

# HERMIT

## Information Pack

Created by Sara Gannon



**The Ark**

**dtf** | DUBLIN  
THEATRE  
FESTIVAL



The Ark is so excited to welcome you to this performance of *Hermit* by Simone de Jong Company as part of Dublin Theatre Festival!

We have put together some information that you might find useful during your visit to The Ark. You will see and experience many new and interesting things while you are here. We have put together some pictures to help you understand where you are going and what you will see, as well as a brief synopsis of the play so you know what to expect during the performance.

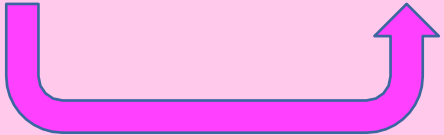
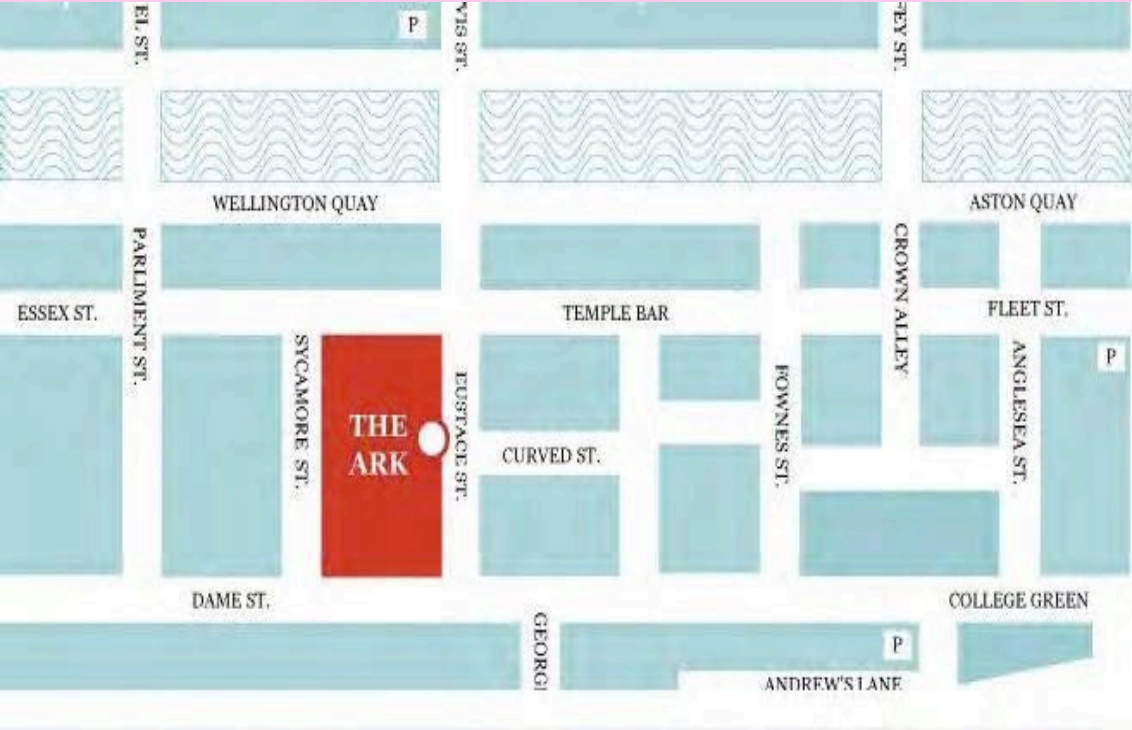
If you have any questions that are not answered by this pack, please feel free to contact our friendly Box Office team at [boxoffice@ark.ie](mailto:boxoffice@ark.ie).

We hope you enjoy *Hermit*!

The Ark is on 11a Eustace Street, in Temple Bar. The entrance to the building is fully accessible and has step free access. Please note that Eustace St. is a cobbled street.

There is a lift in the building that can take you to each level of the building. Accessible toilets and baby changing are available on the ground floor.

If you have any access requirements, please let us know at [boxoffice@ark.ie](mailto:boxoffice@ark.ie) and we will do our best to help.



