

# 2019 CAPITALE national arts FESTIVAL

## Black Dog

BY LITTLE DOG BARKING THEATRE

**HANNAH PLAYHOUSE**

For further information please contact:



Harriet Newman  
Phone: 04 913 3742  
[capitalebookings@experiencewellington.org.nz](mailto:capitalebookings@experiencewellington.org.nz)

### **What is this pack for?**

This information pack is to help prepare you for your visit.

## Front of venue

There is a big sign above the doors that says 'Theatre Entrance'. There may be a poster on the front of the building with a picture of a theatre show.

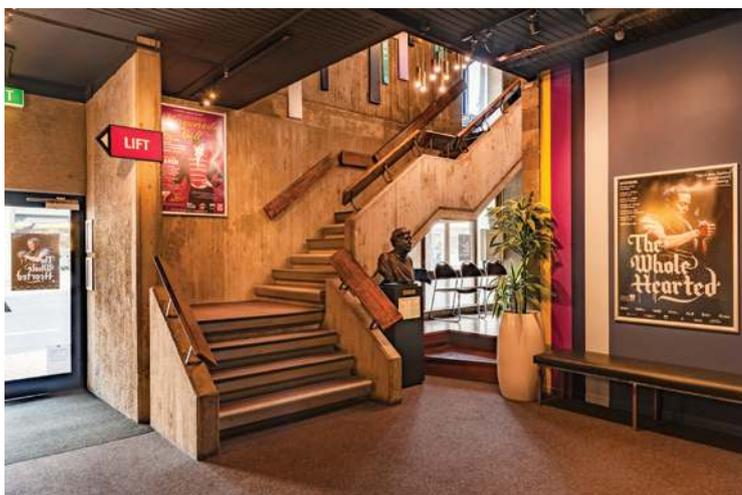


## Inside

When you go into the Hannah Playhouse, there is a lift to the right of the main doors as you enter. There are some seats on the ground floor. The ground floor is carpeted. There are stairs on the left.

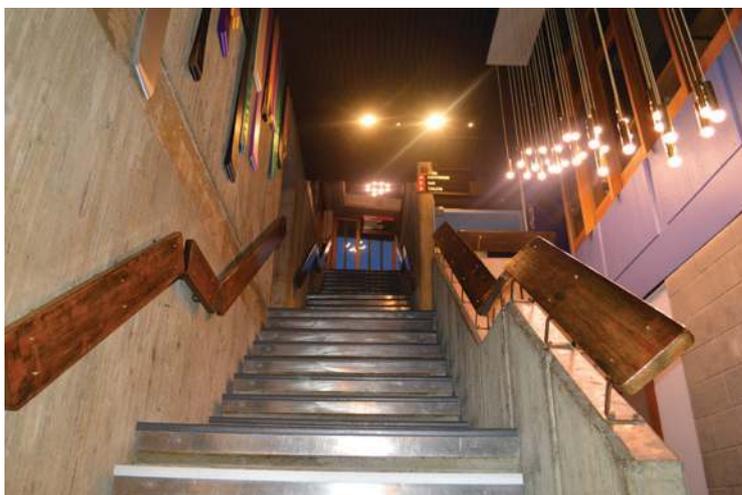


There are 20 stairs up the first floor, or you can use the lift. You will find a space on the first floor with seats and space to stand.



When the theatre is ready for you to go inside, a Hannah Playhouse team member will tell you over a microphone.

Then you need to go up some more stairs (there are 20 here too), down a passageway and into the theatre where you will be shown where to sit.



You might be sitting in the balcony. If so, before you get to the 'main entrance' you go up the stairs on your right to the balcony level to take your seat.

There is wheelchair access from the auditorium foyer into the front of the auditorium, where the Stalls are situated. The auditorium has 22 stairs between the front and rear of the seating rows. The auditorium flooring is a mix of wood and concrete.

## Where are the toilets?

On the first floor, go to the right hand side of the bar and the toilets are on the left.

There is a baby change facility in the accessible toilet. Please note there is no hoist system in the toilets.

