

Learning Space

Our 'Create and Play' sessions are ideal for ages 4-6 year olds. Each session is themed around a popular children's story and includes a craft activity to take home.

Mon 5 Aug - Under the Sea Tue 6 Aug - Daring Dragons Wed 7 Aug - Alien Adventures



Story Time with Mama GThe Other Stage

Sun 6 Oc

2.30pm

Sat 7 Sep

11am

Britain's Got Talent semi-finalist Mama G will be sharing original stories and songs, and some of the best picture books on the market, in an uplifting story time for the whole family. There'll be dancing and giggles galore as Mama G shares the power of being who you want and loving who you are!

Tickets: £10 £8* conc.



Priscilla Queen of the Disaster

The Other Stage

Priscilla Queen of the Disaster is brutally honest about being a mum. Motherhood isn't just paying a photographer to take a perfect photo of your bundle of joy curled up in a basket. With tears streaming down your face, laugh along with the sometimes savage – experiences that can be motherhood and face up to letting go of what we all thought it would be.

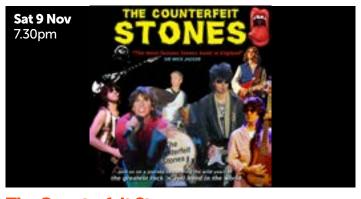


New Dawn Chorus Choir

The Other Stage

New Dawn Chorus is a local Community Choir. We sing to raise money for Saint Francis Hospice, and other local charities. Enjoy a couple of hours listening to songs from stage and screen – a mix of old favourites & new discoveries. You'll hear songs to get your toes a-tapping, bring a smile and lift your spirits. We actively encourage our audiences to join in.





The Counterfeit Stones

Auditorium

It's phoney rock 'n' roll and you'll like it! Their latest fast shuffle promises yet another night of pure, unadulterated Copy-Rock. Packed with big hits, retro fashion, vintage guitars and a huge dollop of Spinal Tap humour, it's Satis-fiction guaranteed. So Come On all you Honky Tonks and Get Yer Doo Dahs Out!

Tickets: £25* £28* £31*

Thu 14 Nov 7.30pm

An Evening of Classical Indian Music and Dance

The Other Stage

1st half performance will begin with Bharatanatyam performance of Sanchari, followed by Tabla solo of Samit. 2nd half performance will begin with Traditional Indian Raga Music in Indian slide guitar by Soumalya along with Samit, followed by a Trio performance. Free pre-show workshop for evening ticket holders

Tickets: £14* £10* conc.

GUEST SHOWS



Christmas Memories

Auditorium

Christmas Memories is a spectacular spirit lifting, heartwarming, afternoon of festive nostalgia, filled with over 60 of your all-time favourite Christmas songs and Carols that will have you singing along from start to finish and bringing back so many wonderful memories of Christmases past.

Tickets: £18* £16* conc



The Magic of Motown

Auditorium

You will be going loco down in Acapulco as we take you back down memory lane with all the Motown classics from artists such as: Marvin Gaye, Diana Ross, Stevie Wonder, The Temptations, The Supremes, The Four Tops, Martha Reeves, The Jackson 5, Smokey Robinson, and more.

Tickets: £32*

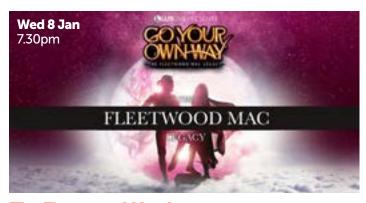


Step Into Christmas

Auditorium

This Christmas feel-good show brings all the magic of the season to life, with all your favourite songs you will know and love! Including – All I Want for Christmas Is You, Last Christmas, Jingle Bell Rock, Stay Another Day, Let it Snow, White Christmas, Do They Know it's Christmas, A Winter's Tale, Merry Xmas Everybody, and more!

Tickets: £29* £25* conc.



The Fleetwood Mac Legacy

Auditorium

Their rock n roll legacy is beautifully performed by a highly talented and acclaimed ensemble of musicians who will take audiences on a powerful journey through their incredible song book. With hits including Dreams, Don't Stop, Everywhere, Rhiannon, Gold Dust Woman, Little Lies, Big Love and more.

