NORTHERN STAGE

SPRING 2022

THIS IS NOW

It’s a messy world out there, so take time and refuge with us

SEASON PASS

Buy your season pass today to make big savings on our great spring shows.

MEMBERS

Book 3 shows and save 25%

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1. Choose a Season Pass and add the 3 shows to your basket online or call our Box Office team.
2. Enjoy your savings!\* Northern Stage members save an extra 5% (lucky you!).
3. Season Pass tickets must be booked in one transaction. Be sure to book early for the best seats at the best prices. We can exchange your tickets for another date of the same show if your diary fills up between now and showtime.

\*Offer subject to availability and applies to full price tickets, excluding the lowest price band. All Season Pass tickets must be booked in one transaction. Exchanges can be made up to 48 hours before performances

NORTHERN STAGE PRODUCTIONS SEASON PASS

THE INVISIBLE MAN 1-19 Feb

RED ELLEN 25 Mar-9 Apr

THE WHITE CARD 29 Apr-14 May

DANCE SEASON PASS

BALLETBOYZ: DELUXE 11-12 Mar

40 YEARS OF PHOENIX DANCE 20 May

∞ [INFINITE] 24-25 Jun

FAMILY SEASON PASS

PINOCCHIO 25 Feb

ZOG AND THE FLYING DOCTORS 3-6 Mar

OI FROG & FRIENDS 21-24 Apr

THIS IS NOW

A word from our Artistic Director, Natalie Ibu

Dear audiences, welcome to 2022 and our new season THIS IS NOW.

THIS IS NOW is a year-long festival of shows and events asking important questions about the issues of today and the things that matter to you. In 2022 we want Northern Stage to be a place for reflection and conversation. We’re asking questions about who we are and who we want to be.

In February, our new adaptation of *The Invisible Man* takes an iconic thriller to explore who remains unseen the UK today.

*HERE,* a co-production with local company Curious Monkey, is set against the backdrop of the Byker estate in the east end of Newcastle and is a powerful new play about finding sanctuary in the unlikeliest of places.

In the world premiere of Caroline Bird’s new play *Red Ellen* we discover more about the revolutionary Labour MP Ellen Wilkinson who led the Jarrow Crusade, served in Churchill’s cabinet and campaigned unstoppably for a better world.

I will direct the UK premiere of *The White Card*, by New York Times bestselling writer Claudia Rankine. A gripping play that reveals uncomfortable truths about white privilege when a wealthy white American couple invite a talented African American artist to dinner. Northern Stage is a place to debate ideas, so I’m delighted that we can introduce an internationally renowned writer to the North East.

Plus, a carefully selected programme of dance, drama, comedy and absolutely loads of family shows to welcome our youngest audiences.

I invite you to be an ally, be in the room with us and join the conversation. We’ll be here to celebrate with you, laugh with you and cry with you. It’s a messy world out there so take time and take refuge with us.

Natalie x

P.S. Don’t worry, we’re still providing digital access to all our in-house produced shows via *Northern Stage at Home* and we can’t wait to see you - either in person or online!

**ALL ABOARD NORTHERN STAGE MEMBERSHIP**

**PRIORITY BOOKING AND SAVINGS**

Sign up as a Northern Stage Member today

Become a member today to take advantage of priority booking and save 20% on your tickets. Plus, you can enjoy discount at the café bar and invitations to exclusive Season Launch events.

Individual membership: £30

Joint membership: £40

SIGN UP NOW AT: northernstage.co.uk/membership or call our Box Office on 0191 230 5151

**SUPPORTERS**

**GET CLOSER TO NORTHERN STAGE BY BECOMING A SUPPORTER**

Your support directly contributes to the work you see on stage and in our community. Supporters can enjoy all the benefits of membership plus exclusive supporter events include: talks, presentations and backstage tours, visits to rehearsals and invitations to guest night shows.

Become a Supporter today from just £75 a year.

SIGN UP NOW AT: northernstage.co.uk/membership or call our Box Office on 0191 230 5151

TUE 1-SAT 19 FEB

A Northern Stage Production

THE INVISIBLE MAN

Adapted by Philip Correia

Directed by Anna Girvan

STAGE 3

Griffin is a frustrated young man from the North East, with a troubled past and violent thoughts inside his head. He claims he has discovered the power of invisibility. But Griffin’s ‘powers’ have led to him being placed into government care. After all, a normal, ill-educated kid can’t just invent invisibility. If Dr. Sara Kemp, a promising young therapist, can’t convince him to tell the truth, he threatens to embark upon a fatal ‘reign of terror’.

Following the sell-out success of *The War of the Worlds* and *The Hound of the Baskervilles,* Northern Stage presents an electrifying new production adapted from H.G. Wells’ science fiction classic, featuring a new take on one of the most iconic characters in horror fiction.

Exploring themes of exploitation, identity and establishment power and corruption, The Invisible Man questions who is really invisible in Britain 2022?

Feb

Tue 1 7.30pm (Preview)

Wed 2 2.30pm (Preview)

Thu 3 7pm

Fri 4 7.30pm

Sat 5 2.30pm 7.30pm

Tue 8 7.30pm

Wed 9 2.30pm 7.30pm

Thu 10 7.30pm (Audio described)

Fri 11 7.30pm (Captioned)

Sat 12 2.30pm 7.30pm

Tue 15 7.30pm (Post-show discussion)

Wed16 2.30pm (Relaxed); 6pm (Straight from work)

Thu 17 7.30pm (British sign language)

Fri 18 7.30pm

Sat 19 2.30pm (British sign language); 7.30pm

Running Time: 60mins

Age Recommendation: 12+

Tickets: From £10 limited availability so book in advance!

Members save 20%

Season Pass

THU 10-FRI 11 FEB

Apphia Campbell & Meredith Yarbrough

WOKE

STAGE 2

From the creator of the hit show *Black is the Color of My Voice* comes a new story about the 20th Century African American experience.

Against a powerful soundtrack of original music and traditional gospel and blues two women, 42 years apart, become involved in the struggle for civil rights.

One, a notorious Black Panther - Assata Shakur; the other, Ambrosia - a present-day university student enrolling as the 2014 Ferguson riots begin. Both challenge the American justice system, become criminalized through political activism, and ultimately are faced with the same choice: stay and fight, or flee?

