



BOING! VISUAL STORY

This visual resource is for children and young adults visiting the Unicorn Theatre to see a performance of **BOING!**

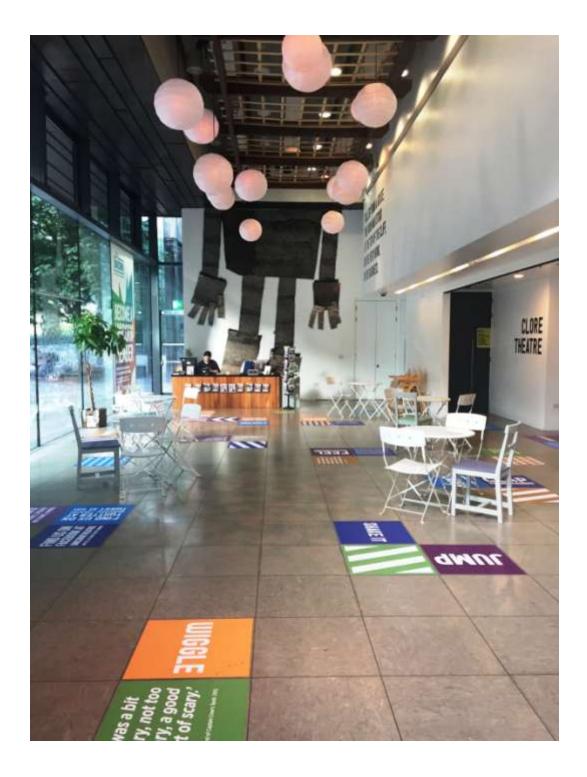
This visual story is intended to help prepare you for a new experience and help you to become familiar with the surroundings and the performance.





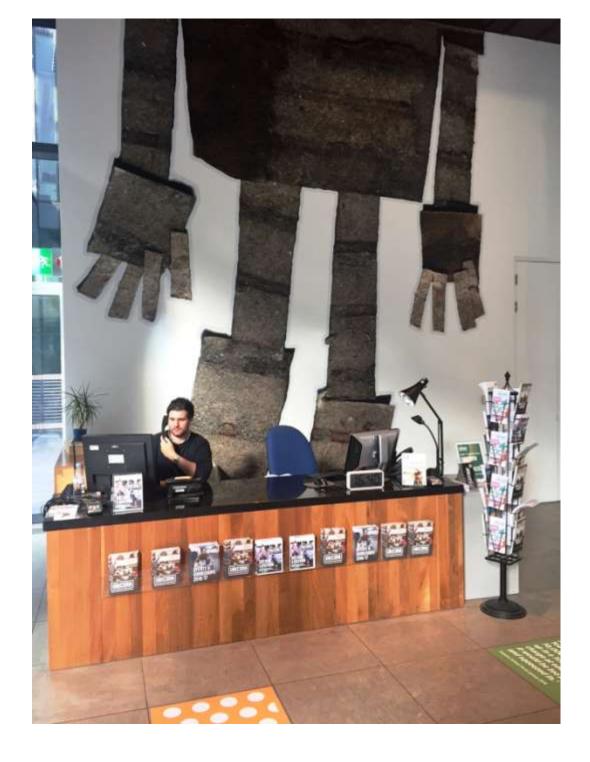
Welcome to the Unicorn Theatre. We are a theatre for children and adults. This is what the building looks like from the **outside**.

This is the **main entrance** of the **theatre**. There are some steps before you get to the front door. The words and pictures on the windows tell you what shows and activities are happening inside.



When you enter through the front door, you will see a big space with lots of tables and chairs in an area called the **Foyer**.

There are also some instructions on the floor tiles, you can choose to follow these instructions or you can ignore them.

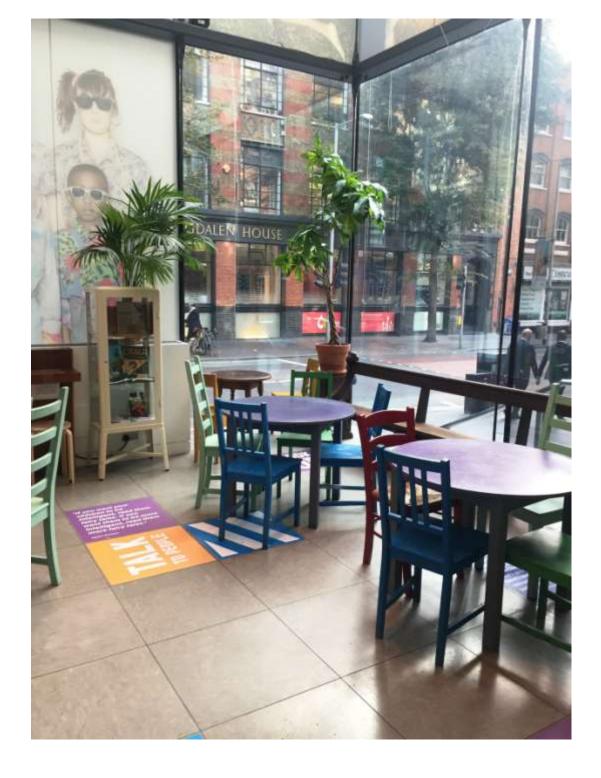


The **Box Office** is also in the **Foyer**. This is where you can buy tickets or collect tickets that you have already paid for. There may be other adults and children waiting to buy or collect tickets when you arrive.