Tickets: £26*



Crooners

Auditorium

A rip roaring comedy music show with a splendiferous injection of Big Band swing. Featuring humour, tap dance and some of the most quintessential songs from Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin, Sammy Davis Jr, Matt Monro, Nat King Cole, Bobby Darin. Expect some Come Fly With Me, Fly Me to the Moon, Mack the Knife and more...

Tickets: £28* £23* conc.

DON'T MISS OUT!

This is only a selection of our fantastic shows!

See our full list at queens-theatre.co.uk

*+70p QNext fee



Summer School - Play In A Week

Mon 12 - Fri 16 Aug, 10am-3.30pm £125 per person

Looking for something to keep you busy during the summer holidays? Join us for a fun week of drama, games and acting where you will create your own 'Play in a Week' to perform to family and friends. Perfect for ages 7 - 13 years.

Create and Play

Looking for something to keep the little ones occupied during half term? Why not leave them with us for two jam-packed hours of creative fun involving drama games, storytelling and craft activities?

Our 'Create and Play' sessions are ideal for ages 4 – 6 year olds. £10 per session. Each session is themed around a popular children's story and includes a craft activity to take home.

Mon 5 Aug - Under the Sea | 10am - 12pm Tue 6 Aug - Daring Dragons | 10am - 12pm Wed 7 Aug - Alien Adventures | 10am - 12pm

UDC - Dementia Choir

Are you living with Dementia? Do you care for somebody living with Dementia? Do you both enjoy music and singing? Upminster Dementia Choir meets every other Thursday in the Learning Space, 10am - 11.30am, with tea and coffee provided. Only £2 per person.

Email upminsterdementiachoir@qmail.com or call Gillian on **01708 641317** for more information.

Memory Café

Did you know we host a memory café here at the theatre every other Thursday? If you, or someone you know is living with Dementia, or is a carer to someone who is, why not drop by for a slice of cake? Supported by Charles S French Charitable Trust, the café is a relaxed, informal and free drop-in, providing support for people with Dementia and their carers. There's no need to book, just turn up. Our next two cafes are 18 Jul and 1 Aug, both 10.30am - 12 noon, in the Foyer.

Our vibrant Communities programme offers opportunities for all ages all year round both at the theatre and across the community, enabling people to express themselves and their stories through the arts. Read on for a taste of what we're currently up to...

Baby Sensory

We host 8 very popular Baby Sensory sessions every week on Tuesday and Friday mornings. These award-winning development classes are designed for babies and their parents. Explore stimulation techniques, sensory experiences to encourage learning, and activities for language development that can be easily repeated at home.

To book email brentwood@babysensory.co.uk or call Shelley on **07930 877009**.

Music Bugs

Join us on Monday, Wednesday, or Thursday for awardwinning infant development sessions where parents are welcome to join. Join us for noisy nursery rhyme fun with percussion, puppets, hobby horses, floaty scarves, pom-poms, parachutes, bubble machines and lots more fun!

To book email **romford@musicbugs.co.uk** or call Sarah on 07517 199869.

Contact Us

We'd love to hear from you! For more information on any of our Communities activities please contact us by calling 01708 462373, emailing communities@queens-theatre. co.uk, or visiting queens-theatre.co.uk

Communities is supported by





Spotlight on...

A Day in the Life of the Production Department

In the labyrinthine corridors and bustling workshops of Queen's Theatre Hornchurch, a team of resolute individuals toil tirelessly to craft the enchanting world of theatre.

While the spotlight dazzles the actors gracing the stage, there lurks a lesser-known team of people working tirelessly behind the curtains. In fact, if you know we are there, we are doing it wrong! Contrary to myth, the production department at Queen's Theatre Hornchurch does not wait for nightfall. No, their day begins much, much earlier!

First in is the Head of Production Workshop, whose domain encompasses the realm of sets and scenery. Alongside them is the Head of Wardrobe, an expert in fabrics and fashion, ensuring each costume is a masterpiece. Despite the set staying intact for weeks, the work is far from static. The workshop checks the set every morning for safety and to ensure the aesthetic aligns with the designer's vision. Meanwhile, the Head of Wardrobe embarks on a laundry odyssey, ensuring each costume is as fresh as a daisy for its next appearance on stage. And yes, even the jockstraps get a thorough wash

– we like to keep things, well, uplifting around here! The workshop and wardrobe departments then dive into a whirlwind of constructing, painting, sewing, and sourcing items for the next show in the season.

