



ATTENBOROUGH
CENTRE
FOR THE
CREATIVE
ARTS



FAGIN'S TWIST VISUAL STORY



This visual resource is for audience members visiting the Attenborough Centre for the Creative Arts.

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

The performers use both text and movement to tell elements of the story.

This performance is **fast paced, high energy** and contains scenes where characters may be **threatening**. The threat level is not sustained throughout.

There are some sequences where the performers are doing **risky movements**, or might talk directly to the audience.

The performance is based on the characters of Oliver Twist and imagines how Fagin may have grown into the character we all know him as. We have made amendments to the **volume and lighting levels** due to the nature of the show, you will experience moments of **startling sound and lighting effects**.

ADDRESS:

Attenborough Centre for the Creative Arts

University of Sussex, Gardner Centre Road, Falmer, Brighton, BN1 9RA

Box Office: 01273 678822

GETTING THERE:

There will be a Brighton and Hove Albion match that day at the Amex stadium so it might be busy getting to the venue by public transport. We advise taking some extra time to get here.

The nearest station is Falmer (approx 5 minutes' walk from there to the Attenborough Centre). The train takes nine minutes from Brighton and seven minutes from Lewes.

Trains run very regularly during the day (about every 15 minutes).

From the train station follow signs to University of Sussex – walk under the underpass and follow the footpath until you reach a zebra crossing. Turn left here until you reach Gardner Centre Road on your right. Turn right up Gardner Centre Road to find the main entrance of the building. The Attenborough Centre for the Creative Arts is the building with round red brick towers.

Bus

The number 25 and 25X bus brings you from central Brighton all the way to University of Sussex campus. Alight at the “Sports Centre” bus stop and you will see the Attenborough Centre (building with round red brick towers) through the trees across a lawn.

Parking

There is car parking available at the Sports Car Park (P5), Sussex House Car Park (P4) and Biology Road Car Park (P3), all of which are within a couple of minutes' walk from the Attenborough Centre. The routes from the car parks to the Attenborough Centre are accessible for people in wheelchairs.

Please see the [campus map](#) for further details.

AT THE VENUE:

There are plenty of toilets, a café, and if you need a safe space, the front of house team will be happy to escort you to a quiet area.

The Show

When you enter the auditorium, you will see the set already in place, with one of the characters stood on it. This piece of set splits into different sections, and the performers will be climbing all over it, and positioning it in lots of different ways throughout the show.

Tickets at the Attenborough Centre are not numbered and the audience generally takes seats on a first-come, first-serve basis but if you have any special requests about where you sit, give the venue a call and they will be happy to reserve allocated seats. . When everyone is ready for the show to start, the lights will dim in the auditorium, and will get brighter onstage. The music will play, which means the show has started.

Sound

There is a mix of music used throughout the show, in a range of different styles, and using different instruments. Sometimes it will **increase in volume** during dramatic moments in a scene. There are some **sounds effects** such as **buzzers** or **beeps**.

You will also hear the performers talking. Sometimes they will be telling you what is happening in a scene, and sometimes they might be speaking more poetically.

Lighting

The lighting will sometimes make the stage **quite dark**, or might **flash brightly**, and at other times will fill the whole stage.

Please speak to a member of staff if you have any concerns.

The Characters

The characters are based on those found on the story of **Oliver Twist**, but the story of the show imagines some of Fagin's earlier life, and takes a different look at the characters.

Fagin



Bill



Oliver



Nancy



Dodger



Ensemble



THE SHOW BEGINS with an overture of the full company. They are not yet playing their individual characters, but are setting the scene of the time and place.



Dodger describes the story's setting, a time of poverty, sickness, hunger and darkness. He introduces **Fagin**, a survivor made from dirt and hope but forced into the **workhouse**, also known as the archway of tears.

We see some of Fagin's life in the workhouse. You will hear **buzzing sounds** and see **flashing lights**. Fagin befriends **Bill**. They talk about a way of escaping and a new partnership is created. Fagin and Bill share their dreams of a life outside the workhouse.



Fagin explains to Bill his plan to **escape** the workhouse through distractions and trickery. They escape by moving across the set to show the different areas they are escaping in.



Fagin and Bill make an abandoned warehouse their lair and build a solid partnership. They have to make tough decisions to survive - one is great at thieving while the other is a sweet-faced salesman. They work well together, and expand their team, enrolling **Dodger** to help bring in more people.

Just before the interval, we see that Fagin and Bill are starting to want different things.

There is an interval in this show, which will last about 15 minutes.

When you come back into the theatre, you will see our 5 main characters already on stage before the show begins again. **Dodger** will reintroduce where we have left off. **Nancy** has become Bill's girlfriend, and looks after all the children, **Oliver** is trying to learn how to be a good thief.



Nancy warns Oliver of the dangers of pick pocketing and encourages him to seek a better a life. Oliver asks Nancy if she will look after him.



Oliver shows that he has a devious side, and one morning Fagin finds that his pocket watch is missing and interrogates everyone.

Fagin expresses frustration in providing for his gang and their lack of appreciation for the sacrifices made to achieve his current status. Fagin is under a single lamp and **he moves it around the stage, even pointing it at the audience.**



Dodger tells us that he wishes he had understood how devious Oliver could be.

Fagin accuses Oliver of stealing his pocket watch, and **gets very angry.** This is okay, and it won't last very long. Oliver diverts the blame to Bill.



Bill is **angry** with Oliver, and threatens to hurt him.

Fagin and Bill **have a fight**, which Bill loses. Don't worry, it is not real. Oliver sees how he can make the best of their fall-out.



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 and clap. You can join in if you like.

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

The Attenborough Centre for the Creative Arts Front of House team will be on hand to help.

You can identify them by their black 'ACCA' t-shirts and they will also be wearing orange 'ask me' badges.

There will be a space you can take some time out from the show at Attenborough Centre for the Creative Arts.

The name of the room is the Seminar Room and here you will find comfy seats and a live audio and video stream of the performance.

The Seminar Room is located through the café bar, on the opposite side of the café bar to the bar, by the big bay windows and green sofas.

Thank you for coming to see Fagin's Twist!

TELL US WHAT YOU THOUGHT:

If you have any feedback please contact info@attenboroughcentre.com / 01273 678 822