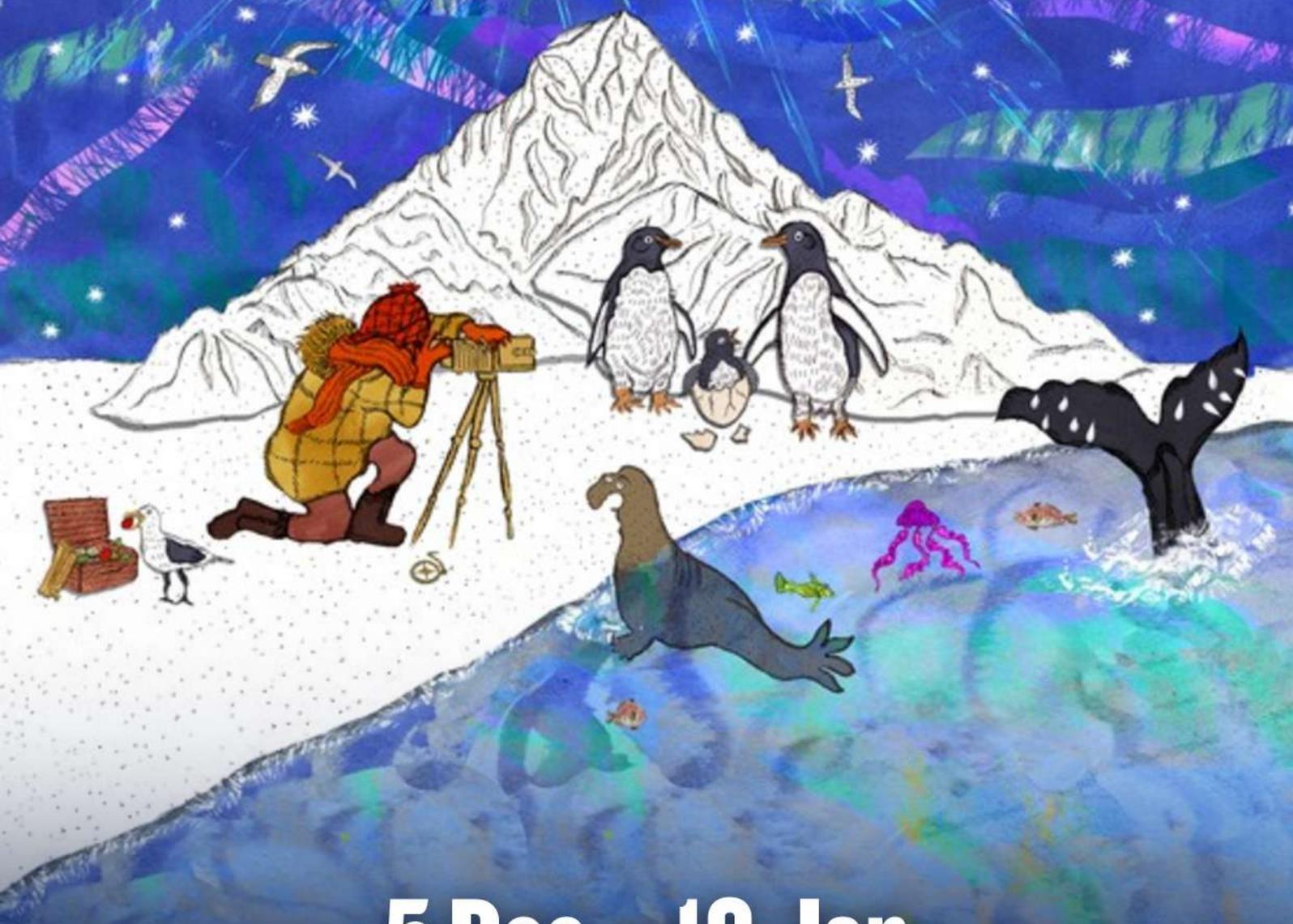


ANTARCTICA

Familiarisation Pack



5 Dec – 10 Jan

WELCOME TO ANTARCTICA

INTRODUCTION

Bristol Old Vic is excited to welcome you to *Antarctica*.

We've gathered some information in this pack about the venue, access, the performance space and the story of *Antarctica*, which you might find helpful to look at before your visit. We hope you enjoy the show.

If you are attending one of our **Relaxed Performances**, please know that we welcome a more informal atmosphere both in the performance space and in our front-of-house areas. This allows everyone to enjoy the show in their own way, whether that means moving in and out of The Weston Studio, making noise, or taking a little extra time to get comfortable in the space.

