



HAMILTON

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## **GUIDE TO THE RELAXED PERFORMANCE**

We hope you will enjoy this relaxed performance of Hamilton.

## **OTHER CHANGES YOU CAN EXPECT IN THE SHOW ARE**

- The house lights will be on throughout the performance at a low level. This will make it easier for you to see if you need to leave during the performance.
- The auditorium doors will remain open during the performance if you need to leave.
- We have allocated chill-out spaces: these have been signposted in the visual story and in the theatre.
- There will be a relaxed environment at the theatre and throughout the performance - you are welcome to respond to the show however you wish and this is a no shush zone!
- We have made slight adjustments to the lighting and sound to reduce flashing lights and any loud and sudden sounds, occasionally there may be moments that are slightly louder or flashy than others.
- There will be a pre-show introduction from a few of the cast members.
- There is an overview of the story and a scene-by-scene breakdown of the story and potential trigger warnings later in this document.

## **HOW LONG WILL THE SHOW LAST?**

The show will last about 2 hours and 45 minutes including a 15-minute interval.



## **THE DOORS TO THE THEATRE WILL BE OPEN AT 5:30PM**

You can get a drink or a snack from the bar beforehand and then go to your seat. The staff will be very happy to help you find your seat. You may also choose to sit in a chill-out room



**PRE-SHOW ANNOUNCEMENT** from the cast will start at 6:30pm. The show will start with an announcement from the cast where the actors will let you know all about the story and the characters they play. This will last about 5 minutes.



## **ACT ONE**

This will last about 1 hour and 15 minutes



## **INTERVAL**

This is a break between the acts that will last about 15 minutes



## **ACT TWO**

This will last about 1 hour and 15 minutes



The show will end and the cast will come out and bow. Lots of people will be clapping (but you don't have to). You will leave the theatre, we hope you had a nice time.

## CHARACTER LIST

Below are pictures of the different actors and the name of the characters they play. Some actors play the same character throughout the show, but some play more than one character.

### THESE CHARACTERS APPEAR THROUGHOUT THE SHOW



#### ALEXANDER HAMILTON

Alexander Hamilton is the main character of the story and the show follows his life. Hamilton wants to succeed very badly, he works very hard, likes to tell people his opinions and will not miss any opportunity to succeed.



#### AARON BURR

Hamilton meets Aaron Burr early on. Burr and Hamilton have very different ideas about how to do things. Burr thinks it is best to stay quiet about what you believe in and remain patient. Burr and Hamilton start off as friends but have lots of disagreements and Burr is often jealous of Hamilton.



#### ELIZA SCHUYLER HAMILTON

Eliza is the middle sister of the "Schuyler Sisters" and she later marries Hamilton. She is kind, smart, forgiving and loves her family.



#### ANGELICA SCHUYLER

Eliza's older sister. Angelica is smart, confident and witty. She loves her family a lot and always makes sure that they are happy.



### **GEORGE WASHINGTON**

Washington is an important leader in the army fighting for revolution and later becomes the first president of America.



### **KING GEORGE III**

The King of England and the person that the American army are fighting against. He is very bad tempered and angry that American people don't want to be part of Britain anymore.



### **ENSEMBLE**

The ensemble is a group of performers that perform throughout the performance, but don't always have a named character. They play lots of different characters throughout the show to help show lots of different locations, people and stories.

## THESE CHARACTERS APPEAR ONLY IN THE FIRST HALF OF THE SHOW (ACT ONE)



### PEGGY SCHUYLER

Eliza and Angelica's youngest sister.



### JOHN LAURENS

One of Hamilton's best friends and fights in the revolution. He is brave, passionate and has strong beliefs.



### HERCULES MULLIGAN

Tailor and spy fighting in the revolution with Hamilton. He is bold, loud and full of energy. He finds clever ways to help support the army.



### MARQUIS DE LAFAYETTE

Has come over to America from France to help fight in the revolution. He has lots of energy, personality and courage. He is very keen to make sure the revolution succeeds.



### SAMUEL SEABURY

Serious, traditional and loyal to the king. His opinions are very different from Hamilton and his friends.

## THESE CHARACTERS APPEAR ONLY IN THE SECOND HALF OF THE SHOW (ACT TWO)



### THOMAS JEFFERSON

Has just come back to America after living in France. He is a political rival of Hamilton and disagrees with a lot of Hamilton's opinions. This character is played by the same actor that plays Marquis de Lafayette in the first half but they are different characters.