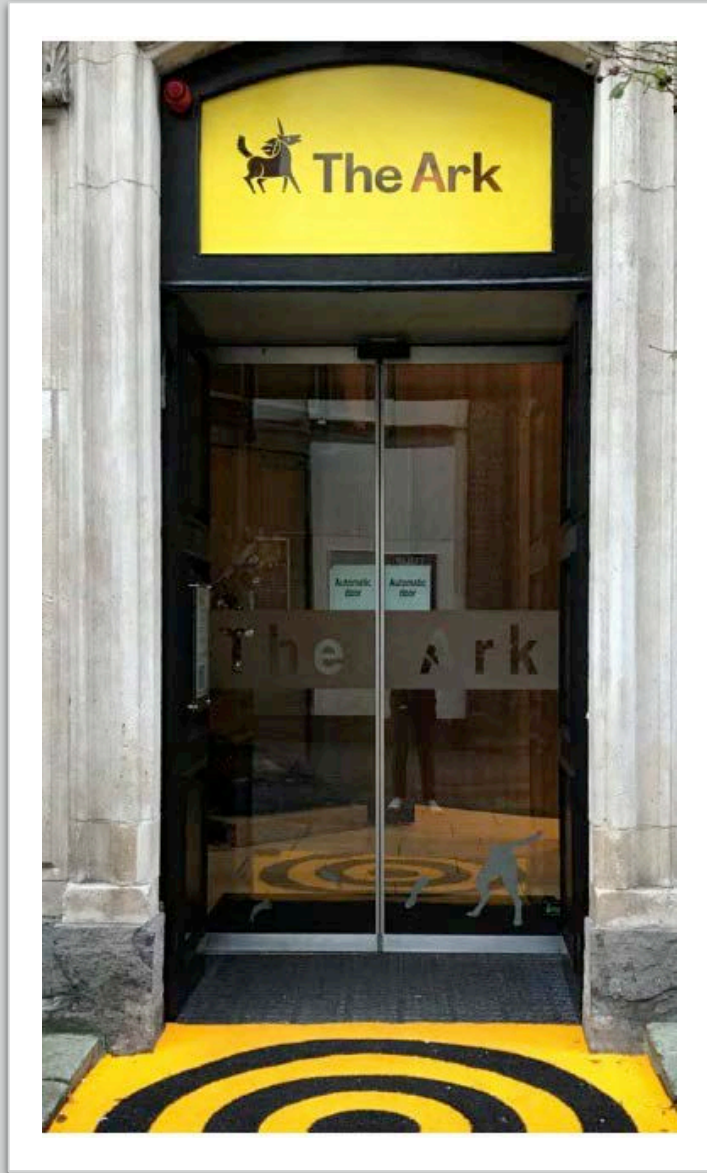


Here are some things you will see on the day:

This building is called The Ark. You will come here to see the show.







# The Main Door

You will go through here to get inside.

# The Reception

This is where we collect our tickets.







Our friendly Visitor Services Team will give you your tickets and tell you where to go.





# The Basement

This is where we wait for the show.

Other children will be waiting here also.







## Toilets

We can find toilets in the basement through the red doors.

The girls' toilets are on the left.

The boys' toilets are on the right.



You can use whatever toilet you feel most comfortable in.





When we are in the theatre  
there is a toilet nearby.

# The Door to the Theatre

We go through this door when it is time for the event.





Where will you  
sit?

We all sit on the benches  
in the theatre.



If you want a break at any time, we can go back to the relaxation space in the basement.





# HERMIT

Is the name of the show we are going to see.

This is the poster for the show:





# About the show

- ★ Hermit is 30 mins long.
- ★ There is one performer in the show.
- ★ There is no right or wrong way to watch the show- we want you to have a good time! If you want to make a noise, or have a wriggle in your seat, that is okay.
- ★ If you need to take a break from the theatre at any point, you can step out and come back in when you are ready.
- ★ You will know The Ark's Front of House staff by their blue jumpers. If you need to leave the theatre during the performance, they can help you. If you have any questions or worries about the show, they are friendly faces to talk to!

Sometimes there will be background music and sound effects.



Some of the sounds you will hear may be intense and loud.

If you have headphones that you like to wear in noisy spaces you can bring them.

We will provide ear plugs if you would like to use them instead.



The lights in the theatre will dim during the performance so it will be a little bit darker but you will always be able to see your way out.