SHOW NOTES

- *Antarctica* is approximately **50 minutes** long.
- *Antarctica* is set on the stage in thrust which means that there is seating on three sides. When you come in, you will be directed where to sit.
- There's no right or wrong way to watch *Antarctica*, we want you to enjoy it! It's ok if you want to make some noise and move around too. Although we do ask you not to walk onto the stage, so that everyone can be safe during the show.
- If you would like to take a break at any time you can leave the theatre and come back whenever you're ready. An Usher will be there to help you.
- The Ushers can also show you where the toilets are. Ushers are good people to go to if you feel worried about anything in the show. You can speak to them before, during or after the performance.

WHO YOU WILL SEE ON STAGE



This is **Emile**

He is an actor in *Antarctica*.

He plays lots of **animals**, a **snow person** and a **brave explorer**.



This is **Amy**

She is an actor in *Antarctica*.

She plays lots of **animals**, a **snow person** and a **brave explorer**.



This is **Peta**

She is an actor in *Antarctica*.

She plays the **Chief Explorer**, **Harriet Hawk**.

AN OUTLINE OF THE STORY

PLEASE NOTE, THIS CONTAINS SPOILERS

Antarctica is a story of an explorer visiting the South Pole in search of wildlife. They want to take pictures of all the animals they see with their camera. They want to find a very special creature called the Owlarbear.

There is recorded music and some singing, as well as lots of movement and noises.

We'll go through the story with you now.

WE'VE USED SOME SYMBOLS TO SHOW WHEN CERTAIN ACTIVITIES ARE TAKING PLACE ON STAGE:



FAST MOVEMENT

There are moments when the performers move quickly around the space and the action on stage can be fast-paced. When this happens, we use this symbol.



SAD MOMENTS

There are moments when the actors are distressed or feel sad. When this happens, we use this symbol.



LOUD MOMENTS

There are moments when the actors raise their voice and it gets a bit louder. When this might happen, we use this symbol.

SCENE 1 - THE BRAVE EXPLORERS CLUB

We meet the explorers and we all shout "Ahoy!"

SCENE 2 - JOURNEY TO ANTARCTICA

The Chief Explorer welcomes you to The Brave Explorers Club and the explorers sing the Brave Explorer Club anthem.

We see the Chief Explorer get ready for their journey and the other two explorers become snow people who begin to throw snow.

The explorer leaves by boat and now the people dance with watery ribbons.

The explorer arrives in Antarctica. The explorer thanks the map team, the telescope team and the ship's cooks.

The explorer explains that they are searching for an Owlarbear, a creature with the head and wings of an owl, and the body of a bear. The explorer asks the audience to help her to find it.

SCENE 3 - PENGUINS I

A penguin is sad and lonely. The penguin waddles right up to explorer and pats them inquisitively on the head.

The explorer gets out their camera and sets it up. The penguin poses.

The explorer is happy to have seen a penguin but reminds the audience to keep a look out for the Owlarbear.

SCENE 4 - OWLARBEAR 1

The Owlarbear appears behind the curtain, eventually he peeps out very briefly.

SCENE 5 - EXPLORER EXPLAINS ABOUT THE OWLARBEAR 1

The explorer shouts "Ahoy!" and the audience responds.

The explorer teaches the audience the special Owlarbear 'hello,' which is a gentle wave of the hand while softly calling out, "Owlarbear, Owlarbear."

SCENE 6 - JOURNEY WITH THE WIND

The explorer starts to journey through the snow. The snow people try to blow the explorer over. They run off and then return carrying clouds that they use like giant fans. This time they succeed in blowing the explorer to the floor.

SCENE 7 - BIRDS

The explorer is tired and hungry. The ship's cooks from the audience bring a sandwich to the explorer.

As the explorer goes to take a bite, a bird appears and the audience shout "it's behind you".

Another bird appears and the audience shout "there's another bird behind you!"

The explorer puts down the sandwich. The birds dive down to grab the sandwich.

One of the snow people emerges in a white sheet (like a snowy mountain), wearing a nest on their head. They take out the birds and place them in the nest.

SCENE 8 - THE OWLARBEAR 2

The Owlarbear becomes visible behind the curtain. The audience are doing their special Owlarbear 'hello' (waving and saying "Owlarbear" very softly). The Owlarbear waves back!

SCENE 9 - EXPLORER EXPLAINS ABOUT THE OWLARBEAR 2

The audience shout "We saw the Owlarbear!"

The explorer asks if it worked and if it came out of hiding?

The audience say "Yes".

