Relaxed Performance Pack

Compiled by Hammerpuzzle Theatre Company 2019.
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Hammerpuzzle Theatre Company and the Everyman Irving Studio Theatre are very excited to welcome you to our Relaxed Performance of **Under The Greenwood Tree**. We have put this pack together to prepare you for your visit. This visual resource is to help prepare you for a new experience and help you to become familiar with the surroundings and the performance.

If you have any further questions or specific requests, please do not hesitate to get in touch with:

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**Getting to us and parking**

We would suggest that you aim to get here at 2pm as Cheltenham gets very busy during the day in the run up to Christmas and the Everyman is in the town centre, so it’s worth allowing plenty of time to find a parking space.
The Everyman is attached to the Regent Arcade car park, which is a multi-storey car park. There is a flight of steps from here that leads directly into the theatre and you can follow the signs in the car park.

This is what the entrance to the car park looks like.

![Image of Regent Arcade Car Park entrance]

This is what the inside of the Car park looks like.

This is where you can pay for parking after watching the show.

![Image of Everyman parking payment area]
If you park in the Regent Arcade car park, you will come down some stairs and into the Everyman Irving Studio Theatre through this door.

There are additional disabled parking bays outside the theatre on Regent Street for blue badge holders.

**At the theatre**

If you come on foot, or park on the street, you will come in through the main entrance to the Everyman at the front.
You can pick your tickets up from the Box Office on the ground floor.

The Everyman Irving Studio Theatre is on the second floor. To get there, you will either go up the main staircase, two flights, or in the lift.
On your way to the Irving Studio Theatre, you will come to a room we call Matchams. This will be a chill-out zone for the afternoon.

There are toilets, including an accessible toilet, on the second floor near the lift. There is another accessible toilet and a nappy changing facility on the ground floor.

There will be plenty of staff around if you have any questions. They will be wearing red shirts, black waistcoats and name badges.
The performance

As you enter the Irving Studio Theatre this is what it should look like inside:

Seating for the audience

The set and floor

You might need to walk across this floor to get to your seat. For the performance, house lights will remain up (if slightly lower than normal) and we will modify the show slightly so that the volume levels will be lower.
The Show

**Under The Greenwood Tree** is an exciting adaptation of a beautiful tale; with different characters, live song and music, so we will go through these moments with you now.

There are moments in the show that can be more **fast-paced, noisy or sad**, we have shown you where these moments are by using these symbols:

![Noisy](image1)

![Fast](image2)

![Sad](image3)

During the show you might find something funny, you can laugh if you like. You might hear other people in the audience cheer, clap, shout out or scream. You can join in if you like. It’s OK if you want to make some noise too!

Also if at any point during the play you want to take a break or take some time out, you can leave the auditorium and go to the chill-out space where you can relax, and come back when you’re ready.

PLEASE NOTE: For people who are particularly sensitive to noises...whilst sound levels may be adjusted, there are live instruments and singing in the play. For some moments it is only possible to reduce the volume of these a little. These at times may seem a little loud or surprising.
Characters

There are 4 actors in our production:

This is Ruth.

Ruth plays Fancy Day.

She does lots of singing and plays the Clarinet.

This is Edem-Ita (Ed).

Ed plays:

Dick Dewy

Ed does lots of singing.
This is Katy.
Katy plays:
**Annie and Mr Penny**

Katy does lots of singing and also plays the Clarinet.

This is Danann.
Danann plays:
**Reuben and Parson Maybold.**

Danann does lots of singing.
Under The Greenwood Tree

When you go into the theatre you will see the set, it looks like the picture above. As you come in you will walk over the floor before you take your seats.

During the show the set and props are used in many different ways and different objects and costumes will be pulled out of cupboards and boxes.

The actors will come out to say hello and introduce themselves before the show begins.
The Play

When the play begins, four storytellers will walk onto stage and start to talk to the audience. They introduce the setting of the play.

They then begin to sing a song “The Voice of Trees”. This song has music but isn’t particularly loud.

As they move around and become the characters of the story. We see moments of them in interaction until the song finishes and we find DEWY, REUBEN and PENNY (members of the choir) outside the schoolhouse.

We see FANCY at the window, who thanks them for their singing. DEWY is left struck by her beauty.

The others begin conversation about FANCY. After some brief interaction, they move on for more carol singing.

They begin some a capella singing, when a voice interrupts them and tells them to shut up! They then continue with much gusto!