This is Toon.



In the show, Toon wears a white shirt, a red vest, and green shorts.



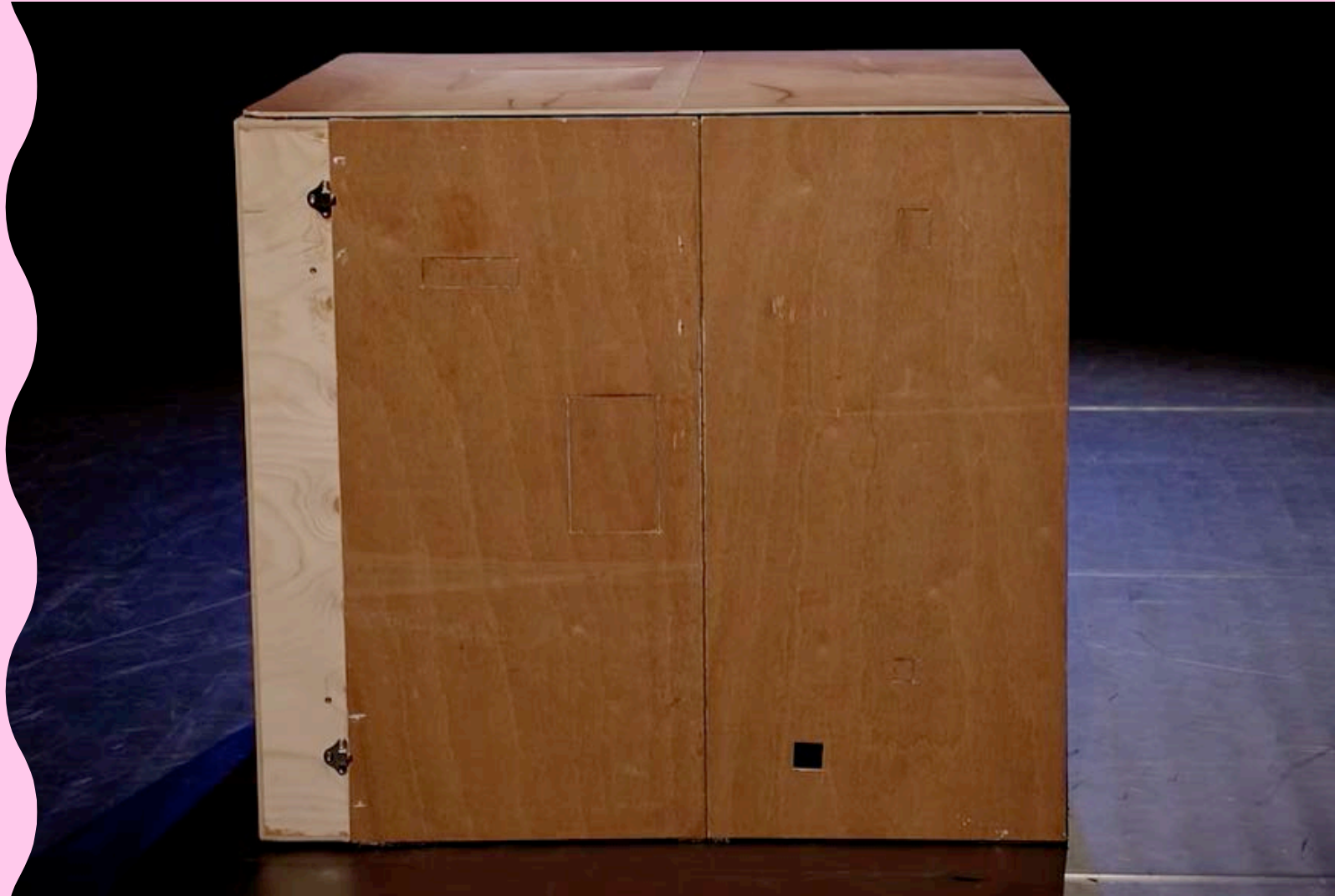
# The Story of Hermit:

When you enter the auditorium, this is what the set on stage will look like.

There is one wooden box on the stage. One side is made of canvas. We can see shadows appear on this side of the box.

Another side has small doors of varying sizes cut into it. These can open and close.

