



The Unlikely Friendship of Feather Boy and Tentacle Girl

Access pack

Thank you for booking your tickets to see a relaxed performance of The Unlikely Friendship of Feather Boy and Tentacle Girl at Tramway. You can also use the title shortened in whatever way you'd like.

This pack will provide you with information about the show, a synopsis of the show, content warnings and some useful information.

Tramway has a Visitor Pack from which we have copied some info and pictures from inside the venue. We have also included the link to the full Visitor Pack.

If you need any more information or would like to speak to one of the team, please contact:

Louise – louise@catherinewheels.co.uk

or

Kirsty – kirsty@catherinewheels.co.uk

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1. About a relaxed performance

A Relaxed Performance is for anyone who would benefit from a more relaxed environment in the theatre.

Audiences can leave and re-enter the space as they please throughout. The performers will share what the brightest and darkest lighting states, and loudest sound will be, at the beginning of this performance.

We would like you to enjoy the performance however you want to.

2. Good to know

- The show will last around 50 minutes with no interval.
- The show has dialogue and physical movement. The performers will climb up and down poles and swing from an aerial pole. Sometimes it will look like they fall.
- Feathers and other small items are sometimes blown across the stage by wind machines.
- There will be theatre lighting and amplified sound in the performance.
- The performers will at some points turn towards, speak to or touch audiences in the front rows, but audiences will never be asked to speak or go on stage.
- This performance will be photographed and filmed, so you might see the photographer and videographer moving about a bit.

3. Content warnings

Distressing content: Themes of struggle and not being able to fit in. Scenes of being trapped and caught in water.

Lights: The lighting changes throughout the performance. There are flickering lights, and it will sometimes get dark. There will be enough light in the room during the performance to make sure you can exit and enter the room safely.

Sound: There is sound throughout the performance including music, speaking and sound effects. It varies in level and intensity.

4. About the show

Set design: The set includes two Chinese poles in different heights and an aerial harness that will later turn into an aerial pole. There's a small wind machine on the floor. At one point costumes are hoisted down from the roof, feathers blowing from the wind machine and at certain points shadows are cast onto the background from behind.

Performers: Two performers are playing a younger version of themselves: Vee, a small woman with bright orange hair that wants to be a monster, and Sadiq, a tall mixed heritage man who wants to fly.

Lights: Theatrical lighting from the floor and corners of the stage. There are tones of greenish/blue, ocean like, interchanged by orange glows. There's moving patterns on the background, flickering lights and blackouts at certain points.

Experience: The performance is mostly physical/circus with the performers alone and together on the various poles. There are some dramatic "falls" and a little bit of talking.

5. Performers

Sadiq Ali and Vee Smith when not in character.



Vee Smith and Sadiq Ali as Tentacle Girl and Feather Boy.
They will change costumes a few times throughout the performance.

6. Set

The set consists of a white floor, white background that will have various lights and patterns and sometimes shadows cast on. There are two Chinese poles on the ground, one of them will be taken down during the performance. A harness and aerial pole comes down from the ceiling at various times. The performers do physical/circus movements on the floor, up and down the poles and swing from the ceiling.



7. Venue

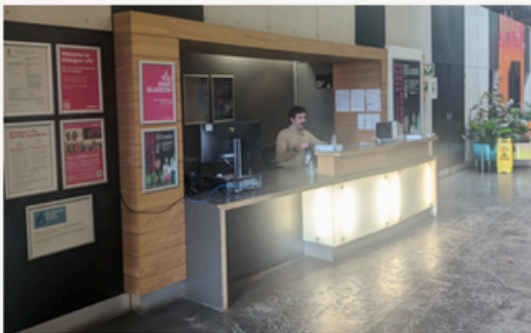
You can find Tramway's Gallery Visitor Pack on [this link](#). We have copied some of the walkthrough here:

