



## **HOOF!** **WHAT TO EXPECT...**

We know live performance can be overwhelming for some children, particularly if they don't like loud noises or unexpected events. This handout details some of the key moments during our performance of **HOOF!** Please share this information with your child if it will help them to enjoy the show.

We encourage your child to make noise during the performance and join in with the dancing if they would like to. If your child is upset or finding the experience overwhelming, you are welcome to move away from the performance area, watch from a distance or come back when you are ready.

- **HOOF!** is 25-minute performance about three deer who find an abandoned theatre
- The show is performed by three female dancers who take on the role of the deer. They are dressed as deer, but there are no masks or costume heads used.
- There is no language used during the piece apart from the word 'hoof.'
- The travelling theatre is lit by brightly coloured lights around the edge of the set. These lights flash, but they do not strobe.
- The show begins with the appearance of the deer. They appear from unexpected places, making tapping sounds as they go. The tapping sounds come from sticks (which they use as their front legs) and also from the tap shoes they are wearing. They make their way from their hiding places to the stage. This can be quite close to the audience.
- Throughout performance there is a lot of music used which the deer dance to. The dancing produces noise due to the tap shoes they are wearing.
- Early on in the performance, the deer tidy up and clean the stage they have found. As part of this routine, they open a hatch in the stage floor and bubbles start to appear through it and float away.
- During the performance, the deer find a balloon. At the end of a short dance with the balloon, it unexpectedly pops when it touches the ceiling.
- There is a moment in the show where the deer perform a short magic show. One of the deer makes a rabbit appear in a hat. There is a short moment of jeopardy when another deer produces a small child's saw. The rabbit quickly escapes!

**We hope you enjoy the show!**