What else can you see?



A wooden box is on the stage. It is dark but a light passes over sections of the box from the inside. It looks like there are windows on the box. Is it a house?

The box begins to move! It turns anticlockwise so another side of the box faces the audience.

There are lots of small doors of varying sizes on this side of the box. They all begin closed. Slowly, one door opens and a little light shines out! When one door closes, another opens and we see the light there instead.





One of the doors opens as before, but instead of a light, we see something new! Is it a chin? Or maybe a knee? What do you see?

We see different parts of a person appear in each of the doors, one by one. The box turns again, clockwise. It slowly moves backwards to the middle of the stage. It moves left, and then right, forward and back. The box returns to the front of the stage. We can hear someone inside of the box!





They sneeze and an arm pops out of one of the doors! It is holding a big orange cloth. The arm shakes it out and then pulls back in through the door. The door closes. A door at the top of the box opens and we see someone's face!



A door opens at the front of the box and a hand appears with a doorbell!  
The hand is trying to find a good place to put the doorbell. They take out  
some tools and stick it in place.

The hand appears with the orange cloth from earlier and uses it to clean  
around the doorbell. They accidentally ring the doorbell and get a fright!





The box turns again. The lights get a little darker before a foot appears out of the top of the box! It is followed by a second foot.

We see a window appear on the front of the box. There is a shadow of a hand and a cup inside. The person in the box is drinking some tea!

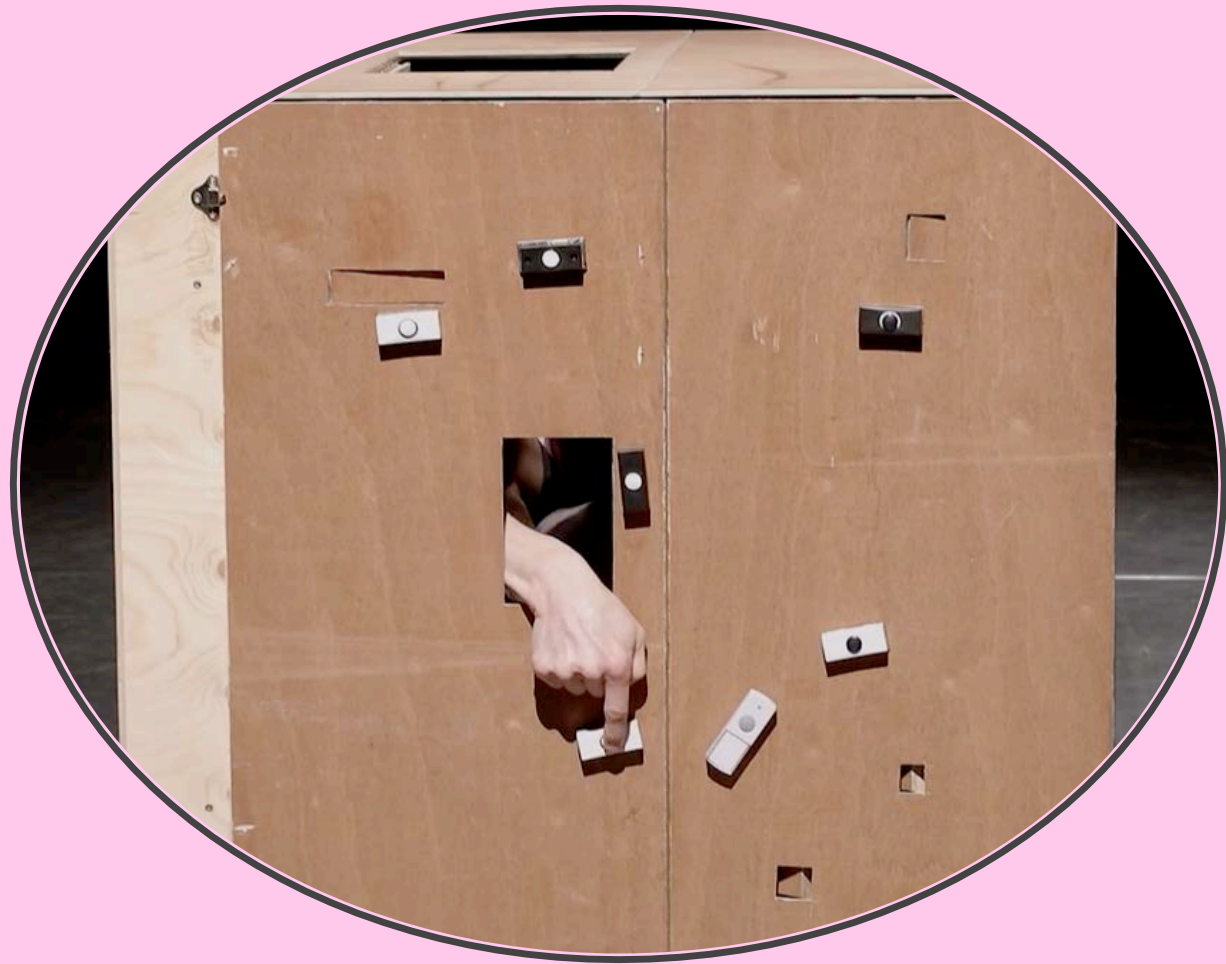
They put the tea cup away. A banana appears! The window gets bigger and now we can see the shadow of a person eating the banana!

