

**A large print accompaniment to
Actually on**

**In Trafalgar studio 2 until the
31st of August 2019**



creating inclusivity and equality in disability

Welcome to this large print accompaniment of *Actually* by Anna Ziegler which is playing in Trafalgar Studio 2 until the 31st of August 2019. Performances are nightly Monday till Saturday at 7:45pm with Matinees on Thursday and Saturday at 3pm.

The running time is 1 hour and 30 minutes including an interval.

Unfortunately Latecomers cannot be admitted.

Studio 2 is an intimate performance space situated downstairs close to a bar and toilets, with lift access and has just around 100 seats. The box office is situated directly ahead as you enter the foyer and there are plenty of customer service staff on hand to assist in any way they can.

Touch tours are available on request subject to availability for further information regarding access

email access@trafalgarentertainment.com or enquire at the box office.

Or visit the access page:

<https://trafalgarentertainment.com/your-visit/access/>

To book tickets you can call the Access line on 0800 912 6971.

Trafalgar Studio 2 is situated in Whitehall, near Charing Cross Train Station, Post code SW1A 2DY, as you enter the venue the box office is directly in front of you.

This accompaniment gives you an overview of the synopsis, cast, stage design, Props, costumes, visual ambience, an extract from the programme, production credits and theatre Information. It has been written, performed and edited by Tim Calvert of Calvert Creative Concepts.

The Promotional material for *Actually* states

Simon Manyonda and Yasmin Paige star in Anna Ziegler's much talked about new play *Actually*.

Amber (Yasmin Paige) and Tom (Simon Manyonda) hook up at a party at their elite American university, and spend the night together. They agree on the drinking, they agree on the attraction, but what actually happened between them?

With wit and urgency, *Actually* investigates the highly charged topic of sexual consent, the complex intersection of race and gender politics, our crippling desire to fit in, and the three sides to every story.

Actually was first staged in The USA in 2017 and premieres for the first time in the UK at Trafalgar studios.

The Director of the play Oscar Toeman describes it as an experience that is totally open to interpretation.

The production is supported by the Royal Victoria Hall foundation.

To get to Studio 2 you can go down a set of stairs or use the lift which is adjacent to a bar area and toilets.

As you enter Studio 2 there are 3 rows of just under a 100 seats on three sides that are red in colour, there are a few steps down to stage level

which is right in front of row A as studio 2 is a very intimate performance space.

The stage is open to you and is very minimalistic, it is made up of a square platform and a back wall area that has a slight opening on the left and a divide corridor in the centre with a mirror like wall on the inside reflecting light.

All of it has a black and white gradient design that looks like a mash up of black grey and white colours mixing and swirling together.

There are no other set pieces used in the performance apart from a silver hip flask that contains tequila that the character of Amber takes out of her Jeans pocket and a white feather that falls from the ceiling. Both occur at the end of the play.

Actually features the characters of Amber and Tom who are both 18 and Freshman American students.

The narrative of the play jumps forward and back in time and alternates between the characters interacting together in scenes, to then talking to the audience in the form of a monologue. These switch back and forth quite rapidly. When music is

heard in the background the characters are at a party engaging in conversation etc.

Amber is played by actress Yasmin Paige and is white, slim and attractive with dark eyes and long bushy dark hair, she wears a black-y, grey textured shirt that looks a little like a cardigan with a brown top underneath. Light blue jeans and fashionable black leather boots, a necklace and a wrist watch

Simon Manyonda portrays Tom he is a black male, tall, slim and attractive with a short afro style hairstyle, he wears a dark red and cream cheque shirt with a mustard t-shirt, dark Blue jeans and grey and white vans trainers.



They both use the full use of the stage and alternate between standing opposite each other in different formations during the scenes the characters interact to standing side by side with a gap in between during the monologue style performance. They sometimes crouch down or sit on the stage also.

They both use a full range of non-verbal communications from facial expression to hand movements to illustrate certain emotions.

The character of Tom uses his hands a lot to express how he is feeling especially during scenes of frustration and Amber fidgets a lot with her hands when irritated and during the confrontational scene during the end when voices are raised there is a lot of head and hand movement and plenty of facial gesture to signify the uneasy situation they are both in.