### JAMES MADISON

A politician who agrees with Thomas Jefferson's ideas and disagrees with Hamilton. This character is played by the same actor that plays Hercules Mulligan in the first half but they are different characters.



### PHILIP HAMILTON

Philip is Alexander Hamilton and Eliza's son. He is very keen to make his family, especially his father proud. This character is played by the same actor that plays John Laurens in the first half but they are different characters.



### MARIA REYNOLDS

A charming and mysterious woman that says she is being badly treated by her husband. This character is played by the same actor that plays Peggy Schuyler in the first half but they are different characters.

# OVERVIEW

## SETTING

Hamilton is set in the past, between the years 1776 – 1804 in America.

The first half of the show is all about the revolutionary war. This was a war that took place because America was being controlled by Britain in an unfair way. This made lots of Americans angry and they decided to fight Britain so that they could run their country themselves.

The second half of the show is set after the war, when America had got independence and it shows what happened to politicians in the early years of America.

Though the plot moves through history and different locations in America (mostly New York) the set mostly stays the same. However, at times the set will move around and characters sometimes lift pieces of furniture to show a different scene or emotion. This has all been practiced lots of times and everyone on stage is completely safe.

## SOUND

Hamilton is a musical which means that the story is told through songs and there is singing all the way through the show. The songs are all accompanied by a live orchestra located in front of the stage. You will be able to hear the orchestra, but you won't be able to see them.

The show includes sound effects to represent things such as cannons and guns. These have all been softened and shouldn't be too loud.

## LIGHTING

The show will use lots of different coloured lights and lighting effects throughout. These have been softened and there won't be any strobe or quickly flashing lights.

## COSTUME

The characters wear lots of different costumes throughout the show. If a character is wearing a red costume in the first half it usually means they are part of the British army and a blue costume shows they are part of the American army.

## **CONTENT WARNINGS**

This show contains the following themes. If you would like to know exactly when these happen there is a breakdown of exactly when each of these happen in the visual story below.

- Depictions of war and violence
- Death
- Depictions of grief and bereavement (including death of a child)
- References to suicide
- References to extramarital affairs
- Mild sexual references
- References to domestic violence
- Depictions of alcohol consumption
- Gun violence

## **SPOILER WARNING!**

The next pages will tell you all about the story and what happens in the show and when.

## ACT 1



We are introduced to Alexander Hamilton's character, the story of his life and some of the other characters he will meet in his life.

Location: 1776, New York City

**Warnings: Swearing, Reference to loss of a parent, Death, Slavery, A mention and depiction of suicide.**



Hamilton is very excited to meet a man called Aaron Burr. Burr tells Hamilton that he shouldn't tell people what his opinions are if he wants to be successful.

**Warnings: References to loss of a parent.**



Hamilton is introduced to a group of young men: John Laurens, Marquis de Lafayette and Hercules Mulligan. The men are all excited about fighting against Britain in the revolution. These men are very different from Burr: they are bold, loud, and ready for action. These men often shout because they feel very passionately about what they believe in. Hamilton explains that a revolution is coming because Britain is treating America unfairly. Hamilton makes friends with the men he has met, and they come together to help the revolution.

**Warnings: Alcohol consumption, References to death, Swearing.**



Burr introduces us to the Schuyler sisters – Angelica (the oldest), Eliza (the middle) and Peggy (the youngest). The sisters sneak into New York. They know lots of important things are happening that will be remembered in history and feel lucky to live during this time.



Samuel Seabury comes to talk to Hamilton and his other revolutionary friends. Seabury believes America should stay loyal to Britain and fighting isn't the solution. Hamilton and his friends make fun of Samuel for his beliefs.

**Warnings: Depiction of bullying.**



The men are interrupted by people shouting silence – there is a message from the King. The King is very jealous and sad that the American people want to leave Britain. He says that America will regret leaving him and he will be violent towards them if they leave.

**Warnings: References to war, death and violence.**



Everyone is very nervous because the British army are in New York and have a lot more soldiers than the American army have. George Washington is the leader of the American army. Both Burr and Hamilton meet him and share their plans of how they can win the war. Washington can see Hamilton's talent and determination, and he recruits him as his "right-hand man" – his go to man for help that he knows he can rely on.

**Warnings: References and depictions of violence, war and swearing, Scene features a gun and a sword, This is a louder scene, This scene features sound effects of gun shots and cannons, This scene includes flashing lights.**



1780 – A Winter’s Ball. Hamilton and his friends go to a ball. At the ball Hamilton meets Eliza and Angelica Schuyler. Eliza and Hamilton talk to each other and immediately realise that they have feelings for each other. Eliza and Hamilton start a relationship with each other and love each other very much – they get married.



