

## A View on Access at Trafalga Studios – Strangers In Between

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Friday the 26<sup>th</sup> of January 2018 7.45pm

The Trafalga Studio's in the heart of the west end in Whitehall is one of my personal favourite venues due to the unique quality of its two theatre's and the diverse programme of plays and musicals showcased throughout the year that are always presented in interesting ways.

Studio 1 is the larger auditorium and stages more mainstream and ambitious productions often with well-known casts, They offer captioned and audio description on the majority of their plays and musicals Past shows include Apoligia starring Stockard Channing and the Philanthropist starring Simon Bird. There were touch tours for both that provided a fabulous insight into every aspect of the script, design and physical entity that unfolds on stage and a full audio description provided by vocal eyes through the headset provided, mobile connect is all available which means you can access the soundtrack through your own smart phone and use your own headphones.

The staff are always gracious, welcoming and go out of their way to help.

I went along on Friday the 26<sup>th</sup> of January to experience the play on Offer in Studio 2 – which is a totally unique theatre experience offering a very small performance space with only just under 100 seats. Although there is currently no access friendly performances for those visually impaired or hard of hearing – like touch tours, audio descriptions and captioning

but there is hope that there will be in the not too distant future.

The Play in Question was Strangers in between by Tommy Murphy as part of the King's head season highlighting the best in gay theatre. Set in Sidney Australia, this timeless classic centres on 16 year old Shane and the colourful characters he encounters after escaping his rural surroundings and an abusive brother. This laugh out loud drama is not only gritty and true to life but moving and honest and very memorable.

Studio 2 despite being a small space is accessible for all and has one space for a wheelchair and fully accessible toilets. There are plans to introduce more services for those blind and deaf in the very distant future.

The Next audio described performance in Studio 1 will be the sensational new musical ' The Grinning man ' that features ambitious stage design and innovative puppetry.

This is on Wednesday the 21<sup>st</sup> of March with a touch tour at 5.30 pm, and introduction through the headset at 7.15 with the full audio description beginning with the performance start at 730pm

To find out more or to book tickets visit

<http://www.atgtickets.com/venues/trafalgar-studios/>  
call the access line on 0800 912 6971

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