*Woke* won the coveted Scotsman Fringe First Award for its premiere season, and was highly commended by the judges of the Amnesty Freedom of Expression Award.

Performance times: 7pm

Running Time: 1hr 50mins (including interval)

Age Recommendation: 10+

Tickets: From £10 limited availability so book in advance!

Members save 20%

SUN 13 FEB

Tilted in association with Somethin’ Else

SOMETHING RHYMES WITH PURPLE LIVE

STAGE 1

Based on the Gold Award-winning podcast for Best Entertainment at the British Podcast Awards, Gyles Brandreth and Susie Dent bring their infectious love of words to the stage with *Something Rhymes with Purple LIVE*.

Expect theatrical antics from the show’s affable hosts as they bring to the stage all the trademark repartee and wordplay of the podcast, segments including Susie’s *Trio*, Gyles’ poetry, the bizarre origins of sayings, lots of myth busting and a deep dive into the way that theatre has shaped our language and expressions.

Each show will focus on a different theme within the world of words and will be recorded to make up special episodes of the podcast so that no two shows will be the same.

Uncover the hidden origins of language, understand how and why we use the words we use, enhance your vocabulary, and test your knowledge with two of the wittiest and finest wordsmiths.

Performance time: 2pm

Running Time: 1hr 50mins (including interval)

Age Recommendation: 14+

Tickets: From £10 limited availability so book in advance!

Members save 20%

FRI 18-SAT 19 FEB

An ARC Stockton production

YOU HEARD ME

STAGE 2

*You Heard Me* is for anyone who has been underestimated.

Anyone who has been told to shut up.

Anyone who has been afraid to walk home.

*You Heard Me* is a true story.

You Heard Me is a celebration of a single moment of noise that freed Luca from an attack. Made her understand what it means to take up space. To heal. To be part of something much bigger than yourself.

This is a celebration of refusing to be silent and the power to re-make, re-mould and disrupt.

Co-commissioned by Northern Stage, the Albany, Battersea Arts Centre, Cambridge Junction and Theatre in the Mill.

Made by Luca Rutherford, with Maria Crocker, Melanie Wilson, Tanuja Amarasuriya, Bethany Wells, Stephanie McMann, Jenni Jackson and Bethany Gupwell.

Performance times: 7pm

Running Time: 1hr 10mins

Age Recommendation: 14+ (contains references to sexual violence)

Tickets: From £10 limited availability so book in advance!

Members save 20%

A Northern Stage Associate Artist Alumnus

FRI 25 FEB

Theatre Space North East

GIRL IN THE MACHINE

STAGE 3

Acclaimed as resembling *‘an episode of dystopian TV series Black Mirror but with a poetic heart worthy of Ray Bradbury at his warmest’* The Scottish Herald, award-winning writer Stef Smith’s ground-breaking play *Girl in the Machine* explores our present-day unease about digital intrusiveness in this fast-paced, gripping, two-hander.

Polly and Owen’s relationship can’t get much better, but when Black Box enters their lives promising to break the daily grind, cracks begin to show.

As the line between physical and digital rapidly dissipates, and society fractures as the population begins to rebel, Polly and Owen are forced to question whether their definitions of reality and freedom are the same.

Performance time: 7.30pm

Running Time: 1hr 15mins

Age Recommendation: 13+ (contains instances and discussion of self harm)

Tickets: From £10 limited availability so book in advance!

FRI 4-SAT 12 MAR

A Northern Stage, Curious Monkey and Newcastle University co-production

HERE

STAGE 2

Four seasons, four people, from four corners of the world collide. The strange city folds and unfolds around them, a story that opens up like a book to get lost in.

A powerful new play by Lindsay Rodden, *HERE* is about finding sanctuary in the unlikeliest of places. About dancing on rooftops, blossom in winter, and re-writing the story of the city as your own. About two best friends with a library card, and the power they summon through friendship and books to make something magical and to say we were *HERE*.

*HERE* is part of The Arriving Project – Curious Monkey’s ongoing work with people seeking sanctuary in the UK, who have come from all over the world.

MAR

Fri 4 7pm (Preview)

Sat 5 2pm (Preview, Post-show discussion, British sign language); 7pm (Preview)

Tue 8 7pm

Wed 9 7pm

Thu 10 2pm (Post-show discussion) ; 7pm

Fri 11 7pm

Sat 12 7pm

All performances are relaxed and captioned

Running Time: 2hrs (including interval)

Age Recommendation: 12+ (contains swearing)

Tickets: From £10 limited availability so book in advance!

There will be post-show discussions on the making of the show (Sat 5, 2pm), and a presentation of Newcastle University research: Refugee Youth in Public Space (Thu 10, 7pm).

Members save 20%

A Northern Stage Associate Artist Alumnus

THU 3 MAR

RADIKAL WORDS: A NIGHT OF PERFORMANCE POETRY WITH JEFF PRICE & KATE FOX

STAGE 3

A night of poetry and performance from Kate Fox, a regular on the BBC series The Verb and the Great Northern Slam’s Jeff Price.

Performance time: 7.30pm

Running Time: TBC

Age Recommendation: 16+

Tickets: From £10 limited availability so book in advance!

Members save 20%

MON 7 MAR

Hearing the Voice

DIALOGUES FROM BABEL - REHEARSED READING

STAGE 3

A rehearsed reading of a new play about how we live with the voices in our heads.

*'I think the sounds are coming from me*

*From my heart*

*My heart’s a radio'*

Drawn from interviews with voice hearers and novelists, *Dialogues from Babel* weaves together conversations that unfold to illuminate the experience of hearing a voice when there is no one speaking. The play is the result of a unique collaboration between Edinburgh International Book Festival and Hearing the Voice - an interdisciplinary study of voice-hearing based at Durham University.

Join us after the performance for a discussion about the play.

Text by Philip Howard and direction by Mary Robson

Performance time: 7pm

Running Time: 1hr 30mins

Age Recommendation: 16+

Tickets: from £5 limited availability so book in advance!

Members save 20%

THU 10-FRI 11 MAR

BalletBoyz co-produced by Sadler’s Wells

BALLETBOYZ: DELUXE

STAGE 1

Bold, boisterous and beautiful: BalletBoyz are back.

