

CHARLES DICKENS'

THE HAUNTING

BY HUGH JANES



NEW VIC THEATRE

Welcome to the New Vic Theatre!

We want all our audiences to feel comfortable in the theatre. We know that some audiences prefer to know what to expect in the performance before they arrive. This visual information pack contains everything you need to know about visiting the New Vic Theatre.

The Haunting, written by Hugh Janes, is a ghost story based on the short stories of Charles Dickens. The play is very atmospheric, with lots of moments that are designed to make the audience jump. It includes lots of loud, sudden sounds, flashing lights, haze and at times, complete darkness. This information pack will give you an insight into what you can expect.

About the Performance

NEW VIC THEATRE



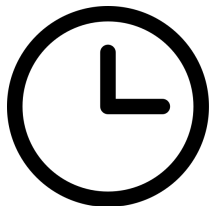
This is a performance at the New Vic Theatre. It is performed in the round which means the audience sit in a circle around the actors.



This performance is a ghost play. It tells the story of a young book dealer called David Filde who travels to an ancient mansion on the Yorkshire Moors owned by Lord Gray. As David begins to catalogue the books in the study, he begins to suspect there might be a spirit asking for his help. He embarks on a mission to solve the mystery that haunts the house.



This performance is quite frightening. It is suitable for audiences 14+.



The play is split into two parts called 'Acts'. Act 1 is about 50 minutes long. There is a 20-minute interval. Act 2 is about 45 minutes long.

About the Performance



There are often lots of people watching the performance. When you arrive at the theatre, it can feel quite busy. There will be members of staff on hand to assist you.



If you are in trouble or need help, there will be members of staff available to assist you. You can spot them because they wear lanyards that look like this.



There will be an announcement to tell you when it is time to take your seat inside the theatre.



In order to create an eerie atmosphere, the lights in the auditorium are dim as you enter to take your seats. If you are struggling to see, please ask a member of staff to assist you. They all have torches to help guide you to your seat where required. You will know the show is starting because a low rumbling sound begins, and all the lights in the space fade to black for a couple of seconds.

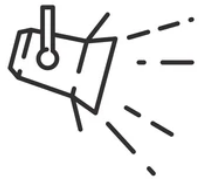
About the Performance



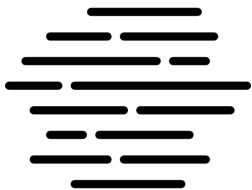
There are several moments in the play that are designed to frighten the audience and can feel quite unnerving. If you need to leave the theatre and find a quiet space for a couple of minutes, we support you. If you ask any of our front of house attendants, they can assist you in exiting the auditorium safely.



As the play is set in a run-down Victorian mansion, there are several moments where it gets very dark to create atmosphere. There are also some moments where the lights go out completely and the auditorium is in darkness. These blackouts never last for a long time, but please be cautious about exiting the auditorium in darkness.



There are several moments where we use flashing lights and strobe lighting to help support the illusions in the play.



Throughout the play, haze is used to help create an uncanny atmosphere in the auditorium. It can look quite dramatic at times but is being safely controlled by are technical team.

About the Performance



We use a diffuser to spread certain smells in the auditorium that match with what the characters describe. There are a couple of moments where the auditorium can smell quite strongly of damp and of frankincense.



There are lots of very sudden, loud sounds throughout the play. The sounds are designed to make the audience jump along with the characters, and to help us tell the story of supernatural activity. Additionally, there are a couple of scenes that have longer moments of very loud sound. You are welcome to wear ear defenders if you are concerned about this.



The Haunting is supposed to be frightening, but we understand that not everyone enjoys the experience of jump scares. Do consider this when deciding whether to see the show. It can be quite fun to watch a ghost story at the theatre, as everyone is experiencing it together.

Summary of *The Haunting*

The Haunting is a play by Hugh Janes based on the ghost stories written by Charles Dickens.

David Filde, a young book dealer, arrives at the ancient manor of Lord Gray. The house is in the middle of the Yorkshire Moors, where the wind howls and rain pours.

Lord Gray has employed David to help value the books in his late father's collection. The play takes place within the study of the house, where Lord Gray's father spent much of his final days. He died in the anti-chamber attached to the study.

As David begins his work, strange things begin to happen in the room. Books hurl themselves off the shelves to reveal hidden keys and folders of information. The door begins to slam and lock itself of its own accord. And a young woman's voice can be heard, calling for help.

David becomes convinced the house is haunted by a ghostly figure. To solve the mystery of who the spirit might be, he must first convince Lord Gray to journey with him to the darkest corners of terror to discover the truth.

The Haunting combines all the essential hallmarks of a great Victorian ghost story with a mystery that will have you gripping onto the edge of your seats until the thrilling end.



Cast and Characters in the Play



David Ahmad plays the role of Lord Gray.



Jessica Hole plays the role of Mary.



Richard Leeming plays the role of David Filde.

What to Expect at the Theatre



The entrance to the theatre car park looks like this.



There are accessible parking spaces in the car park. You can pre-book these in advance by calling box office.



This is the main entrance into the theatre building.



You can collect your tickets from box office. It looks like this!



This is the gift shop where you can buy cards and other treats!

What to Expect at the Theatre



These are the stairs that take you up to the theatre bar and café.



There is also a lift to the left of the stairs.



This is the café area where people gather before the show.



This is the lounge where you can sit if you need to leave the performance.



At the interval, you can buy snacks from this snack station next to box office.

For More Information contact us at Box Office:



01782 717 962



10:00am – 6:00pm
Monday – Saturday



tickets@newvictheatre.org.uk