Following suit are the Stage Management team, armed with clipboards and lists, ready to orchestrate rehearsals. Among them, the Company Stage Manager (CSM) reigns supreme, an expert in organisation whose multitasking skills rival those of a circus juggler. The Deputy Stage Manager (DSM), armed with a script thicker than a phone book, ensures every "thou" and "thee" is in its rightful place, while the ASM (Assistant Stage Manager) is the master of all things prop-related, ensuring that every teacup and treasure chest is ready for its moment in the limelight. It is a delicate dance of coordination and creativity, with just a sprinkle of chaos to keep things interesting.

Next we have the technical team, fuelled by caffeine and a dash of electrical wizardry. Led by the Head of Technical and Production, they navigate the maze of lights, sound, and stage mechanics. Their work doesn't stop with the in-house productions. Each day brings a new adventure, from transforming the stage for dance schools' recitals to setting the scene for tribute acts channelling musical legends. And when it's time for large-scale tours to roll into town, they pull out all the stops, transforming the theatre into a dynamic playground for performers and audiences alike.

As rehearsals wind down and office workers bid adieu, the production team springs into action again for the evening's performance. Stage Managers inspect props like detectives on a case, wardrobe wranglers ensure every costume is in its rightful place, and technicians tweak lights and sound with the precision of a surgeon. And then, at 7.30pm sharp, the curtains rise - it is showtime!

From dawn's first light to the final curtain call, the production department at Queen's Theatre Hornchurch is the heartbeat of every show. Their dedication and passion support the cast in infusing each performance with magic, ensuring every audience member leaves with a smile. So, the next time you are swept away by the drama on stage, take a moment to appreciate the unsung heroes behind the scenes, weaving dreams into reality with every stitch, paint drop and spotlight.

Gemma Compton, Head of Production Workshop

Visiting Us



How To Book

Tickets can be purchased 24 hours a day, 7 days a week through **queens-theatre.co.uk**. You can also purchase tickets from the Box Office in person or by phone on **01708 443333**.

Payments can be made by Debit and Credit Cards or by Society of London Theatre Tokens. Please note that **we are cash free**.

Concessions are available for those aged over 60 and under 26, customers with access requirements or on income support (for select shows). Companion tickets are also available. We also offer group discounts and school discounts (for select shows).

Please visit **queens-theatre.co.uk/your-theatre/ planning-your-visit** for further details.



Support Us

Support our work through regular donations helping us to invest in our community, nurture artistic talent and make theatre accessible by becoming a **Queen's Angel**. Queen's Angels donate from £60 annually or £5 a month and receive benefits that include a monthly newsletter and priority booking.

You can also help to support us and raise vital funds by becoming a member of the **Queen's Theatre Club**. Queen's Theatre Club members pay an annual fee of £20 and receive benefits that include a monthly newsletter and coffee mornings.

For a full list of benefits, or other ways to support us please visit: **queens-theatre.co.uk/support-us**



Access

Access tickets if you identify as disabled and Companion tickets for additional support during your visit are available. (Some exceptions or limitations may apply).

- The main auditorium entrance is on ground level. There are four wheelchair spaces and 20 seats with level access.
- Accessible toilets & baby changing facilities on the ground level and a lift down to the Learning Space and toilets.
- Audio Described performances and Touch Tours to assist visually impaired customers.
- British Sign Language Interpreted to assist D/deaf customers.
- Hearing system to assist hard-of-hearing customers.
- Relaxed Performances and Dementia Friendly Performances.



QCafé & QBar

QCafé: Fancy a bite to eat? Choose from a selection of light lunches, snacks, sweet treats, hot and cold drinks.

QBar: Relax in our Bar area and treat yourself to a pre-show or interval drink. You'll find a great selection of drinks, including flavoured gins, and local wines and beers.

For more information and our opening times, please visit **queens-theatre.co.uk/about-us/food_drink**

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