Meet the eight extraordinary young dancers who feature in this explosion of mesmeric dance, fused with the witty and distinctive BalletBoyz trademark use of film and behind the scenes content.

Winners of numerous awards across the world, BalletBoyz are one of the most cheekily original and innovative forces in dance, thrilling audiences and critics with their unique style, blending achingly beautiful dance both exhilarating and graceful, with stunning music and film.

*Deluxe* features work by some of the world’s most exciting artists, including choreographer Xie Xin, composer Jiang Shaofeng, Punchdrunk’s Maxine Doyle and jazz musician and composer Cassie Kinoshi of the Mercury-nominated SEED Ensemble.

Performance time: 7.30pm

Running Time: 1hr 25mins (including interval)

Age Recommendation: TBC

Tickets: From £10 limited availability so book in advance!

Members save 20%

Season Pass

FRI 18 MAR

Boundless Theatre

HOW TO SAVE THE PLANET WHEN YOU'RE A YOUNG CARER AND BROKE

STAGE 2

Lavisha has 99 problems, but climate change ain’t one.

There’s never enough time when you’re having to choose between steak dinners and vegan food bank vouchers, staying home for evening face mask rituals and wanting to save the world before it’s too late.

So, what do you do when you can’t afford solar panels on your house and can’t skip school to attend a protest?

Lavisha reckons posh people are going to save the planet but new mate Avril makes her wonder if she could join the fight.

Expect a refreshingly loud solo show with loads of fun, music, raw emotions and the rush of taking climate-positive actions into your own hands.

Performance time: 7.30pm

Running Time: 1hr 15mins

Age Recommendation: 13+

Tickets: From £10 limited availability so book in advance!

Members save 20%

TUE 22-WED 23 MAR

A Frozen Light production

2065

STAGE 2

The year is 2065; the people are stifled under an oppressive regime. We follow a group of rebels who live outside the system and believe things can change for the better. How can they remind people of a time when things were different? When they hoped not only to survive but to thrive? Can they bring music back to a city where it is needed more than ever?

*2065* is a futuristic sensory extravaganza for audiences with profound and multiple learning disabilities.

*‘The way the show is so carefully tailored to the audience’s needs provides a vital reminder that theatre can accommodate everyone.’* \*\*\*\* The Stage

Performance time: 11am & 1.30pm

All performances are relaxed

Running Time: 60mins

Age Recommendation: 13+ (but nothing inappropriate for younger audiences)

Tickets: £12.50 (carers go free)

FRI 25-SAT 26 MAR

Alex Ferguson Productions in association with Liverpool Everyman Playhouse

Y'MAM

STAGE 2

In this electric, pulsating autobiographical solo-show, Majid (*Hollyoaks, War Horse*) traces the origin of his own personal struggles with anger. Probing the unspoken anxieties, desires and fantasies of toxic masculinity, Majid invites us to join him on his journey to a new modern ‘manhood’.

Combining spoken word, music and brutally honest accounts of his past; *Y’MAM* is an inspiring, uplifting story about love, appreciation and learning to let things go.

*‘Superb performance’* \*\*\*\* Guardian

*‘A gripping, frank and deeply personal story of self realisation.’*

\*\*\*\* The Stage

Performance times: 7.30pm

Running Time: 1hr 20mins

Age Recommendation: 14+ (Contains strong language and graphic descriptions of violence)

Tickets: From £10 limited availability so book in advance!

Members save 20%

FRI 25 MAR-SAT 9 APR

A Northern Stage, Nottingham Playhouse & Royal Lyceum Edinburgh co-production

RED ELLEN

STAGE 1

Written by Caroline Bird

Directed by Wils Wilson

This remarkable new play from Caroline Bird tells the inspiring and epic story of Ellen Wilkinson, Labour MP, who was forever on the right side of history, forever on the wrong side of life.

Caught between revolutionary and parliamentary politics, Ellen fights with an unstoppable, reckless energy for a better world. Running (quite literally in some cases) into the likes of Albert Einstein and Ernest Hemingway, she battles to save Jewish refugees in Nazi Germany; campaigns for Britain to aid the fight against Franco’s Fascists in Spain; and leads 200 workers in the Jarrow Crusade, marching from Newcastle through Nottingham and the Midlands, all the way to London delivering a petition to reduce unemployment and poverty.

She serves as a vital member of Churchill's cabinet, and has affairs with communist spies and government ministers. But, despite all of this, she still finds herself - somehow - on the outside looking in. This is the story of Ellen Wilkinson.

There is more than one way to kill a revolutionary…

MAR

Fri 25 7pm (Preview)

Sat 26 7pm (Preview)

Mon 28 7pm (Preview)

Tue 29 7pm (Preview)

Wed 30 2pm (Preview); 7pm

Thu 31 7pm

APR

Fri 1 7pm (British sign language)

Sat 2 2pm; 7pm (captioned)

Tue 5 7pm

Wed 6 2pm (relaxed); 7pm

Thu 7 7pm (audio described)

Fri 8 7pm

Sat 9 2pm (relaxed); 7pm

Running Time: TBC

Age Recommendation: TBC

Tickets: From £10 limited availability so book in advance!

Members save 20%

Season Pass

MON 28 MAR

GREAT NORTHERN SLAM

STAGE 2

*The Great Northern Slam* is back for one last very special evening.

They wanted to go out on a high so they’ve brought back all the past winners to decide who is the Champion of Champions. All the slammers are veterans of the Slam Poetry scene with more trophies between them than City and United put together. Hosted by Jeff Price and the winner voted on by the audience, it will be an epic night.

Slam Poetry is spoken word for the 21st Century. Sixteen of the best slam poets in the North have three minutes each to wow the audience with words and delivery. In each round the audience votes to eliminate poets until only two are left to battle it out for the prize, pride and the glory of becoming Great Northern Slam Champion.

It’s poetry but not as we know it.

Performance time: 7.45pm

Running Time: TBC

Age Recommendation: 16+

Tickets: From £10 limited availability so book in advance!

Members save 20%

FRI 1-SAT 2 APR 14

Actors Touring Company and Orange Tree Theatre in association with Theatre Royal Plymouth

RICE

STAGE 2

Nisha is a young hotshot executive working for Golden Fields, Australia’s largest producer of rice. Ambitious and headstrong, she’s determined to become the first female Indian CEO in Australia. She’s close to sealing a contract with the Indian government, which would see her company take over India’s national rice distribution system. A secret deal worth billions.