The explorer explains that Owlabeares love to flap their wings and fly.

SCENE 10 - EXPLORER CONSULTS THE MAP TEAM

The explorer is going to the ice to see the fish of the sea. The explorer asks the map team for help.

The explorer points out the Ross Ice Shelf that they're trying to get to. They set off to head to the ice.

SCENE 11 - PENGUINS 2

We see the sad penguin again.

Another penguin enters and falls over.

The first penguin helps the second penguin back to safety.

Then they try to skate together. They waddle off the ice, kiss and leave holding hands.

SCENE 12 - FISH

The explorer enters in a swimming suit holding a diving helmet.

The explorer walks onto the ice and the ice begins to crack.

They jump into the water.

Bubbles appear and we see a fish, then a shoal of fish, then some jellyfish.

The explorer does a big dive and transforms into a little puppet version of themselves.

An enormous whale swims by.

SCENE 13 - SEALS

A big seal (called an elephant seal) enters.

They flop onto their belly and go to sleep.

Another seal comes in and lies down next to the first seal.

The explorer enters and takes their picture.

SCENE 14 - AURORA AUSTRALIS / OWLARBEAR 3

We see the Aurora Australis, the dancing lights of the southern sky. Then we see the Owlarbear.

He starts to dance like a ballerina and stand on one leg.

He is just about to fly when the explorer enters and the Owlarbear is scared away again.

SCENE 15 - SONG REPRISE

The explorer comes out and the audience start shouting out that she has missed the Owlarbear yet again! The explorer says sorry she was just born loud.

She realises that she's the only brave explorer on the journey who hasn't seen the Owlarbear, but that everyone else has seen it three times! She says that makes her sad.

She starts to sing The Brave Explorers Club anthem. At the end of the song, she climbs the highest mountain in Antarctica and spots the Owlarbear from there.

She asks the other explorers if they will help her and says "Ahoy!"

The audience respond "Ahoy!"

SCENE 16 - PENGUINS 3

The two penguins enter, this time with a big egg! Mummy Penguin tells Daddy Penguin to sit on the egg to keep it warm. Mummy Penguin leaves.

Daddy Penguin gets a bit cold and sleepy whilst keeping the egg warm, but Mummy Penguin soon comes back, and she is very full.

Daddy Penguin gets off the egg and soon it cracks and the baby penguin is born! Mummy Penguin feeds the baby.

Mummy and Daddy Penguin take the baby around the space to say hello to the audience.

The audience waves at the baby penguin.

SCENE 17 - CLIMBING THE MOUNTAIN / OWLARBEAR 4

The explorer puppet climbs the big white curtains which are the mountains.

She looks for the Owlarbear.

The audience all wave and call "Owlarbear, Owlarbear" in their softest voices so it comes out again.

The Owlarbear has come out of hiding and is dancing like a ballerina.

The explorer is happy they can see the Owlarbear! She takes a picture of it just as it flies away.

SCENE 18 - JOURNEY HOME

The explorer lists everything we have seen.

The explorer gets the boat and starts the journey home.

The snow people dance around and throw snow in the air.

The snow people take a bow.

The explorer takes a bow.

The end.

The cast take a final bow and there is applause for all the helpers and a final "Ahoy!"

SET AND LIGHTING

Antarctica will take place on The Weston Studio stage.

There are lots of lights that are built into the set, and also many that light the stage from above. These will change colour, and get brighter/darker throughout the show.



**FOR ALL OF
OUR RELAXED
PERFORMANCES,
THE HOUSE LIGHTS
ARE KEPT ON LOW
THROUGHOUT.**

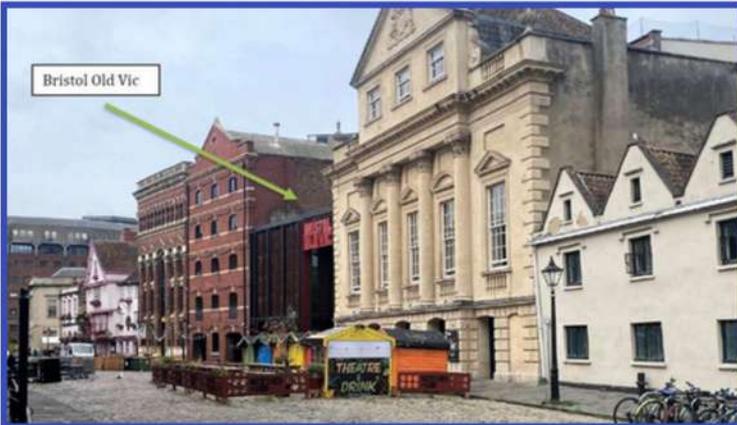
GETTING HERE

ACCESS, PARKING & BUGGIES

ARRIVAL

Bristol Old Vic is a 259-year-old theatre with a modern frontage.