When they are finished the banana, they throw the skin out of the box!

The person is now reading a book. They place the book on top of the box so they can read without holding it. Their head pops out to read. They are holding a hammer in one hand and a bell in the other hand. They disappear back inside the box

Suddenly we hear some banging from inside the box! The person is working on something.





The lights get a little brighter. There are lots of bell noises coming from inside the box.

The box turns around again to the side with the little doors.

One of the doors opens and the person sticks their hand out to ring the bell. After they ring the bell, they say that they are not home and close the door!

The door opens again but this time the hand is holding a new bell! They place it on the front of the box next to another little door. This little door opens and a finger sticks out to press the doorbell. After the bell rings, the person again says that they are not home and closes the door!

This happens several more times. All the doorbells have different sounds.

After a while, one of the doors opens and an arm comes out holding a torch. The person is looking out through another little door and accidentally shines the light in their eye!

They stick their head out of the top of the box. They shine the light in their eyes again and get a fright! All the doors close. The box turns around.

The top door opens and bubbles start to appear out of it!

The hand pops out and places a table bell on either side of the top door. Bubbles continue to come out of the door

Both hands come out of the box and ring the bells. The person's head pops out and rings the bells with their nose.

They are sleepy and yawn. They rest their head on one of the bells and falls asleep. They slowly slip back inside the box. The lights get darker.





The window appears on the box again and we hear the sound of doorbells. We see shadows of fingers pointing as if ringing bells in the window.

Arms begin poking out of the box.

Then, the person inside the box crawls out!

They dance around the stage.

After their dance, they crawl back into the box.

The shadow fingers are ringing bells again.





The person wakes up inside the box and closes over the window. They turn the box around again. This is a new side to the box, we can see inside!