Yvette, an older Chinese migrant, is the cleaner who sees to Nisha’s desk. Yvette has her own entrepreneurial ambitions, but her daughter faces court after participating in a protest against the unethical practices of a national supermarket chain.

The two form a powerful – if unlikely – bond as they navigate the complexities of their lives and the world at large.

*Rice* explores the relationships formed by migrants of different generations with their new home - and with each other. It’s a play about migration, ambition, family and the unlikely friendship between a hotshot executive and the office cleaner.

*‘A play that feels both ambitous and necessary.’* The Stage

Performance times: 2.30pm (Sat 2); 7.30pm

Running Time: 1hr 35mins (no interval)

Age Recommendation: 14+ Tickets: From £10 limited availability so book in advance!

Members save 20%

TUE 5-SAT 9 APR

A Paines Plough and Theatre Royal Plymouth production in association with University of Plymouth

SORRY, YOU'RE NOT A WINNER

By Samuel Bailey

STAGE 2

Liam and Fletch grew up together. Born on the same street. Best mates since primary. Inseparable. The only difference was while Fletch was getting suspended from school, Liam was studying. And now he’s going to Oxford. But with Liam gone, who’s going to keep Fletch out of trouble?

A striking new play from Samuel Bailey, whose debut play *Shook* won him the 2019 Papatango Prize and Times Breakthrough Award in 2021, *Sorry, You’re Not A Winner* is a play about aspiration, social mobility and getting caught between class. It asks: if ‘making it’ means leaving everything you know and everyone you love behind – what’s the point?

Performance times: 7.30pm; 2.30pm (Sat 9)

Running Time: 80mins (approx)

Age Recommendation: 14+ (Contains strong language, references to drug use, brief mentions of suicide and violence, brief use of homophobic and classist language)

Tickets: From £10 limited availability so book in advance!

Members save 20%

THU 19-SAT 21 MAY

A Hannah Walker Production

GAMBLE

STAGE 3

*Gamble* is a glittering, glamourous peek into the spectacular world of online gambling. A bittersweet multimedia show about addiction and its effect on families, friendships and communities.

*Gamble* challenges the stereotypes attached to compulsive gamblers through a personal narrative and is informed by interviews with industry experts, health professionals, people in recovery, and their loved ones.

Hannah used to think gambling was all about the big wins at the village monthly bingo. Then she moved to the BIG, bright city of Newcastle... and had huge nights at the casino. A decade later the gambling industry is all about online and BIGGER than ever!

Nothing will ever be any easier than being able to open your phone, log in online and start gambling, all within the comfort of your own home alongside those you love most. All day. All night. Every second. Right. NOW.

Each performance is followed by a post show discussion with Dr Matthew Gaskell - Clinical Lead & Consultant Psychologist for the NHS Northern Gambling Service.

Performance times: 7pm Each show will be BSL integrated

Running Time: 90mins (including post show discussion)

Age Recommendation: 14+

Tickets: From £10 limited availability so book in advance!

Members save 20%

FRI 29 APR-SAT 14 MAY

A Northern Stage, Leeds Playhouse, Birmingham Rep, Soho Theatre co-production in association with HOME Manchester

THE WHITE CARD

Written by Claudia Rankine

Directed by Natalie Ibu

STAGE 2

The UK and European premiere of Claudia Rankine's first published play, *The White Card* poses the question: can society progress when whiteness remains invisible?

Written in 2017 during an increasingly racially divided America and before the murder of George Floyd and the Black Lives Matter protests rippled across the globe, a wealthy, privileged white couple invite a talented Black artist to dinner. Tensions run high and a heated debate uncovers some uncomfortable truths that can’t be ignored about white privilege, cultural appropriation and representation.

Be an ally, be in the room, be in the conversation. *The White Card* invites us to all to play our part in the debate.

APR

Fri 29 7.30pm (Preview)

Sat 30 7.30pm (Preview)

MAY

Tue 3 7.30pm (Preview)

Wed 4 7.30pm

Thu 5 7.30pm

Fri 6 7.30pm (Captioned)

Sat 7 2.30pm (Relaxed); 7.30pm

Tue 10 7.30pm (Filmed performance)

Wed 11 2.30pm; 7.30pm (Audio described)

Thu 12 7.30pm (Relaxed)

Fri 13 7.30pm (British sign language)

Sat 14 2.30pm (British sign language); 7.30pm

Running Time: 1hr 30mins (no interval) Age Recommendation: 14+ Tickets: From £10 limited availability so book in advance!

Members save 20%

Season Pass

FRI 20 MAY

Phoenix Dance Theatre

40 YEARS OF PHOENIX DANCE

STAGE 1

Born in Leeds in 1981... to inspiring and delighting audiences for four decades all around the world.

Phoenix Dance Theatre are delighted to launch an exciting birthday programme to celebrate their milestone 40th birthday, bringing together a wide range of work from across the company’s illustrious history.

From deeply passionate and political solos to exhilarating ensembles, this thrilling programme demonstrates the emotional intensity and athletic power that has formed the company’s international following and esteemed reputation.

Featuring an eclectic selection of work by internationally acclaimed, award winning choreographers, including former Artistic Directors and collaborators, this celebratory evening of reflection promises to be a rich, unforgettable experience.

Performance time: 7.30pm

Running Time: TBC

Age Recommendation: 11+

Tickets: From £10 limited availability so book in advance!

Members save 20%

Season Pass

THU 9-SAT 11 JUN

BRASH Theatre Company

ANKLES

A BOOK OF SPELLS

STAGE 2

Born from teenage girls' experiences of gendered school uniform policies, *Ankles* is a live Book of Spells to cast away victim-blaming culture. Through a whirlwind of poetry, movement, and a haunting musical score, we ask when will we stop teaching kids that it's girls' responsibility to keep themselves safe from sexual violence?

From the company that brought you the critically acclaimed *Raising Shame*. BRASH is a bold, educational theatre company that strives to make sex education relevant, empowering, and unafraid.