Our main entrance is at street level of King Street. It is fully wheelchair accessible with automatic doors to facilitate comfortable access.



Our Foyer, Cafe Bar and Box Office are all fully wheelchair accessible. Our Foyer lift enables customers full access to all public areas of our building.

PARKING

There are parking spaces around the corner on Queen Charlotte Street for Blue Badge holders. There is one allocated disabled bay with further on street parking on Welsh Back and Queen Square as well as Queen Charlotte Street (*please note that King Street is cobbled*).

BUGGIES

You can leave your buggies to the left-hand side of the Box Office.

TOILETS

The nearest toilets are by the Weston Studio entrance on the lower floor. These are gender neutral toilets. The nearest accessible toilet is on level 1, accessible via the lift.

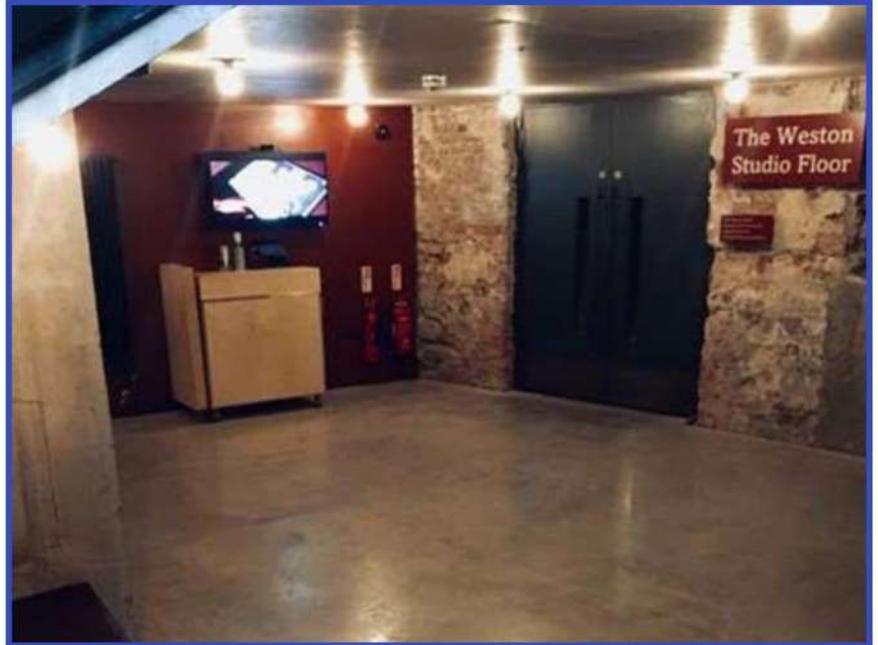
Antarctica will take place on The Weston Studio stage. Everyone will be asked to wait outside The Weston Studio until the doors open.

You will then be welcomed into the space by the Bristol Old Vic team.

BALCONY ENTRANCE GROUND FLOOR



FLOOR ENTRANCE LEVEL -1



Now the venue Ushers will show you to your seats.