After they finish, they discuss all the changes taking place within the village and particularly to the church choir. DEWY, still thinking about FANCY asks if they think she might join them at church. REUBEN confirms that she will also be attending the party Christmas Day night.
The story moves on and the storytellers narrate as we see DEWY go about his business. He eventually ends up in Church with FANCY. After some brief interaction, the choir then assembles for a morning hymn.

We hear a *song “Oh Come All Ye Faithful”* sung and joined by the clarinets.

After this finishes they discuss the new addition of the school girls, who have been singing with the choir. They are joined by MAYBOLD and shortly after by FANCY.

There is a moment of awkwardness as they all regard each other. They confirm FANCY’s attendance at the party and she then leaves.

As she leaves there is a brief moment between FANCY and DEWY as they sing.

The scene changes into the Christmas party at the Dewy household.

As the clock strikes twelve, they decide it is time for some dancing! REUBEN, already sweating, removes his jacket in preparation.

The *music* begins and we see some joyful festive dancing.

ANNIE talks to REUBEN and highlights his sweating.

More dancing and the focus shifts to DEWY and FANCY. They haven’t ended up as partners until now. They introduce themselves and then the focus shifts back to more dancing.

ANNIE and REUBEN re-kindle their conversation before the final moments of the dancing and celebration.
It comes to an end with them all happy and flushed.

The storytellers move the action on and highlight DEWY’s observations of FANCY. The moment is broken by ANNIE and DEWY who call the party to an end.

As they disperse, the story moves on with music and song. We see ANNIE discover FANCY’s handkerchief and give it to DEWY. Winter turns to Spring and the storytellers discuss the events that follow.

We next see DEWY visiting FANCY to return the handkerchief. She is trying to dig up a bramble bush. They have another fleeting moment of awkward interaction before separating.

We hear more music and song as we travel further “Into Spring”.

The storytellers share the changes brought about by the new Parson MAYBOLD and we find young DEWY once again bypassing the home of FANCY. She is at her window and they have a conversation.

The scene soon changes to that of REUBEN and ANNIE at home. REUBEN discusses how he feels their son DEWY is a lost cause and is besotted with FANCY. They share their opinions on FANCY and then of the other new villager, Parson MAYBOLD. DEWY soon joins them and REUBEN shares his intentions for the choir to confront MAYBOLD about all the changes.

Music and song “Bring me Here Again” sung by the choir as the scene transitions and they make their way to MAYBOLD’s house.

As they arrive REUBEN has second thoughts and sends DEWY and PENNY in without him.
DEWY and PENNY enter the home of MAYBOLD and express their concerns. MAYBOLD listens and also states his opinion on the matter and on that of FANCY. They suggest a lengthened period for the choir to continue and then finish the following Christmas. After some more discussion and a moment between DEWY and MAYBOLD, MAYBOLD finally dismisses them as they leave sad and despondent.

The scene changes and we are joined by the storytellers who move the story on. It is now after Easter and DEWY is on route to see FANCY to ensure she is settled. She doesn’t have much and despite further interaction there is still a sense of awkwardness between them as they cannot say what they truly want to.

We see FANCY and DEWY share a moment together in her home.

The scene is broken and we transition with more music and song “With the Rose and the Lily” as Spring turns to Summer.

We see the characters going about their business and watch on as DEWY contemplates his feelings for FANCY and tries to decide what action to take.

Eventually, DEWY is joined by ANNIE and REUBEN as he prepares his cart to go to Budmouth. They talk about his feelings for FANCY and then send him off. On route he discovers FANCY who is also trying to make her way to Budmouth. He offers her a lift and she accepts.

Whilst on their cart journey we see them finally having unfiltered conversation and eventually sharing their feelings for each other. They decide they wish to
be together and be married, dependent on one thing...FANCY’s father Geoffrey’s blessing.

The scene dissolves and the storytellers move things forward through music, sharing how FANCY and DEWY keep their relationship a secret whilst DEWY tries to win Geoffrey’s favour.

They then turn their attention to the misplaced affections of MAYBOLD and how this is impacting on FANCY.

We join MAYBOLD at home as FANCY arrives to visit him. They converse as we begin to see MAYBOLD’s true feeling begin to surface, before he sends FANCY away.

She leaves confused and the scene transitions with music and song to “The Choirs Last Song”. It is a melancholy moment for them all.