Performance times: 7pm; (Sat 9 Relaxed)

Running Time: 60mins

Age Recommendation: 13+ (contains strong language and nudity/sexual content)

Tickets: From £10 limited availability so book in advance

Members save 20%

NORTH Supported Artist

TUE 21-WED 22 JUN

Melissa Johns

SNATCHED

STAGE 1

In 2018, disabled actor Melissa Johns' iCloud was hacked and explicit photos of her were released online. A young disabled woman with a history of body dysmorphia comes to terms with her body becoming public property.

This humorous and revealing show displays no remorse in championing female sexuality, fighting body shaming and the taboo of sex and disability.

*Snatched* is a fast-paced, uplifting one-woman show accompanied by a live 90s and 00s soundtrack.

Co-devised and directed by Lily Levin Supported by Lowry, Salford and Arts Council England

Performance times: 7.30pm

Running Time: 1hr 10mins (no interval)

Age Recommendation: 14+ (contains references to sexual violence.)

Tickets: From £10 limited availability so book in advance!

Members save 20%

FRI 24-SAT 25 JUN

Humanhood Dance Company

∞ [INFINITE]

STAGE 1

Be guided through a powerful, mystical journey with Humanhood Dance Company’s visionary dance theatre meditation, *∞ [Infinite].*

Julia Robert & Rudi Cole’s first production to bring together their signature choreographic movement and shamanic practice, *∞ [Infinite]* merges magical dance performed on stage by the exceptional company dancers with our internal awareness to highlight the infinite power that flows to and through us.

Co-produced by Mercat de les Flors & DanceXchange Co-commissioned by Birmingham 2022 Festival, The Lowry and Sadler's Wells.

Supported by Arts Council England, the Department of Culture of the Generalitat de Catalunya ICEC, Birmingham Hippodrome, Dance City and Elclimamola

Performance times: 7pm

Post-show discussion: Fri 24 Jun hosted by Dance City

Running Time: 60mins

Age Recommendation: All ages (contains pyrotechnics)

Tickets: From £10 limited availability so book in advance!

Members save 20%

Season Pass

FRI 24-SAT 25 JUN

A Deafinitely Theatre production, commissioned by New Diorama Theatre

EVERYDAY

STAGE 3

*‘We are warriors. We are survivors. If you need our help, let us know.’*

Four women come together to perform a ritual of community and catharsis. Gathering up true stories of deaf women’s experiences of surviving abuse, they form a witches’ coven like no other – with a cauldron of newt’s eyes and butterflies, deep scars and blazing signs.

A visually-rich, playful and pulsatingly urgent world premiere from multi-award-winners Deafinitely Theatre (*4.48 Psychosis, Contractions*), combining British Sign Language and English in the company’s unique bilingual style. Drawing on interviews with women exploring domestic abuse in the deaf community, this is a defiant and empowering new work from nationally-acclaimed director Paula Garfield, marking the company’s 20th anniversary.

Performance times: 7.30pm

Running Time: 80mins

Age Recommendation: 16+ (contains strong language)

Tickets: From £10 limited availability so book in advance!

Members save 20%

SUPPORT US

As a registered charity (charity no. 700055) we rely on your support to help make exciting new theatre, collaborate on creative projects in our communities and nurture the next generation of North East theatre makers.

A donation of any size can make a huge difference.

With your help, we can continue to bring the magic of theatre to our stages and the community for the years to come.

There are a number of ways you can make a donation to Northern Stage today.

•Donate in person or over the phone by calling our Box Office team on 0191 230 5151

•Donate when you buy a ticket by topping up your order with a donation

•Donate via our website www.northernstage.co.uk/donate

LITTLE NORTHERN STAGE

FRI 25 FEB

Northern Ballet

PINOCCHIO

STAGE 1

In a faraway land, a hard-working and lonely carpenter wishes for their puppet Pinocchio to come to life. By the magic of a wishing well their dream comes true!

Pinocchio is playful and mischievous and must prove himself worthy of becoming a real boy. Join Pinocchio on his adventure as he discovers that where there is love and honesty, there is always magic.

An original retelling of the classic children’s story, *Pinocchio* is the perfect opportunity for your little ones to enjoy live ballet, music and theatre.

With sell-out performances and a string of hugely successful CBeebies TV adaptations, Northern Ballet’s productions for children are not to be missed. An original ballet based on *The Adventures of Pinocchio* by Carlo Collodi.

Performance times: 11am, 2pm (Relaxed), 4pm

Running Time: 40mins (no interval)

Age Recommendation: 3+

Tickets: From £10 - limited availability so book in advance

Members save 20%

Season Pass

LITTLE NORTHERN STAGE

THU 3-SUN 6 MAR

Freckle Productions in association with Rose Theatre

ZOG AND THE FLYING DOCTORS

STAGE 1

The roar-some crew are back for a brand new adventure!

Zog, super keen student turned air-ambulance, still lands with a crash-bang-thump. Together with his Flying Doctor crew, Princess Pearl and Sir Gadabout, they tend to a sunburnt mermaid, a unicorn with one too many horns and a lion with the flu.

However, Pearl’s uncle, the King, has other ideas about whether princesses should be doctors, and she’s soon locked up in the castle back in a crown and a silly frilly dress!

With a bit of help from some friends and half a pound of cheese, can Pearl make her uncle better and prove princesses can be doctors too?

MAR

Thu 3 4.30pm

Fri 4 10.30am; 1.30pm

Sat 5 10.30am (Relaxed); 1.30pm; 4.30pm

Sun 6 10.30am; 1.30pm; 4.30pm

Running Time: 60mins (no interval)

Age Recommendation: 3+

Tickets: From £10 limited availability so book in advance!

Members save 20%

Season Pass

LITTLE NORTHERN STAGE

THU 21-SUN 24 APR

A Kenny Wax Family Entertainment Production

OI FROG & FRIENDS

STAGE 1

FROG is looking for a place to sit, but CAT has other ideas and DOG is happy to play along.

Who knew there were so many rhyming rules and what will happen when FROG is in charge?

Join FROG, CAT and DOG in the Olivier Award nominated action-packed stage adaptation of Kes Gray and Jim Field’s bestselling books.

Expect songs, puppets, laughs and more rhymes than you can shake a chime at.

Based on the bestselling books by Kes Gray and Jim Field.