The lighting switches from bright beams of white to softer more subdued yellows and often creates a lot of shadow on the set, especially during the more intense dramatic moments.

Creative credits

-  Tom Simon Manyonda
-  Amber Yasmin Paige
- Director Oscar Toeman

- Set & Costume Designer Cindy Lin
- Lighting Designer Jess Bernberg
- Sound Designer Duramaney Kamara
- Associate Director Jackie Fisher
- Company Stage Manager Saskia
Godwin

Theatre information

A Touch tour can be provided on request – subject to availability – please ask at the box office or by email:

access@trafalgarentertainment.com

An audio introduction to each show is available on sound cloud searching for – Trafalgar Studios or by requesting a Cd using the email address above or visiting the box office. A large print version is also available.

The Trafalgar studio's is situated on 14 Whitehall, in London, postcode SW1A 2DY not far from Charing Cross train station, and Trafalgar square

There are bag checks at the Theatre on arrival and the box office is in close proximity to the entrance.

Studio 2 is situated downstairs. If you require any assistance please ask a member of staff.

There is an accessible toilet that can be reached by using the lift.

Guide dogs are permitted in the auditorium with prior arrangement and can also be looked after in accordance with guide dogs for the blind guidelines.

To book tickets call the access line on 0800 912 6971

Trafalgar Studios Box Office Opening Hours are Mon-Sat, 10:30am to 7.45pm and 6pm when there isn't a show on

Trafalgar Entertainment Group

Trafalgar Studios is owned and operated by Trafalgar Entertainment Group, a live entertainment business launched in 2017 by Sir Howard Panter and Dame Rosemary Squire DBE. For more information on the company and its flagship venue Trafalgar Studios, see www.trafalgarentertainment.com or follow us on Twitter, Facebook or Instagram.

The manager of the venue is Martin Scorer.

Coming soon to Trafalgar studio

A Day in the death of Joe Egg by Peter Nichols starring Toby Stephens and Clare Skinner is on from the 21st of September to the 30th of November.

With performances nightly at 7:30 pm Monday to Saturday and matinees on Thursday and Saturday at 2:30pm.

Captioned Performance is on

Tuesday 12 November 2019 at 7:30pm.

Audio Described Performance is on

Wednesday 6 November 2019 7:30pm + Touch Tour 6pm.

To book for the Audio-Described or Captioned performances, please email access@trafalgarentertainment.com to book, putting Audio Described or Captioned Performance in the subject line.

An audio accompaniment will be available online for those visually impaired two weeks into the run.

Toby Stephens (*Oslo, Lost in Space*) and **Claire Skinner** (*Outnumbered, The Father*) will make their long awaited returns to the West End stage this autumn in **Peter Nichols'** (*Privates on Parade, Passion Play*) funny and moving masterpiece ***A Day in the Death of Joe Egg***. Directed by **Simon Evans** (*Killer Joe, Arturo Ui*), this revival of Nichols' acclaimed bittersweet comedy reunites two of the greatest actors of their generation. The

stars, who last worked together 18 years ago on the award winning BBC TV drama '*Perfect Strangers*', will now be performing on stage together for the very first time. Opening at Trafalgar Studios on 21 September, tickets go on-sale today (Friday 19 July). *A Day in the Death of Joe Egg* is presented in the West End by Howard Panter for Trafalgar Theatre Productions and Eilene Davidson Productions.

Bri (Stephens) and Sheila (Skinner) have been struggling to care for their disabled 10-year old daughter Josephine ever since she was born. Nicknaming her "Joe Egg", they lose themselves in fantasy games and black humour to help cope with the struggle of their daily reality. This remarkable story challenges all our assumptions on the limits of love and the power of family.

Inspired by Nichols' own experience of bringing up his disabled daughter in the 1960s, *Joe Egg* was one of the ground-breaking plays of its generation and the issues faced by two parents in this bittersweet comedy still resonate with audiences today, breaking your heart one minute and filling it with warmth the next. Now this startlingly funny and celebrated play returns to the West End for a limited season until 30 November.