At the wedding, Eliza’s sister Angelica remembers how she felt the night of the ball. It goes back in time showing Angelica’s story of what happened that night. She met Hamilton first and liked him but couldn’t tell him because she needed to marry a rich man. Seeing that Eliza also liked him, Angelica stayed silent to make her sister happy. She admits she and Hamilton can never be truly happy because she never said her true feelings.



Aaron Burr comes to congratulate Hamilton on his wedding day. Hamilton and his friends have heard that Aaron Burr has got a new girlfriend (Theodosia). Burr reveals she is already married to a British officer so he shouldn't be with her.

Aaron sings about how much he loves Theodosia, but he is happy to wait for her. Burr believes if he waits, he will eventually get what he deserves – unlike Hamilton who is always rushing into things.

**Warnings: Alcohol consumption, swearing and references to an affair.**



Hamilton, Washington and their friends are making plans for their next battles in the war. Hamilton is not happy when another soldier called Charles Lee is chosen to lead instead of Hamilton.

Charles does not do as he is told so Washington tells Hamilton to lead instead.

This makes Charles angry and he starts to say bad things about Washington which upsets Hamilton and his friends. A duel is organised between Charles and Laurens to defend Washington.

Washington is very angry that Hamilton was involved in the duel and tells Hamilton to go home.

**Warnings: Shouting and conflict, References to death and war, Swearing, Depiction of guns, Gun sound effects.**



When Hamilton gets home he discovers that Eliza is pregnant. Eliza tells Hamilton that even though he is no longer part of the army she still loves him and is happy that he is alive and at home with her.



### Battle of Yorktown, 1781

The American army are doing better in the war than anyone thought they would. Lafayette is a very good fighter and has brought supplies from France. He tells Washington to bring Hamilton back into the army. Hamilton helps organise a successful attack on the British army. The British soldiers surrender- Hamilton and the American army have won the war!

**Warnings: Bomb sound effects, Depictions and references to war, violence and death, Flashing lights.**



The King of England returns to the stage to say how sad he is that he lost and that he won't get money from America anymore. He wonders what will happen now that America is free.



Hamilton receives a letter informing him that his friend John Laurens has been killed during the war. Burr and Hamilton are now both working as lawyers. Hamilton is constantly writing about the new country and Washington asks Hamilton to join his new government. Eliza wants Hamilton stays with his family, but Hamilton wants to take the opportunity to succeed.

**Warning: Reference to death.**

## **INTERVAL**

There will now be a short interval (which means a break) which will last 15 minutes long.

This is a good opportunity for you to stretch your legs, go to the toilet or get a drink or snack if you would like to.

If you would prefer to stay in your seat during the interval that is also okay.

In the interval you will see some of the people who work at the theatre on the stage setting it up for the next half of the show. You are welcome to watch what they are doing but you don't have to and this is not part of the story of the show.

## ACT 2



Since the war has ended, Washington is president and Hamilton has been looking after the government's money.

We are introduced to two new characters:

Thomas Jefferson – who until now has been living in France and has been invited to join the government. (Thomas Jefferson is played by the same actor that played Lafayette in the first half of the show, but they are different characters).

James Madison - who is in government and doesn't agree with how Hamilton has been managing the government's money. (James Madison is played by the same actor that played Hercules Mulligan in the first half of the show, but they are different characters).

**Warning: Flashing lights.**



In a government meeting, Jefferson and Hamilton argue about the best way to run the country. This is shown as a rap battle, they are both very passionate about what they believe.

**Warnings: Shouting and characters speak into mics that are louder than the usual volume of the show. Flashing lights.**



Hamilton is at home with his family: Eliza and his son Philip who is now nine years old. Philip is played by the same actor that played John Laurens in the first half of the show but they are different characters. Angelica comes to visit; she and Eliza encourage Hamilton to stop working so hard and spend time with their family. Hamilton says he is too busy to take a break.



Hamilton works hard while his family is away. He meets a woman named Maria Reynolds. She says her husband is mean and she has no money. Hamilton feels sorry for her and helps her.

Maria is played by the same actor that played Peggy in the first half of the show but they are different characters.

Hamilton is attracted to Maria, and they start seeing each other in secret but Maria's husband finds out. He says Hamilton can keep seeing Maria if he gives him money, which Hamilton agrees to do.