## Inside the theatre ▶

There are rows of fold-down seats with stairs up either side. At the front is a stage, this is where you will see the puppets! When you arrive in the theatre the lights will be on so you can see where to go.



Once everyone has found their seats, the lights will change to be less bright so you can see the stage better and music will begin to play. The show is going to start! It's time to sit, listen, and watch the stage. ▶



## Show Synopsis

Music will start playing. The Black Dog puppet and little girl puppet, called Christina are in bed sleeping. They start pulling the covers back and forwards until they both fall out of bed. Christina goes to get breakfast, she sits at the table to eat and Black Dog has a bone, she lets Black Dog lick the bowl. Black Dog plays with his bone throwing it up in the air, he digs a hole and buries the bone.

Christina and Black Dog play, she tells him she loves him. It is spring and some flowers start to grow out of the ground. They play hide and seek, Christina counts to ten and Black Dog hides. Christina looks for him and Black Dog sneaks around behind her.

They leap around and Black Dog picks all the flowers for Christina, she leaves to put them away. Suddenly two birds appear, they whistle to each other and walk towards Black Dog, and he sees them and barks at them. They fly into a tree. Two bunny rabbits appear and bounce around, Black Dog watches them, he barks and chases them but one of the rabbits stays to watch him.

Christina appears again and tells Black Dog she loves him. They sit together, and the stage gets darker, it is night-time again. The moon flips around to show when it is daytime.

It is now summer and there are leaves on the trees. Christina wants to go swimming so they race to the river. Bubbles appear when they jump into the water. They throw a ball to each other and dive in and out of the water. Black Dog pees on one of the trees and Christina laughs at him. They sit under the tree together until it is night-time again.

It is autumn and apples are on the tree. A leaf floats around the stage, Black Dog chases the leaf and another one appears. Christina has a basket and picks the apples, a bird appears on the stage looking for food. Christina brings some bread and throws some for the bird.

The moon comes back, and snow starts to fall, Black Dog watches the snow, he wears a scarf because it is cold. They gather firewood. An odd blue light appears and the blue feather floats down to the ground. The feather came from a Blue Bird and

Christina wants to find the bird. She is impatient with Black Dog. Christina looks for the Blue Bird and Black Dog is alone.

Christina is in bed and Black Dog tries to cuddle her, but she won't let him. Christina dreams that the Blue Bird is flying above her. Black Dog is cold, but Christina won't let him in the bed, she tells him to go away because she is dreaming of the Blue Bird. Christina dreams she is flying with Blue Bird. Black Dog tries again to wake Christina, but she tells him to go away.

Christina is on stage with her basket of bread, trying to find the Blue Bird. She throws bread onto the ground and another bird appears, but she tells him to go away because the bread is not for him. This happens to another bird as well. Black Dog appears but Christina tells him to be quiet in case he scares away the Blue Bird.

Black Dog digs up his bone and takes it to Christina, but she is distracted when she hears Blue Birds music again. She wanders around searching for Blue Bird. Black Dog is sad and howls, he cries. Then in front of him a flower begins to grow. He picks it for Christina, but the Blue Bird music distracts her, and she walks away.

Black Dog tries to climb a tree to help look for Blue Bird but he slides back down. He takes off his scarf and uses it to climb. The stage goes dark and Blue Bird appears, then we see that Black Dog has fallen out of the tree. Christina tells him she loves him and hopes he will be okay.

Black Dog is alright! He looks up and she hugs him.

When the show has finished, people may clap their hands. You can clap too if you liked the show!

The lights will come back on and everyone will stand up and collect their things and leave the theatre. There will be a lot of people leaving at the same time, so it may take a while to leave.

## Main Characters

Christina: Christina is a puppet, but she talks just like a real girl! She has red hair and a purple dress.



Black Dog: Black Dog is a puppet, he is a dog and has grey fur and a black nose.



Puppeteers: These people control the puppets, they will be wearing black clothing, so you don't see them very well. They are called Rebekah, Kenny and Adam.

Technician: Tony sits in the tech box and his job is to control the lights and the sound.

*Thanks for watching, we'll see you next time!*