

Flutter

Pre-visit Social Story

Your guide to arriving at the theatre and attending the show.



The show is on at **BATS Theatre**, 1 Kent Terrace, Wellington.

The front door to BATS is off the sidewalk and has three steps up to it.



The **accessible entrance** is to the left of the front door:



Come up the ramp...

...and through this door.



You can let the team at BATS know your access needs here: _

bats.co.nz/about-bats/accessibility

Straight ahead from the front door, and to the left of the bar, you'll find the **Box Office**.

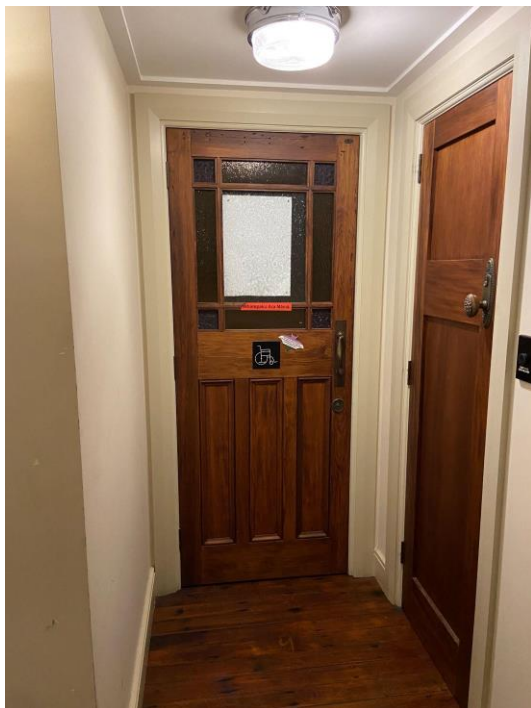


At the Box Office, you can buy tickets, pick up pre-purchased tickets, or ask questions! They are very helpful and friendly here.

The **toilets** are located in this short corridor. The toilets at BATS are gender neutral meaning anyone can use any toilet.



The accessible toilets are on the other side of the hallway, to the left of the theatre entrance.



Flutter is on at **The Stage**, which is right next to the Box Office.



There are rows of fold-down seats with stairs up either side. At the front is the stage, this is where the show will happen. When you arrive, you will walk through the middle of the seating block and then turn around to choose your seats. The theatre lights will be on so you can see where to go.

This is what the **set** will look like when you arrive.



What to bring:

You can bring any items that will help you feel comfortable during the show: earplugs, headphones, sunglasses, fidget toys, comfort items. You can bring tablets and cellphones but please switch them to silent. You can bring snacks to eat.

Before the show:

The doors will open 30mins before the show and you are welcome to come in and choose your seats, familiarize yourself with the space and make yourself comfortable.

Anna will have a puppet to welcome you in. You can choose to interact with the puppet or not.

10mins before the show begins there will be a preshow talk where we will play you some of the music and sounds in the show, show you some of the lighting effects. Introduce you to the puppets and the puppeteer. You can choose to attend this or wait in the foyer if you would prefer a surprise.

Theatre Rules for a Sensory Relaxed performance:

During the show people are welcome to get up, change seats, leave the auditorium and come back into the auditorium during the performance.

It is okay for the audience to call out, move around, come and go, and express themselves as they would like. It is a no judgement zone where everyone can be themselves.

The stage area is for the puppeteer and puppets only and there will be a

marking on the stage floor to show this special stage area.

What to expect during the show:

Show synopsis:

Scene 1: Pepe– (*Meet Bat*)

Music: Bush and night time sounds.

It is evening in the bush. Pepe (a bat) is asleep in a tree stump. He is snoring.

music: piano, whistling and percussion

He wakes and looks at the audience and says hello. Then he looks for some food. He sees his flower friend Dactylanthus he says hello and drinks some nectar.

Scene 2 – Titi (*nighttime, star falls and we meet Titi the glow worm*)

Night -time

It **gets darker** because it is night time and the stars come out.

Pepe starts to get scared he hears **three scary noises**.

These noises are sudden and give Pepe a fright. You can cover your ears.

Pepe is upset and cries in his tree stump. You can hear **Pepe sobbing**.

Star falls

Music: Twinkly piano

Then a star on the end of a stick moves down the set and along the front row of the audience and then gets sucked into the pond.

Meet the Glow worm

Music starts with 3 sudden loud chords, piano and percussion

A glow worm comes bursting out of the pool. She has lots of energy and is very happy and very happy to see the audience. She has a light on her tail. Sometimes it goes out and to turn it back on she does a fart. She makes slurping noises when she moves.

Titi leaves the stage area and moves to the audience area. She climbs up all the steps and down the other side saying hi to people in the aisles.

She climbs up the top of the set and looks at the moon and stars and turns off her lights as she goes to sleep.

Scene 3 – Bat and Glowworm meet (*the meeting, The night is Beautiful, the night is scary, The boo game, Losing the light, Star*)

The Meeting

Music: Piano and night bush sounds

Titi hears Pepe crying and wakes up. She looks in his tree stump and

gives him a fright. He feels afraid and hides. She shows him her lights and he thinks that they are amazing. Then there is a **Scary noise** Pepe hides again but Titi shows him her light.

The night is Beautiful

Music: Piano, melodica and accordion

They make friends and she shows Titi all the beautiful things at night time.