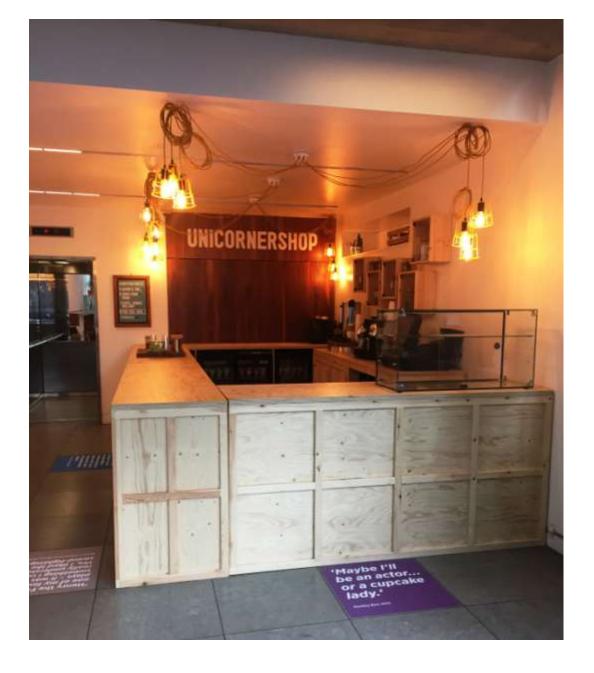


You will be met by one of the **Ushers**, who will be wearing a dark red shirt with white writing like the one above.

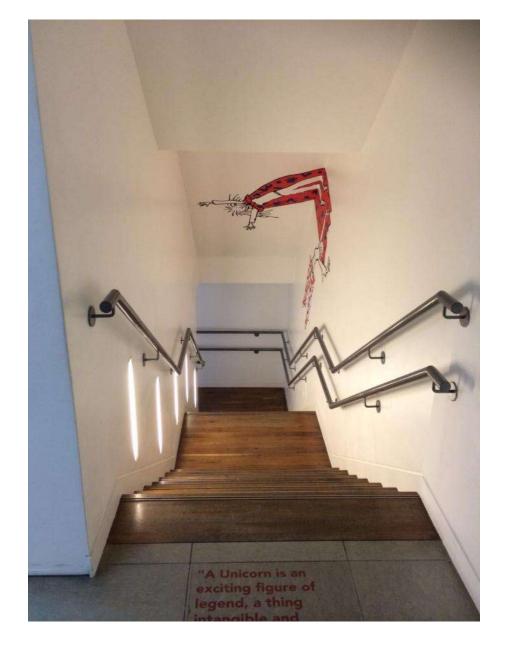
You can ask an usher if you have any questions and they will do their best to help you. When it's time for *BOING!* to start, you will hear a bell and an **Usher** will tell you where you need to go.



You might see some adults and children sitting at some of the tables having something to eat or drink from our **Unicornershop**.



There is a cafe in the **Foyer** called the **Unicornershop** where you can buy drinks and snacks. You can also bring your own drinks and snacks with you.



If you need to use the **Toilet**, they are downstairs from the **Foyer**. Look for the stairs going down or you can use the **Lift**.



These are the boys' toilets.



These are the girls' toilets.







This is Joêl

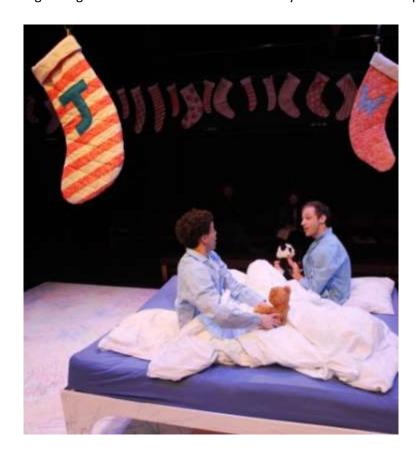
Let us introduce you to the actors that will be on stage. Their character names are the same as their real names.

Wilkie and Joêl play brothers, and we join them for the night of Christmas Eve, while they are trying to get to sleep and waiting for Father Christmas to arrive. When you go into the theatre, you will see a large area that looks like someone has scribbled all over it (you might imagine that this was probably Wilkie and Joêl!) as well as their big bed. It will all look a bit like the photo below:



Wilkie and Joêl will then come on to the stage, and the play will begin.