*‘Zany, silly and good natured’* \*\*\*\* The Times

*‘A wild time for fans of rhyme’* The Guardian

APR

Thu 21 1.30pm

Fri 22 10.30am (Relaxed); 1.30pm

Sat 23 10.30am; 1.30pm; 4.30pm

Sun 24 10.30am; 1.30pm

Running Time: 55mins

Age Recommendation: 3+

Tickets: From £10 limited availability so book in advance!

Members save 20%

Season Pass

LITTLE NORTHERN STAGE

SAT 7-SUN 8 MAY

Little Angel Theatre

HANDA'S SURPRISE

STAGE 3

Travel to Kenya and follow in Handa’s footsteps as she journeys to see her best friend Akeyo, in the next village.

Handa is taking seven delicious fruits as a surprise – but seven different animals have seven very different ideas... could you resist the sweet-smelling guava? How about a ripe red mango or tangy purple passion fruit?

A blend of physical performance, puppetry, live music and song combine to create an intimate, magical production with audience participation. Come and share in the magical tangerine surprise!

Based on the original book *Handa's Surprise*, written and illustrated by Eileen Browne, published by Walker Books ltd.

Performance times: 11.30am, 2.30pm, 4pm

Running Time: 40mins (no interval)

Age Recommendation: 2-5 years

Tickets: From £10 limited availability so book in advance!

LITTLE NORTHERN STAGE

SAT 4-SUN 5 JUN

The Gramophones Theatre Company

AIDY THE AWESOME

STAGE 2

Aidy is a normal eight year old girl... or so she thinks!

One day she discovers a family secret that changes everything. Aidy and her Granny embark on an adventure that turns their world upside down. They even begin to question what normal is. After all, who wants to be normal when you can be SUPER!

But can Aidy conquer her anger and defeat the baddy before he makes the super nannas invisible?

*Aidy the Awesome* is a stunning aerial theatre show for all the family to enjoy. Watch the performers fly, zoom and spin through the air!

*‘Fast-moving and feisty – a comic heroine for girls to emulate’* \*\*\*\* The Stage

Performance times: 1.30pm, 3pm (Sat 4); 10am, 11.30am (Sun 5)

Running Time: 50mins

Age Recommendation: 3+

Tickets: From £9 limited availability so book in advance!

Members save 20%

HIRES AT NORTHERN STAGE

Northern Stage proudly welcomes the following performance hires this season

THU 3-SAT 5 FEB

Newcastle High School for Girls

HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL

STAGE 1

The talented pupils of Newcastle High School for Girls return to Northern Stage to present Disney’s smash hit, *High School Musical*, on stage.

Watch the twists and turns of lovable schoolmates - Gabriella, super-smart student and a genius in science class and Troy, super-popular captain of the basketball team, as they balance first love, friendship and not to mention school life. As the story unfolds, delight in lavish dance routines and well known songs.

So ‘get’cha head in the game’ and join us for this upbeat family favourite.

Performance times: 2pm (Sat 5); 7pm

Running Time: TBC

Age Recommendation: TBC

Tickets: £16 (£13 under 18s)

A NORTHERN STAGE HIRE

TUE 31 MAY-WED 1 JUN

Von Fox Promotions

HADAWAY HARRY

STAGE 3

Jamie Brown returns in the original Ed Waugh play, *Hadaway Harry*.

A true story about Harry Clasper, the man the *Blaydon Races* was written for, and the greatest sporting superstar the North East has ever seen.

Performance times: 1.30pm (Wed 1); 8pm

Running Time: 2hrs 5mins (including interval)

Age Recommendation: 12+

Tickets: £15

A NORTHERN STAGE HIRE

HIRE US

Our three professional theatre spaces, vibrant foyer bar and multipurpose hospitality mezzanine are all available for you to hire for your next event.

These versatile spaces can be transformed into a range of layouts and come equipped with lighting, sound and presentation equipment. Our creative and experienced Technical and Front of House teams will be at hand to help you deliver a truly unforgettable event.

So whether you’re staging a theatrical production, hosting a private party or even celebrating a wedding, come and join us at Northern Stage where we reach beyond the ordinary every time.

For more information about hiring Northern Stage visit our website, email us at hiresandevents@ northernstage.co.uk or call us on 0191 242 7204.

CURIOUS FESTIVAL

THU 14-FRI 15 JUL

Presented in partnership with Curious Festival

QUEERCHANGE SHOWCASE

Experience brand-new performances by emerging LGBTQIA+ Artists, supported as part of QueerChange and QueerCore.

Featuring works by Joy Cruickshank, Jade Sweeting and Jenni Mac, Farrell Cox, Alex Billingham, FLOOD Theatre and Mo Svendsen. Each night will feature work by a selection of the artists named above.

QueerChange is a partnership project between Curious Arts, Homotopia and Milk Presents, supporting early career LGBTQIA+ performance Artists and Producers from across the North and Midlands.

QueerChange is supported by Arts Council England. QueerCore is supported by Arts Council England and The Granada Foundation.

Performance time: 7.30pm

Running Time: 2hrs

Age Recommendation: 16+

Tickets: TBC

CURIOUS FESTIVAL

SAT 16 JUL

Plaster Cast Theatre presented in partnership with Curious Festival

SOUND CISTEM

Two transgender performers say ‘up yours’ to the gender binary, and invite you to their radical dance party!

Under disco lights, over pulsing music, a queer celebration takes place. Set in nightclubs, Sound Cistem is a joyous verbatim show about the cisgender gaze on the transgender body and asks you to see the beauty in these bodies, and your own too.

Performance time: 7.30pm

Running Time: 60mins

Age Recommendation: 16+

Tickets: TBC

GETTING INVOLVED

WHAT IS PARTICIPATION AT NORTHERN STAGE?

Our Participation Programme works primarily with Young People and Communities encouraging and enabling creativity for and with those who don’t always have access to it.

YOUNG COMPANY

Young Company is for anyone aged 14+ who wants to be involved in inclusive creative practice, create and showcase work, influence programming and develop technical and production skills.

Young Company offers a broad range of activity using co-creation approaches to truly put young people in the driving seat. At the heart of Young Company is the drive to develop agency through creative engagement.