Tramway walkthrough

Building Entrance



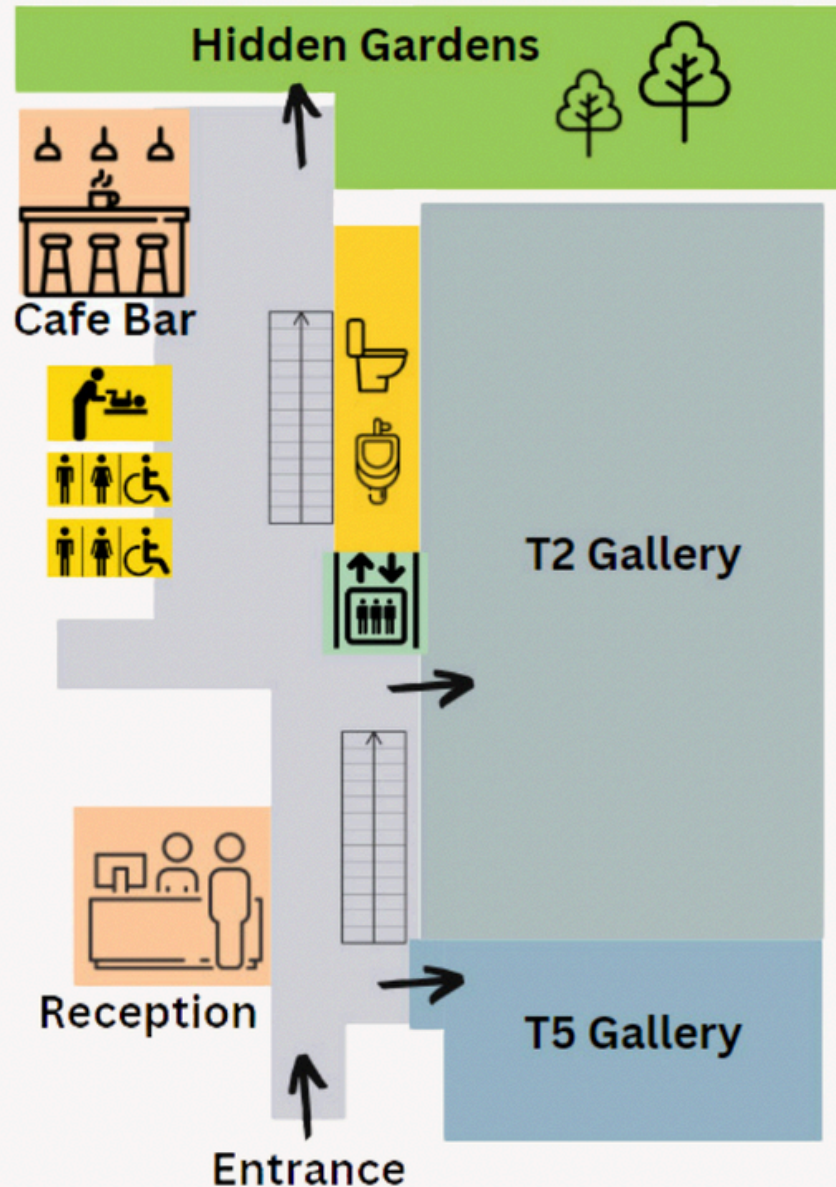
Box Office Reception



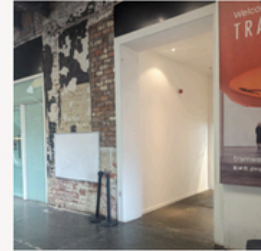
Located immediately on your left on entering Tramway.

Staff at this desk can provide information, sell tickets and support with any access information.

Ground floor map



T5 Gallery



Located immediately on your right on entering Tramway.

At the entrance to the gallery you will find information about the artist and exhibition.

T2 Gallery



Located behind the large staircase and to the right of the passenger lift.

At the entrance to the gallery you will find information about the artist and exhibition.

Accessible toilets and baby change



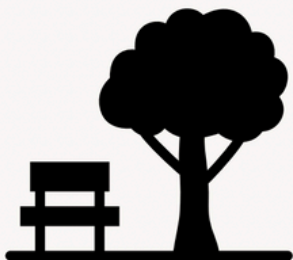
Located around halfway into the building on the far left-hand side. A detailed visual guide is available that provides measurements and photos of these spaces.