It's Christmas eve – the most magical night of the year! Wilkie and his younger brother Joêl are going to bed. They know that if they want Santa to come they HAVE to go to sleep. They brush their teeth, hang up their stockings and get into bed with their Teddies. They settle down to sleep.



The lights change a little, go a little darker, as they try to go to sleep. Wilkie and Joêl move and fidget around as they try and get to sleep.



Joêl wakes up with a start. He remembers that Santa is coming – but there's nothing in the stockings yet. He tries to wake Wilkie, without success. Joêl hopes by bouncing around, he will wake Wilkie "by accident"



Joêl plays a trick on Wilkie by stuffing the stockings with their pillows, and finally shouts at Wilkie to wake him up. Wilkie thinks that Santa has come – but is really disappointed when he pulls a pillow out of his stocking. Joêl laughs at him.



Wilkie hits Joêl with the pillow and starts a huge pillow fight all around the bed. Wilkie is cross with Joêl but they are also enjoying the fight. It gets quite fast paced and there's quite a bit of jumping around, but it's all fun and nobody gets hurt.



Wilkie grabs Joêl's Teddy and pretends to torture it. Joêl does the same to Wilkie's Panda. Just pretending – they're only doing it to wind each other up. The boys are furious with each other: they really love their Teddies and are very protective of them. After a stand-off they give back the Teddies and each gives them a big cuddle.



Wilkie hears a strange noise and thinks that Santa may be coming! The boys hide under the duvet, where they play quieter games, pretending to be a duvet monster and a very long man.



They come out from the duvet to play with their Teddies. This turns into a game of Catch! with the audience. If you want to join in at this point you can, it's also fine if you don't want to. Finally they decide the Teddies are tired so they rock them to sleep.



Wilkie gets into bed with his Panda, but Joêl is still feeling restless. Wilkie tries to force him into bed, but Joêl spots a problem – they have hung their stockings up at the wrong ends of the bed! The boys are worried that if their stockings are not in the right place Santa will give them the wrong presents, but they soon sort this out.



Hanging up his stocking again, Wilkie finds a feather. Joêl wants to see it, so he teases him, keeping it just out of reach. At first it's a game, but finally Joêl gives up trying and sulks. Joêl is upset because Wilkie won't give him the feather.



Wilkie tempts Joêl out of his mood by blowing the feather up into the air. They blow it back and forth to each other until it gets lost. Wilkie searches through the bedclothes while Joêl dives under the bed to look for it.



Wilkie hears Joêl making robot noises, and goes under the bed to investigate. Both boys emerge with lights on their fingers and toes. It becomes darker and darker until all we can see is the red & green lights spinning as they dance. The boys make lots of strange and eerie beeping noises, they are just playing a make-believe game of robots.



Wilkie switches the light on. He's remembered that they have to go to sleep if they want Santa to come. Joêl is still being a robot and won't go to bed, until Wilkie thinks of a plan to make him fall asleep. Wilkie turns all their bedclothes into a boat and they set off on a sailing adventure. The rocking of the boat gradually lulls Joêl to sleep. Thankfully, Wilkie climbs into bed beside him.



Joêl wakes up quickly – now he's hungry! He pulls out a bag of snacks and tempts Wilkie into having a midnight feast. Wilkie is really fed up because Joêl won't sleep.



All the sweets and fizzy drinks bring on a huge sugar rush, which propels the boys around the bedroom. As part of the game Joêl puts on a sheet as a cloak and becomes – SheetMan!



Wilkie's Teddy becomes Dr Evil Bear, who challenges SheetMan to a fight. SheetMan is overpowered and calls for help. Wilkie arrives as Captain Pillow, who defeats Dr Evil Bear and saves the day. Joêl as SheetMan is pretending to be scared of Dr Evil Bear, but it's only a game.



Both boys are now really tired. They tidy up and make their bed, climb in with their Teddies and settle down to sleep. Wilkie can see Joêl is still restless, so he pulls out the feather, which he had hidden, and gives it to him. Joêl is happy, and finally drifts off to sleep playing with his feather.



Feathers drift down on the sleeping boys as we hear the distant sound of sleigh bells.



Photos by Farrows Creative

This is the end of the show.



During the show you might find something funny, you can laugh if you like.



During the show you might see or hear something that makes you feel sad. You can feel sad if you like, that's okay.

You might hear other people in the audience cheer, clap, shout out or scream. You can join in if you like.

During the show you might feel that you need to take some time out.

This is fine, approach the **Access Assistant** and let them know. They will be sat on the end of the seats, by the door.

The **Access Assistant** will take you to the chill out space where you can relax and return to the show when you feel ready.

The actors use the door and area that lead to the foyer so the **Access Assistant** may need to wait for a safe moment to leave the space and a safe moment for you to return.

Thank you for visiting Unicorn Theatre and watching Boing!

Have a lovely day!