**Warning: This scene contains, shouting, sexual references, references to abuse, references to adultery and blackmail.**



Hamilton, Madison and Jefferson have a private meeting to discuss what to do with the government's money and where to have the capital city. Before the meeting they do not agree on what to do. To everyone's surprise, after the meeting Hamilton has the money plan he wanted for the government and Madison and Jefferson have got the capital city where they want it.

Aaron Burr is angry that because he wasn't in the meeting he will never really know what happened.

Aaron Burr becomes a senator, taking Hamilton's father-in-law's job and changing political sides. This confuses Hamilton.

**Warning: Gunshot sound effect.**



Washington lets Hamilton know he is giving up the job of president, and Jefferson is applying for the job. Hamilton is surprised but Washington explains why it is important that he leaves the job of president.



King George is interested to see what will happen next now that the president has left. He stays on the side of the stage to watch the action.



Hamilton is angry at the new president John Adams and writes publicly about how much he doesn't like John Adams. Madison, Burr and Jefferson say that they think Hamilton is out of control and needs to be stopped. They let Hamilton know that they have found some suspicious payments and suggest he has been spending government money illegally. Hamilton reveals that the payments are to Maria Reynolds husband to keep the affair a secret.

**Warnings: Swearing, Shouting, Conflict.**



Hamilton worries that now the politicians know about his affair, they will use it against him. Hamilton decides that the only way to get power back is to write about what actually happened and let everyone know about his affair.



Eliza is very upset when she hears what Hamilton has done and burns letters Hamilton has sent her. She doesn't want people to connect her story with Hamilton's story anymore.

**Warning: references to breakdown of a marriage. There is fire in this scene – this is completely safe and has been tested and practiced by the actors and the technical team lots of times.**



Phillip Hamilton (Hamilton and Eliza's son) is now 19 and has just graduated from college. He is very upset because someone called George has been saying bad things about his father. Philip challenges George to a duel. George shoots Philip and kills him.

**Warning: References to and depictions of death and grief.**



Hamilton and Eliza are very sad. Through their sadness over their son's death Eliza forgives Hamilton and they come back together.

**Warning: Grief of a parent.**



It is the election of 1800 and Jefferson and Burr are both running to be president. Madison suggests that it might help Jefferson to win if he gets Hamilton to support him. Hamilton speaks out publicly saying that he supports Jefferson because he doesn't think Burr has any real beliefs. Jefferson wins the election and Burr is very upset that Hamilton helped Jefferson instead of him. Burr starts writing to Hamilton to tell him how angry he is - he invites Hamilton to a duel.

**Warning: depictions of conflict, anger and shouting.**



Hamilton leaves in the middle of the night to duel with Burr. Burr shoots Hamilton. As a bullet comes towards Hamilton you hear Hamilton's thoughts as he starts to think all about his life, the people and the moments that led to this. Hamilton is shot and dies.

**Warning: Death, Violence, Depiction of Gun and Gunshot sound effect.**



The characters that we have met throughout the show come back on the stage to reflect on Hamilton's life. They think about who will tell your story after you die. Eliza tells us about the rest of her life after Hamilton's death. Eliza has spent her life making sure that everyone knows all about Hamilton and she has created and organised a lot of very impressive things.

## THE BOWS

At the end of the show all the performers will come on stage and take a bow.

Lots of people in the audience will be clapping and cheering to show how much they have enjoyed the show and some people might wish to stand up.

If you don't want to clap or you would rather stay seated that is okay. It will then be time to leave the theatre, we hope you had a nice time.



## SONG LIST

### ACT 1

**Alexander Hamilton**

**My Shot**

**The Story Of Tonight**

**The Schuyler Sisters**

**Farmer Refuted**

**You'll Be Back**

**Right Hand Man**

**Helpless**

**Satisfied**

**Wait For It**

**Stay Alive**

**Ten Duel Commandments**

**That Would Be Enough**

**History Has Its Eyes On You**

**Yorktown**

**Dear Theodosia**

**Non-Stop**

### ACT 2

**What'd I Miss**

**Take A Break**

**Say No To This**

**The Room Where It Happens**

**Schuyler Defeated**

**Washington On Your Side**

**One Last Time**

**The Adams Administration**

**Hurricane**

**The Reynolds Pamphlet**

**Burn**

**Blow Us All Away**

**It's Quiet Uptown**

**The Election Of 1800**

**Your Obedient Servant**

**The World Was Wide Enough**

**Finale**