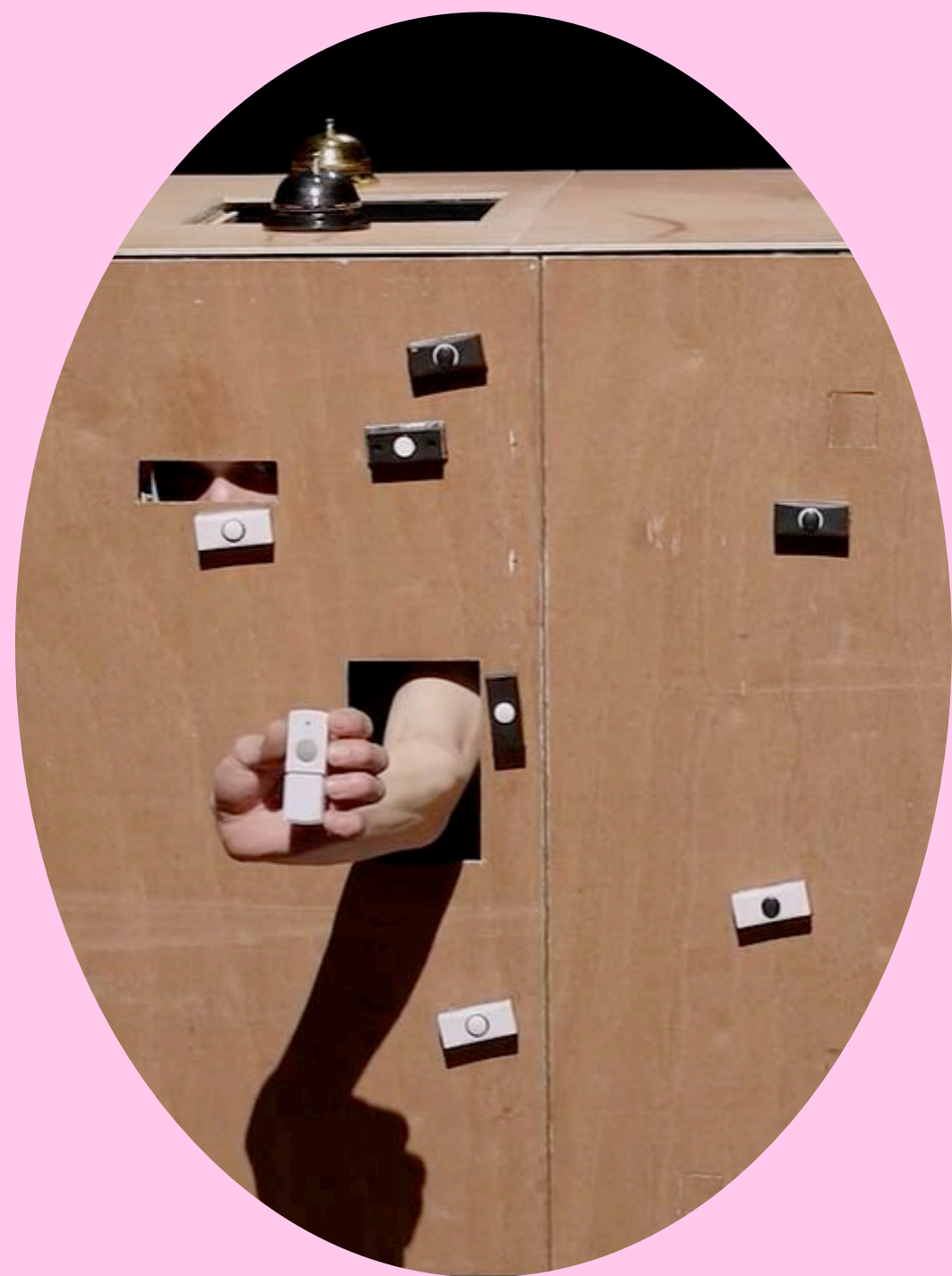
There is a see through part of this box wall. We can see the person reading their book.

The person suddenly notices us! They hide behind the wooden section of the box and then poke their head out the see through side. They hide a few more times.

They spin the box back around to the doorbell side. They open two of the little doors. We can see their eyes through one, and their hand sticks out through the other.

They take one of the doorbells off the side of the box and holds it out. They scurry towards the audience in the box, holding the doorbell out for someone to press.

You do not need to press the doorbell if you don't want to.





When you press the bell, it makes the sound of a phone ringing. The person inside the box shouts Not Home! again. They stand up in the box and begin to back away from the audience while saying Not Home!

They sit back down in their box. We can see their shadow through the window in the box. They turn the box again. We can see inside. The person looks out at us.

They turn the box around to the doorbell side and poke their head out the top of the box. They have something different to say. I am home. They get out of the box!

They are still a little afraid of us but they are excited to be out of their box. I am not home, they say!



They slip back inside the box. Slowly, one side of the box opens and we can see inside properly! I am home, they say. They invite someone from the audience to visit them in their house. You do not need to go into the house if you don't want to.

The person from the audience sits next to the person in the house. They close the door and the lights go down.

The show is now over.



When the show finishes, there will be clapping. People clap at the end of a play to show the performers that we enjoyed the play. You can join in if you want to.

After the clapping we can leave the theatre and go back to school or go home.





Thank you! We look forward to welcoming you to  
The Ark.

We hope you enjoy the show!



An Roinn Oideachais  
Department of Education



Comhairle Cathrach  
Bhaile Átha Cliath  
Dublin City Council