

## **Five Years Pre-Show Information**

Five Years is an hour-long, story-telling show. It is performed by Neal Pike and a BSL interpreter.

The show takes place in the Studio Theatre which is inside Gala Theatre as part of Durham Book Festival.

The studio is at the top of the Gala Theatre and you can get to it using the lift or stairs. There will be people to direct you if you get lost.

## **Inside the Studio Theatre**

There will be chairs in rows in the studio. You can sit on any of the chairs.

There will be some spaces at the front and back for wheelchairs. If you use a wheelchair and would rather sit somewhere else then you can speak to an usher and they will move the chairs for you.

On the stage there will be nine chairs and a desk.



Before the performance starts, someone will stand up at the front and explain that this is a Relaxed Performance and what this means.

## **The Performance**

The show will then begin. Neal and the BSL interpreter will walk onto the stage.

It is a Relaxed Performance, so you can make noise and move around as much as you want throughout the show.

During the performance you can leave if you want to and come back in at anytime.

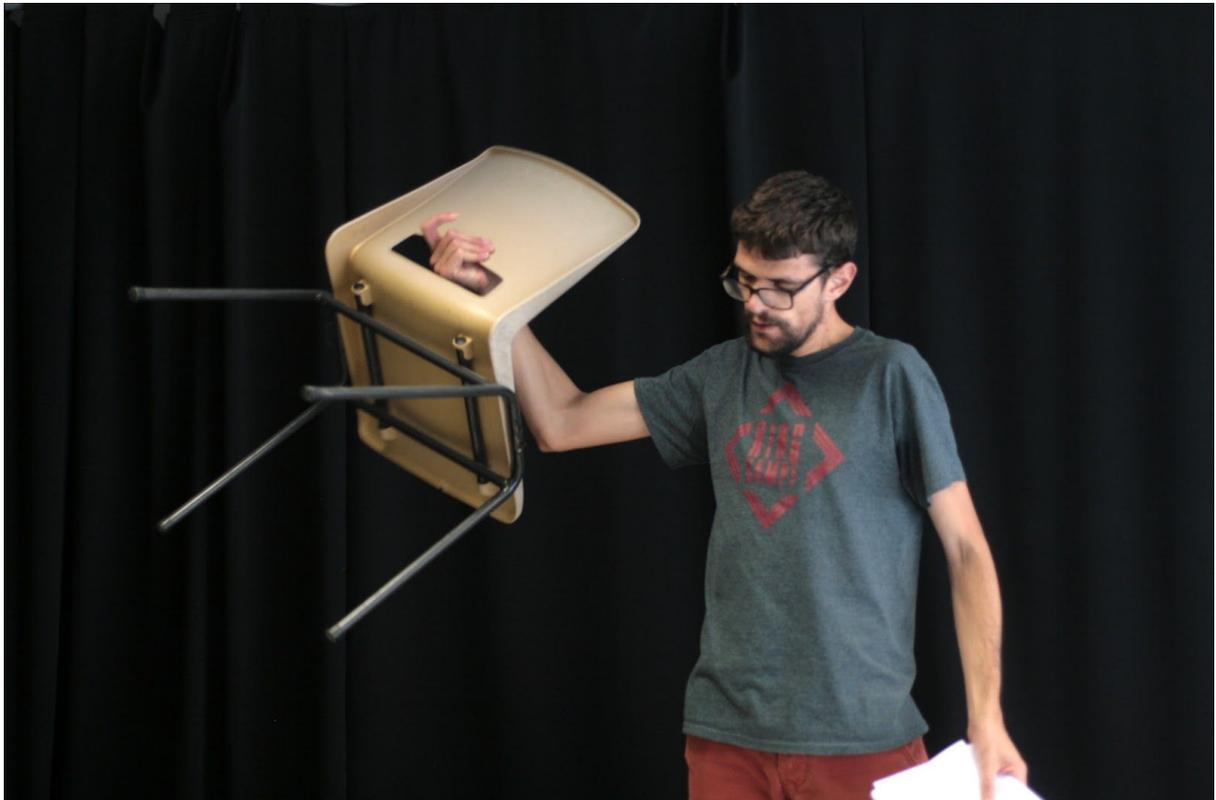
You can ask an usher for an ear defender.

There will be a room near the hall that an usher can take you to if you would like to be in a quiet space.

During the show Neal will tell lots of stories about himself, school, his friends and family. Everything he says will be BSL interpreted. When he tells the stories, he moves about the stage and also moves the chairs and desk.



He picks up the chair once and holds it in the air.



At one point, he falls suddenly on the floor.



The lights on the stage will change throughout but will never go completely dark. So you will always be able to find your way to leave and come back to your seat if you want.

## **Loud Sounds**

Sometimes Neal shouts loudly. There are sudden sound effects during the show, like a school bell or the sound of a playground. When the performance is finished the audience will clap.

You can ask an usher for an ear defender at any time.

## **Content/Trigger Warning**

Contains references to sexual abuse and bullying

Age Guidance 16+

## **Access Considerations**

- The venue is wheelchair accessible.
- The performance is a Relaxed Performance – you can make noise and move around.
- You can go in and out of the show when you want.
- The show BSL interpreted.
- Ear defenders are available from the ushers.
- There is a quiet room near the hall if you would like to be somewhere calm.
- Please contact Jo Cundall via the email address [jo.cundall@galadurham.co.uk](mailto:jo.cundall@galadurham.co.uk) if you have any access requests.