It is now Autumn. As the music fades we see FANCY alone, who is soon joined by ANNIE, DEWY and MAYBOLD. ANNIE is preparing to smoke out the bees and collect honey.

They all stand by as she does so.

Smoke is used here but it is not harmful and shouldn’t affect any audience members.

We see the hidden conversation between FANCY and DEWY as MAYBOLD watches on. They all soon retreat from the buzzing bees, apart from ANNIE.
As she finishes and goes to pack up she suggests they taste the honeycomb. They all try a piece but FANCY is stung on her lip whilst doing so. She is clearly a little distressed as both men leap to her aid.

Both DEWY and MAYBOLD compete to help, watched on by ANNIE and with little success.

As the scene dissolves we find ourselves on a miserable afternoon, just after FANCY has played the organ in church for the first time. The storytellers highlight how MAYBOLD watched on in DEWY’s absence.

We hear thunder very briefly.

We find DEWY walking through the rain after a solemn day, burying his friend and eventually he sees FANCY once again digging up the bramble bush. She is soaked through and angry.

He approaches her and they talk. He wonders why she is dressed so nicely and yet out here digging in the rain. Their conversation is strained as FANCY thinks DEWY is angry with her. DEWY reveals he has spoken to her father about his intentions to marry her and it didn’t go well. He goes on to express his sad feelings as they both realise this is the end of their relationship. They embrace and he leaves.
Music and song, the hymn “When I Die” which is begun by MAYBOLD and then the other voices join in.

During this we see FANCY clearly upset, still digging at her bramble bush, both angry and sad. It eventually shifts, as we realise this too will now die.

As the scene fades, we see FANCY, alone in her home, still not herself.

MAYBOLD arrives. He sees FANCY who looks pale.

After not much introduction or response from FANCY, MAYBOLD expresses his reasoning for being there...to ask FANCY to be his wife!

The storytellers observe FANCY’s surprise at this.

FANCY doesn’t know what to do and says she cannot. MAYBOLD pleads with her to not answer in a hurry and shares his ongoing feelings. He also tries to persuade her by offering her a new home (that his friend in Yorkshire has offered) and a piano and anything else she needs.

In a broken voice and clearly confused we hear FANCY say yes.

With FANCY broken and MAYBOLD in overjoyed disbelief the scene fades and time moves on.

During this time, FANCY stopped eating and her father, seeing her upset, realised that it is because she is not with DEWY. DEWY has been to see him and they agree that they can be married.
We find MAYBOLD walking along, holding the letter he intends to send to his friend in Yorkshire, and alerting him to his intended marriage to FANCY. He comes across DEWY who looks joyful.

They greet and decide to walk together. During their walk they talk about FANCY’s playing at church (which DEWY missed). DEWY then shares his news with MAYBOLD that her father has agreed that they shall be married. MAYBOLD is obviously shocked and disheartened, without trying to show it.

The storytellers observe MAYBOLD and his realisation of what has happened.

As their walk has continued, DEWY realises where they are and he heads off on his way, leaving MAYBOLD alone.

MAYBOLD takes out his letter and rips it up. As he throws it, we hear music and song as he is joined by FANCY.

During this song we hear a distressed FANCY sharing her feelings, interwoven with MAYBOLD who confronts her with what he has found out. He suggests she tells DEWY and that he will forgive her.

As the song ends there is another transition from Winter to Spring. We are joined by the storytellers who set the scene.

We find FANCY and ANNIE, who is dressing her for her wedding day. REUBEN is downstairs, listening on. They converse through the floorboards as ANNIE attends to FANCY.
As FANCY shares her nerves, she is supported by ANNIE and REUBEN who suggest the motto “’Tis to be and here goes”.

There is a moment shared between FANCY and ANNIE where perhaps they share some unspoken feeling as they embrace.

The storytellers lead us through to the moment when FANCY and DEWY are married. We see confetti and hear bells and watch FANCY and DEWY about to embark on their new life together. We see ANNIE watching on as her child is about to leave. We see MAYBOLD on his own in contemplation.

We have a moment with FANCY and DEWY as DEWY asks that they will have no secrets from each other. And FANCY replies, “None. From today.”

As we leave the couple together, we are joined by the storytellers who bring things to a close, leaving with some parting questions and thoughts.

THE END

You are invited to stay after the show to meet the performers and can have a look at the set if you like. If you need any help with finding your way out just ask one of the Front of House Staff.