



Relaxed Performances at Yale Repertory Theatre

What is a Relaxed Performance?

A Relaxed Performance is an inclusive theatrical experience. The front of house atmosphere is less formal and more supportive of patrons who have sensory, communication, movement, and learning needs. Relaxed performances present the full artistic vision of the production with minor modifications in the auditorium and public spaces, including house lights set at a low level throughout the performance and a break area for anyone who would like to step out during the show. Materials are provided in advance to help attendees prepare for the experience, including detailed directions to and inside the theater and information about the content of the play.

At no time will anyone be asked to leave the performance due to sound, movement, or behaviors related to differing cognitive/developmental abilities. This is a judgement-free environment.

Slight Technical Modifications

The audience will never be completely in the dark. The house lights will remain at a low level for the entire performance.

Audience Supports

In advance of the performance:

- A social narrative describes the events of the day, and may be individualized to suit the needs of those attending the performance.

During the performance:

- There will be a break area in case patrons would like to step out of the auditorium during the performance. Individuals may access the break area and re-enter the auditorium as they wish.
- Assistive communication devices as well as comfort items will be welcomed.
- The theater will be staffed with volunteers who have experience working with individuals with disabilities to assist ushers and patrons as needed.

If you have questions or would like to be notified of future Relaxed Performances, please contact Audience Services at 203.432.1522.