For further information about how to join please email info@northernstage.co.uk

COMMUNITY

Our work to address structural inequalities is currently focussed in Byker. We work with residents using creativity to transform lives by exploring, questioning and understanding our relationship with the world around us.

We believe that everyone should have equal access to those transformational experiences and we are committed to a long term relationship with the community to realise its full potential.

Our work in Byker engages with all ages, prioritising relationship building and empowering residents to take a leading role in their own involvement.

If you have an interest in this work and would like more information please email info@northernstage.co.uk

SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES

We work in partnership with specific schools and colleges to enhance curriculum experience with creative approaches. We also offer a work experience and careers programme which is open to all schools.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Work Experience is a week-long multi-disciplinary introduction to non- acting careers in theatre. We advise schools to signpost pupils who are NOT performing arts students to apply.

KEY DATES:

Recruitment begins: after February half term.

Work experience weeks: w/c 27 Jun & w/c 4 Jul

For more information: workexperience@northernstage.co.uk

BACKSTAGE TOURS

Need help achieving Gatsby Benchmarks? Backstage Tours give pupils Experience of the Workplace and Encounters with Employers. Tours offered can be a general introduction to the theatre or have a technical or careers bias. Tours are available monthly and are suitable for Primary or Secondary pupils.

For more information: info@northernstage.co.uk

INFORMATION

**DIRECTIONS**

**Northern Stage,   
Barras Bridge,   
Newcastle upon Tyne,   
NE1 7RH**

Two minutes walk from Haymarket Metro, opposite the Civic Centre, behind the Newcastle University building (King’s Gate). King’s Road is now pedestrianised.

**PARKING**

Parking is free after 6pm in nearby Claremont Road (near the main entrance to Exhibition Park) and all other city centre council-run car parks. Newcastle University campus is car-free but there is a drop off point right outside our doors on Kings Road.

**ALIVE AFTER FIVE**

Newcastle city centre is now open later. Nip to the shops after work, join us for dinner at McKenna’s and then enjoy a show. With more evening buses and Metros and lots of free city centre parking after 6pm, it’s never been easier to make a night of it.

www.getintonewcastle.co.uk

BOOKING

Box Office: 0191 230 5151

On performance days from 10am until last performance, and on non-performance days Mon-Fri 10am to 4pm. Our phone lines are open weekdays 12-4pm.

Book on-line at: northernstage.co.uk

ACCESS

All three stages are wheelchair accessible, we are guide dog friendly and there is an infrared loop system in the auditoria.

We offer a free carer/companion ticket for all shows.

Our Box Office is familiar with calls received via Text Relay.

Please inform the Box Office of any access requirements when booking. Visit our website for more details.

Information can be made available in large print or in an audio format on request.

We’re now using ReciteMe to make it easier to use our website. Play text aloud, look up words in the dictionary, use the dyslexia software, and translate web pages by clicking the RECITE button at the top of our website.

PREVIEWS

Enjoy a bargain ticket to one of the first performances of certain shows. Eligible performances are listed on show pages, and marked with (Preview) in the diary.

TICKETS

Ticket prices are subject to change as the theatre fills. We recommend booking early to get first access to seats at the best price.

To ensure the best experience for our audiences and actors some seats are not offered for sale until seats towards the front of the theatre are sold.

If you have any specific access requirements, please contact the Box Office.

We don’t charge booking fees and are a registered charity.

If you are able to add a donation when you purchase your tickets it will help us keep putting excellent Northern Stage work on our stages and in the community.

If you would like us to post your tickets, we’ll ask for £1 to cover costs.

If you need to exchange or reprint tickets, you will be asked to collect them in person from the Box Office. Please note tickets are non-refundable.

RUNNING TIME

Many of the shows at Northern Stage are brand new productions being created as we put this brochure together. This can sometimes mean we don’t know the running time before the brochure is printed. Where possible we have included or estimated how long it is so you can plan your evening better. The most up-to-date information will be on our website.

SCHOOLS & YOUTH GROUPS

For most shows we offer tickets at £10 or less for schools and youth groups (groups of under 16s) in parties of 10 or more, every 11th ticket is free.

GROUPS

We love it when groups visit us. We can organise catering, hospitality, theatre tours or just drinks and ice creams at the interval for groups of 10 or more. To get the best deal call the box office or email: boxoffice@northernstage.co.uk

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

For full terms and conditions visit northernstage.co.uk

At Northern Stage, diversity and equality are embedded in the heart of our thinking. We are committed to promoting these values through our artistic programme, workforce, participation projects and the services that we offer our community.

All details in this brochure are correct at time of going to press, errors and omissions excepted.

Northern Stage reserves the right to alter programme details without prior notice.

Charity number: 700055.

Company Reg no: 2187213

COVID SAFETY

When you’re ready to return to us, we’re committed to keeping you safe.

We know planning ahead feels tricky just now so we have amended our terms and conditions to include no quibble refunds or exchanges if you can’t attend a performance due to Covid symptoms or cancellation on our part.

We know that in person visits are not possible for everyone so when we can we will make shows available to watch digitally as part of Northern Stage at Home.

Alongside an increased cleaning schedule, we have installed hand sanitising stations and now use paperless ticketing.

This was always the case, but we really do want you to know it’s ok to nip to the toilet during a show. If you go when you need to go it will help us reduce queues at the interval!

To keep you and our staff safe we will continue to adhere to the latest government guidance.

We strongly recommend mask wearing for audience members while they are inside the theatre including during the performance.

As your performance date approaches we will be in touch regularly with details on what to expect from your visit - including things like how to move around the building safely and whether or not you’ll need to wear a face covering.