INSIDE THE WESTON STUDIO



CHILLOUT SPACES

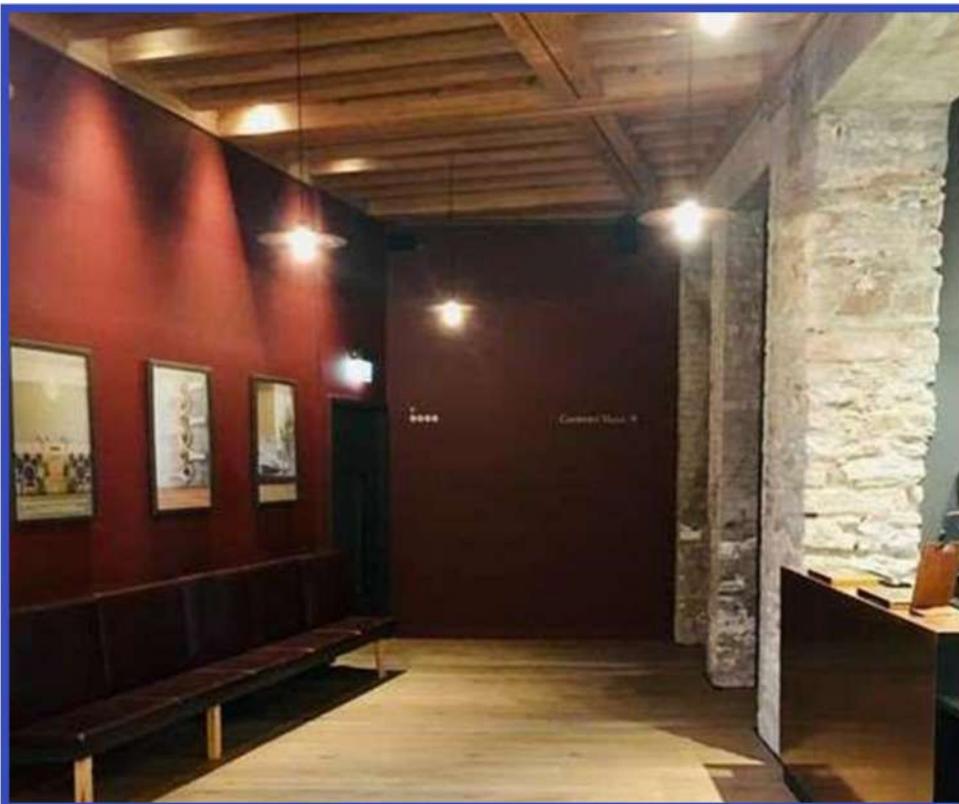
We have several Chillout Spaces throughout the building. These are slightly more out of the way than the main foyer and bar areas and are places where you can relax before, during or after the show, though they are not completely quiet.

Here are some pictures of the spaces:



This is **The Weston Studio Waiting Area** outside the Studio Floor entrance on Level -1.

This is **near accessible toilets**.



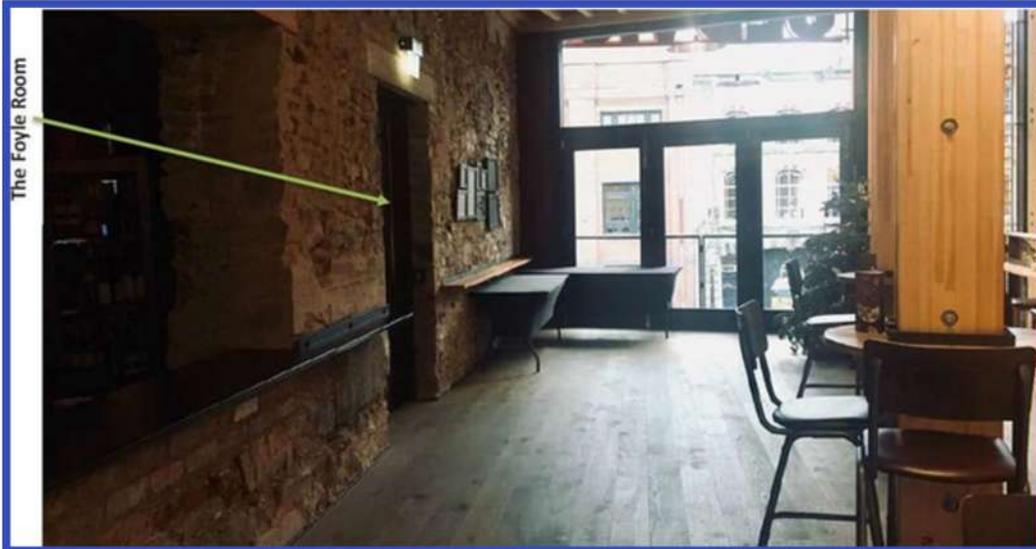
This is the **area outside of Coopers' Hall** on Level 1.

This is **near accessible toilets**, and is nearest to the Weston Studio balcony entrance.

THE QUIET ROOM

During our Relaxed Performances (Thu 18 Dec, 10:30am & Sat 27 Dec, 3pm), we also use the Foyle Room as a Quiet Room.

The Foyle Room is on Coopers' Balcony on Level 1. This room allows you time away from the noise from the performance or foyer and bar areas.



There are seats and a table in The Foyle Room. It is well lit, and well away from noise and movement.

If you need help finding The Foyle Room, ask an Usher and they'll be happy to help you find and get into the room.

Thank you for coming to see *Antarctica*. We hope you enjoyed the show.

If you have any questions about your visit to Bristol Old Vic or would like to find out more, please contact Bristol Old Vic by email at access@bristololdvic.org.uk or by phone at 0117 987 7877.

You can also find out more on our website at bristololdvic.org.uk/your-visit/access