Gender neutral toilets



Gender neutral toilets are located to the left of the passenger lift, along a short corridor. The toilets are identified by their sanitaryware - Stalls Only and Stalls & Urinals

Quiet space



The Upper Foyer and Hidden Gardens can provide a quieter space on busy days at Tramway. Staff can give advice on finding a quieter space in the building should you require.

Mobility support



For performances we are happy to accommodate specific seating requests, early entry and additional seating as required. A wheelchair is available for use in the building.

Assistance dogs welcome



Assistance dogs are welcome in Tramway. A toileting area is located to the rear of the building. A dog bowl for water is available from box office reception.

Available from box office reception on request

Bowl for assistance dog



Large print gallery texts



Wheelchair



Free period products



Ear plugs



Ear defenders



Face coverings



First Aid



8. Synopsis of the show

Vee and Sadiq are both at the top of two tall aerial poles. Vee is looking down at the water wanting to jump in while Sadiq is perched at the top ready to fly. They motivate each other to be brave and do it, and then the lights go out.

Vee & Sadiq then meet on stage. We learn through movement and dialogue that they are opposites to each other, and that they both felt different growing up.

Vee leaves the stage while Sadiq spins round and round in a fast circle. It gets noisy and Sadiq becomes anxious. When he touches the smaller pole, the sound calms and the pole lights up. Sadiq has a movement routine between the two poles until Vee arrives and playfully shakes the smaller pole – shaking Sadiq off. Sadiq lifts Vee over head and then sets her down and leaves.

Vee is now alone on the stage and she tells us about a dream she has where she is a Kelpie in the ocean. She climbs up the tall pole as she tells the story and flies to the bottom as the lights black out before she reaches the floor.

We then meet Vee and Sadiq on stage. They climb the tall pole together, performing playful tricks, and their friendship deepens.

Vee then starts to become the Kelpie, snarling at the audience she climbs the small pole and rests on the top.

Sadiq now appears at the top of the tall pole with feathers on his back. He is a baby bird. As he moves around on the stage a silhouette of a large phoenix appears at the back of the stage. Sadiq moves across the stage and comes to meet Vee in her Kelpie form. She could eat him if she wanted but instead they join hands and dance together. Sadiq offers Vee a feather, she accepts and they play a game.

Suddenly costumes are hoisted down behind them, disrupting their play. They put them on, becoming traditional gender roles. They dance together, and then Tentacle Girl turns into a monster – a Kelpie – yet again. She moves towards the audience, trying to eat them, but Feather Boy stops her.

We then see Tentacle Girl as a shadow – a giant Kelpie. Feather Boy apologises to the audience, then goes to talk with Tentacle Girl, tiny compared to her. She eats him.

Vee and Sadiq meet again on the stage, arguing. They don't notice a storm coming. Together they struggle through the thunder. The shorter pole comes down, and Sadiq is blown off stage.

We see Vee alone at the top of the tall pole, caught in a whirlpool. She makes it to the ground and rises to the surface by an aerial strap before being pulled down again. She struggles in the water and this time she becomes Tentacle Girl – a Kelpie swimming safely in the water. With help from Sadiq she surrounds herself with a cape of plastic that becomes her Kelpie tentacles as she swims in the ocean.

Sadiq is now alone on stage and tells us about a dream he has where he is able to fly with the birds. Tentacle Girl brings him an aerial pole and he steps on to it, circling the stage before rising in to the sky and dropping colourful feathers that are blown up around him by 6 fans on stage. He has a movement routine and becomes Feather Boy – a fiery Phoenix.

He returns to the ground and starts to circle round the stage on the pole again. This time Tentacle Girl joins him in her cape and Feather Boy and Tentacle Girl fly and laugh together as the lights fade to black.

THE END

9. CONTACT

We're looking forward to welcoming you to our relaxed performance of The Unlikely Friendship of Feather Boy and Tentacle Girl. If you have any questions or would like to discuss your access requirements please contact us:

Kirsty – kirsty@catherinewheels.co.uk

Louise – louise@catherinewheels.co.uk