DIARY

FEB

Tue 1 The Invisible Man 7.30pm (Preview)

Wed 2 The Invisible Man 2.30pm (Preview)

Thu 3 The Invisible Man 7pm

High School Musical 7pm

Fri 4 The Invisible Man 7.30pm

High School Musical 7pm

Sat 5 The Invisible Man 2.30pm; 7.30pm

High School Musical 2pm; 7pm

Tue 8 The Invisible Man 7.30pm (Filmed performance)

Wed 9 The Invisible Man 2.30pm; 7.30pm

Thu 10 The Invisible Man 7.30pm (Audio described)

WOKE 7pm

Fri 11 The Invisible Man 7.30pm (Captioned)

WOKE 7pm

Sat 12 The Invisible Man 2.30pm; 7.30pm

Sun 13 Something Rhymes with Purple LIVE 2pm

Tue 15 The Invisible Man 7.30pm (Post-show discussion)

Wed 16 The Invisible Man 2.30pm (Relaxed); 6pm (Straight from work performance)

Thu 17 The Invisible Man 7.30pm (British sign language)

Fri 18 The Invisible Man 7.30pm

You Heard Me 7pm

Sat 19 The Invisible Man 2.30pm (British sign language); 7.30pm

You Heard Me 7pm

Fri 25 Pinocchio 11am; 2pm (Relaxed); 4pm

Girl in the Machine 7.30pm

MAR

Thu 3 Zog & The Flying Doctors 4.30pm

Radikal Words: A Night of Performance Poetry with Kate Fox and Jeff Price 7.30pm

Fri 4 Zog & The Flying Doctors 10.30am; 1.30pm

HERE 7pm

Sat 5 Zog & The Flying Doctors 10.30am (Relaxed); 1.30pm; 4.30pm

HERE 2pm (Post-show discussion); 7pm (Preview)

Sun 6 Zog & The Flying Doctors 10.30am; 1.30pm; 4.30pm

Mon 7 Dialogues from Babel - Rehearsed Reading 7pm

Tue 8 HERE 7pm

Wed 9 HERE 7pm

Thu 10 HERE 2pm (Post-show discussion); 7pm

Fri 11 BalletBoyz: Deluxe 7.30pm

HERE 7pm

Sat 12 BalletBoyz: Deluxe 7.30pm

HERE 7pm

Fri 18 How to Save the Planet When You’re a Young Carer and Broke 7.30pm (Pre-show entertainment)

Tue 22 2065 11am; 1.30pm

Wed 23 2065 11am; 1.30pm

Fri 25 Red Ellen 7pm

Y’MAM 7.30pm

Sat 26 Red Ellen 7pm (Preview)

Y’MAM 7.30pm

Mon 28 Red Ellen 7pm

Great Northern Slam 7.45pm

Tue 29 Red Ellen 7pm (Preview)

Wed 30 Red Ellen 2pm (Preview); 7pm

Thu 31 Red Ellen 7pm

APR

Fri 1 Red Ellen 7pm (British sign language)

RICE 7.30pm

Sat 2 Red Ellen 2pm; 7pm (Captioned)

RICE 2.30pm; 7.30pm

Tue 5 Red Ellen 7pm (Filmed performance)

Sorry You’re Not a Winner 7.30pm

Wed 6 Red Ellen 2pm (British sign language); 7pm (Relaxed)

Sorry You’re Not a Winner 7.30pm

Thu 7 Red Ellen 7pm (Audio described)

Sorry You’re Not a Winner 7.30pm

Fri 8 Red Ellen 7pm

Sorry You’re Not a Winner 7.30pm

Sat 9 Red Ellen 2pm (Relaxed); 7pm

Sorry You’re Not a Winner 2.30pm; 7.30pm

Thu 21 Oi Frog & Friends 1.30pm

Fri 22 Oi Frog & Friends 10.30am (Relaxed); 1.30pm

Sat 23 Oi Frog & Friends 10.30am; 1.30pm; 4.30pm

Sun 24 Oi Frog & Friends 10.30am; 1.30pm

Fri 29 The White Card 7.30pm (Preview)

Sat 30 The White Card 7.30pm (Preview)

MAY

Tue 3 The White Card 7.30pm (Preview)

Wed 4 The White Card 7.30pm

Thu 5 The White Card 7.30pm

Fri 6 The White Card 7.30pm (Captioned)

Sat 7 The White Card 2.30pm (Relaxed); 7.30pm

Handa’s Surprise 11.30am; 2.30pm; 4pm

Sun 8 Handa’s Surprise 11.30am; 2.30pm; 4pm

Tue 10 The White Card 7.30pm (Filmed performance)

Wed 11 The White Card 2.30pm (Audio described); 7.30pm

Thu 12 The White Card 7.30pm (Relaxed)

Fri 13 The White Card 7.30pm (British sign language)

Sat 14 The White Card 2.30pm (British sign language); 7.30pm

Thu 19 Gamble 7pm (British sign language, Post-show discussion)

Fri 20 Gamble 7pm (British sign language, Post-show discussion)

40 Years of Phoenix Dance 7.30pm

Sat 21 Gamble 7pm (British sign language, Post-show discussion)

Tue 31 Hadaway Harry 8pm

JUN

Wed 1 Hadaway Harry 1.30pm; 8pm

Sat 4 Aidy the Awesome 1.30pm; 3pm

Sun 5 Aidy the Awesome 10am; 11.30am

Thu 9 Ankles 7pm (Relaxed)

Fri 10 Ankles 7pm

Sat 11 Ankles 7pm

Tue 21 Snatched 7.30pm

Wed 22 Snatched 7.30pm

Fri 24 Infinite 7pm (Post-show discussion)

Everyday 7.30pm

Sat 25 Infinite 7pm

Everyday 7.30pm

JUL

Thu 14 QueerChange Showcase 7.30pm

Fri 15 QueerChange Showcase 7.30pm

Sat 16 Sound Cistem 7.30pm

Northern Stage Café Bar

Pop in for delicious coffee from Ouseburn Coffee, sweet treats from Pink Lane Bakery or try our range of alcoholic and non-alcoholic cold beverages. See website for weekly opening times

NORTHERN STAGE AT HOME

We know that coming to see a show in person isn’t always possible, so we’re committed to continuing digital access to our shows. Northern Stage at Home will allow you to watch Northern Stage productions at a time or place that better suits you:

THE INVISIBLE MAN

Digital stream: 10-19 Feb

RED ELLEN

Digital stream: coming soon

THE WHITE CARD

Digital stream: coming soon

Book now at northernstage.co.uk

NORTHERN STAGE IS SUPPORTED BY

Esmée Fairbairn Foundation

Garfield Weston Foundation

Arts Council England

RW Mann Trust

Community Fund

Community Foundation Newcastle Culture Investment Fund, supported by Newcastle City Council

Hoult Family Grassroots Fund

The Barbour Foundation

The Joseph Strong Frazer Trust

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Northern Stage

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