

SMASHED: The Nightcap

Relaxed Performance Show Information

Show Information

- Australian performer Victoria Falconer hosts an interactive cabaret circus. She sings between and during some of the variety acts.
- Along with a number of songs, acts include aerial performances with suspended rope, a hula hoop performance that includes marshmallows, a drag act with LED whips, and a dance routine that is partially suspended from a ceiling-mounted hoop.
- Victoria and other performers flirt with and interact with the audience, bringing some audience members up onstage as part of their performance.
- Themes of sexual tension and lust are present throughout. There's a strip tease and a performer portraying excessive alcohol consumption.
- The band plays loud and live the whole time, underneath bright, moving circus lights shining through haze.
- The show is a cabaret style circus variety show. We're imagining the Spiegeltent as a nightclub. There's no single story through the show, instead it's a variety of individual acts and scenes. The performers impress the audience with daring physical feats and their sexiness and allure. There is a comedic element throughout.
- The show takes place on the main stage, the centre riser, and performers move throughout the tent during the show. Some performers appear from behind as if they are one of the audience taking part in the show.
- The show is bright, loud, and high energy. Lights flash and move dramatically and frantically, shining all around the tent and into the audience, and the band matches that frenetic pace with their music. You can feel the drum beats through the floor and in your chest. The audience will also make noise, clapping and whooping to support the performers. It's ok to join in or not.

Location:

The cabaret takes place in the Spiegeltent, a large purpose-built circus tent, located in the middle of Aotea Square. There are two public entrances on the Queen Street side of

the tent and one has ramp access. The outer ring of the General Admission seating area has step-free access. While seating is allocated on a first-come, first-served basis, if you e-mail access@aaf.co.nz or call/text 022 1239 759 we can reserve seating in this area for you/your group.

Time: Starts 6.30pm, 75 minutes in duration with no interval. During the Relaxed Performance audience members may leave and re-enter the tent at any time.

While **there is no designated breakout space for this performance**, you may take time out in Aotea Square, the container café or the Aotea Centre, if you need a break. Level 5 of the Aotea Centre (accessed via stairs or lift, both to be found at the left-hand side of the building) is usually quiet and free from activity.

Pre-show Demonstration

Before the show starts, we will have a pre-show demonstration in the tent. We will gather outside the tent at 5pm for a brief chat, before entering the tent at 5.15pm sharp.

We will introduce some of the lighting, sound, special effects, as well as some of the musicians and performers, and we will talk about what the show will be like. We will also talk about how the relaxed show will work. This document will give you even more details about the show.

Relaxed show features

During the relaxed performance, audience may come and go, move around, and use comfort and fidget items. If you need to leave during the show, please return to your same seat. Please don't go onto the stage with the performers. The tent doors will remain closed, but you can leave the theatre at any time. To come back into the theatre, an usher will let you know when it's safe to return. You might have to wait outside the closed doors for a moment, as the actors go into the audience area during one part of the show. If you'd like assistance to come and go, please let theatre staff know.

Because performers need to use the aisles during the show, if you need to get up from your seats please stand right at the back or go outside of the tent for a movement break.

While **there is no designated breakout space for this performance**, you may take time out in Aotea Square, the container café of the Aotea Centre, if you need a break. Level 5 of the Aotea Centre (accessed via stairs or lift, both to be found at the left-hand side of the building) is usually quiet and free from activity.

If you need to use devices for accessibility, please put them on silent. At the start of the show, the whole audience will be reminded with an announcement that during the relaxed performance it's ok for the audience to be themselves.

The rear centre GA section is a “no go” zone for the performers, and they will not interact with audience members sitting there. This is also the area closest to the doors, so is easiest to move to and from the exit.

Lighting

During the performance lights will flash and move, sweeping across the audience, and changing colours.

There will be blackouts and sudden bright lights. The audience lights will be turned off during the show. Some of the cabaret tables will have small lights illuminating in different colours.

We will demonstrate some of these changes during the pre-show demonstration.

Sound

Much of the time the singers and live band performs on the main stage, however one of the acts is accompanied by a hard rock recording, with guitar music with heavy distortion. Another act is accompanied by loud techno beats.

Special Effects

- There will be small, controlled fire, and flaming poi
- A sheet of rain will fall from the ceiling towards the end of the aerial act
- A confetti canon and handheld canons will be set off at the end of the show
- Champagne will be poured into glasses which overrun onto the stage
- Aerosol spray will be sprayed liberally

Audience Interaction

During the show performers will enter the audience, speak to and interact with audience members, and audience members will be asked to come on stage.

The rear centre GA section is a “no go” zone for the performers, and they will not interact with audience members sitting there. This is also the area closest to the doors, so is easiest to move to and from the exit.

Triggers or surprises

- Tension is a key part of the show, from the physical tension of the performers achieving dangerous and difficult moves to the tension of the audience members interacting with the professional performers. The audience members may seem pretty awkward when they become part of the show, but that's part of the fun and the agreement between the audience and the performers. The performers are excellent at ensuring the audience is comfortable and the boundaries are not pushed too far. The performers are also well practiced in their circus acts and have safety plans in place to keep themselves and the audience safe during the acts.
- One of the acts involves marshmallows where the performer mimics vomiting. The marshmallows are spat into a bag and given to the audience member who takes part in the act.
- At one point a performer licks spilled champagne from the riser in the centre of the tent.
- There is aerosol sprayed liberally as if sanitising the room after these episodes.
- There is a scene where there is a small, controlled fire. A performer runs throughout the tent with the fire.
- There is a champagne bottle shaped confetti canon at the end and a lot of confetti is distributed throughout the tent
- The show is bright, loud, and high energy. Lights flash and move dramatically and frantically, shining all around the tent and into the audience, and the band matches that frenetic pace with their music.

Want to know more?

Contact Hannah on access@aaf.co.nz or phone/text 022 1239 759.

This show information by Auckland Arts Festival used a template designed and provided by [Arts Access Aotearoa](#).