The night is scary

Music: Bush night sounds

They are sitting by Titi's pool when they hear a **scary noise**. Pepe gets a fright and hides. The scary noise happens **3 times**. Pepe feels very upset and sobs. Titi makes a loud boo noise and scares the sound away. Pepe is amazed at her bravery.

The boo game

Music: piano and kazoo

Titi teaches him Pepe how to say "Boo!". They play a game of boo and dance together. They are happy.

Loosing the light

Music: bush and night sounds

At the end of the dance they sit together. Then there is a strange sound and Titi's light goes off again but this time she can't get it back on. Pepe is very scared. There **three scary noises**. Pepe is scared and goes to hide in his tree stump he is crying. Titi is sad because her friend is scared and her light won't go back on.

Scene 4 - Stoat (Star, Chase)

Star

Music: Twinkly piano

The star comes back on. Titi chases after the star but can't catch it.

Chase

Music is driving and tense building to a climax. It is a bit off kilter.

Instruments are a piano and percussion and cymbals

The stoat comes on. This a big scary puppet with glowing red eyes it makes sniffing noises. Titi is very scared. **The stoat will come and sniff three audience members sitting in the front row**. If the puppet is coming towards you and you don't want it to come closer to you – you can say “stop”, “no” or shake your head.

The stoat sniffs out Titi and chases her to her pool. Titi calls to Pepe to help her. Pepe is scared but comes to her aid and the stoat starts to

chase Pepe. **Pepe is very scared and there is some tense music** here. The stoat almost catches Pepe but at the last moment Pepe says “Boo” and the stoat gets a surprise and falls down.

Scene 5 – Resolution (*the reunion, catch a star, flying, goodbye*)

The reunion

Music: Bush sounds and reprise of boo dance which includes kazoo music.

Pepe is very happy and calls to Titi. Titi feels very relieved and Pepe tells him the story of how he scared the Stoat. Pepe and Titi dance together.

But then Titi feels very sad again because her light isn't working.

Catch a star

Music: twinkly piano

Pepe feels sad for her too and wants to help. He flies up and catches a star for her and puts it in her pool. Titi's light turns back on she is very happy.

Flying

Music: piano, accordion and rhythmic plucking of strings

Pepe asks Titi if she wants to fly on his back. Titi gets on his back and they **fly up the stairs** to the back of the audience and down again.

There will be starry lights on the audience to show that they are flying through the stars.

Goodnight

Music: piano with finger clicking and cymbals

When they finish flying they say goodnight to each other.

Pepe goes to see his flower friend Dactylanthus.

Then he goes into his tree stump. He hears a **scary noise** but is not scared and says boo and then he falls asleep again.

Bush sounds

Run Time

30 minutes (approx)

Content Forecast and Sensory highlights

Scary noises – this show is about being afraid of the dark and the scary noises you might hear. There are a few scary noises during the show. These sometimes come suddenly and may give you a fright. You can read about when they will happen in the story summary to prepare yourself. Here is a link to the scary noises so you can listen to them and hear what they sound like in advance. <https://youtu.be/30UIM25BiQo>

Crying noises – Pepe the bat at the beginning of the show is very scared and sad and you will hear him sobbing when he is scared. He will be happy by the end of the show because he will make a friend, do brave things and have some tools to overcome his fears.

Audience interaction – There are three times the puppets leave the stage and come into the audience space. The puppets will only come to the front rows and the seats by the aisles and these seats will be marked with a ribbon. If you don't want to be approached by the puppets sit in the seats further away from the aisle. There will be lots of space to move in the theatre if you want to move further away or closer to the puppets. If a puppet is approaching you and you don't want it to, you can shake your head, say “no” or “stop” and it will pass you by.

Star lights in the audience – towards the end of the shows lights will shine stars into the audience.

Head bands – there are headbands with stars provided for audience members to wear during the show. These are optional and you don't have to wear it if you don't want to.

Music – This show is largely without words and most of the emotion is conveyed by the music. The music has been especially composed for this show by Stephanie Cairns and has been recorded and plays over the speakers. Stephanie has used lots of different instruments in her music including the piano, kazoo, melodica, accordion and cymbals. Feel free to bring earplugs or headphones if this would make you more comfortable. Here are some short samples of all the different music tracks in the show: <https://youtu.be/WTNFbFII7KA>

Chase scene – There is a tense scene when the scary stoat puppet chases Titi and then Pepe. You might think that they could be eaten by the stoat but they aren't. They are both safe at the end.

Meet the Puppeteer

Anna is a puppeteer. She is the only person in the puppet show. During the show she moves the puppets. Most of the puppets are string puppets. You will see a black painted control with strings. Anna moves these strings and the puppets move. Anna won't look or talk to you during the show and she will be dressed in black so that you don't notice her. The puppets are showing you the story. Anna loves puppets and loves talking about puppets if you want to talk to Anna about the puppets you can ask questions after the show.

This is what Anna looks like:



These are the puppets in the show:

Pepe – short tailed Bat



Titi – glow worm



Dactylanthus – a flower friend of Pepe's



Stoat



Quiet Time

The theatre doors will remain open during the performance. If you need some quiet time, you can leave during the show with and go to the break out zone in the foyer. You can relax in the break out zone and come back if you want to. The friendly staff at BATS will help you to come back into the theatre when you're ready.



After the show

When the show has finished, people may clap their hands. You can clap too if you liked the show or you can cover your ears. The lights will come back on. The puppeteer will say a few words about the puppets and if you want to come up close and have a look at the puppets you can otherwise you can leave the theatre.