

The Clearing Visual Story

What to expect when you come to experience *The Clearing*.



***The Clearing* is presented as part of CoMotion Festival 2022 at Harbourfront Centre. This resource is helpful for anyone looking to understand what they can expect at *The Clearing*.**

For questions about access features offered at *The Clearing*, please contact:

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We look forward to welcoming you to *The Clearing*!

Venue

Venue: Harbourfront Centre Theatre (also sometimes referred to as HCT)

Address: 231 Queens Quay West

Please visit the **CoMotion Festival Access Guide** ([link](#)) for photos and information about the Harbourfront Centre Theatre and how to get here.

Date and Times

Wednesday, April 20 at 8:00pm

The show will be approximately 1 hour long.

The Clearing Accessibility Information

The Harbourfront Centre Theatre has wheelchair-accessible seating.

Access Note: The ramp leading up to the Harbourfront Centre Theatre is 33" wide. The doorways to the single-stall restrooms in this building are 28.5" wide.

There are two additional universal gender-inclusive accessible washrooms in the Harbourfront Centre Main Building, one in the east corridor and one in the west corridor.

Volunteers and Harbourfront Centre staff will be available to assist with getting into the theatre 30 minutes before each show and provide Sighted Guide to people who need "Curb-to-Seat" support.

Headphone-based assistive hearing devices are available in the Harbourfront Centre Theatre. Equipment is limited and should be reserved in advance.

This performance will be presented with ASL Interpretation and will be a Relaxed Performance. The theatre lights will stay slightly up, and audience members are welcome to come and go as needed. Sounds from the audience are welcome and expected.

This show will be presented with live Audio Description. Audio Description equipment is limited and should be reserved in advance to avoid disappointment.

To purchase a wheelchair-accessible seat, reserve audio description or hearing assist equipment or request Sighted Guide "Curb-to-Seat" service, please contact the box office by email at tickets@harbourfrontcentre.com or call (416) 973-4000 and choose Option 1.

Audio Description introductory notes will be sent in an email reminder before the performance and will also be read live 10 minutes before the performance. Please arrive 20 minutes before showtime to pick up your receiver and earpiece.

Before the Show

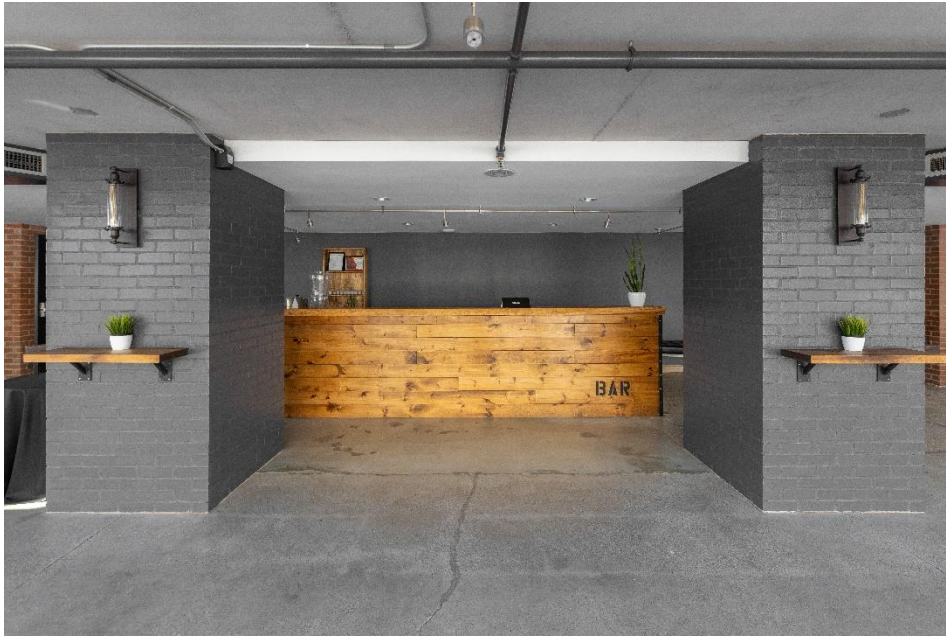
When you arrive at the Harbourfront Centre Theatre, you will enter the main lobby and may use either the stairs or the ramp to go up to the next level. In this area, you can pick up tickets or audio description equipment at the Box Office, use the washrooms, or access the theatre space.

Please note that before the show starts, the main lobby might have many people waiting for the theatre to open, and people may be talking loudly.



You can go through the glass doors into the Harbourfront Centre Theatre lobby when you are ready. There may be a bar open in this lobby, and this is where you will find the doors to the theatre.

Harbourfront Centre staff and volunteers will be available to help find the theatre space and your seat if you would like assistance.



If you need to leave the show for any reason, you are welcome to sit in either of these lobby spaces, and you can ask Harbourfront Centre staff or volunteers for help if needed. You may still hear some sounds from the show while in the lobby, but it should be quieter than inside the theatre.

Box Office

If you are visiting the Harbourfront Centre Theatre for *The Clearing*, you will need to have a ticket for the event. If you bought tickets at home, you might have printed them out, or have a digital copy on your phone.

Paper stock tickets are available on an as-needed basis, so you may also have a paper ticket that you pick up at the Box Office. The paper tickets are lime green with black writing and a black Harbourfront Centre logo.



When you enter the theatre, you will show your ticket to an usher. The usher can help you find your seat if you would like assistance.

Harbourfront Centre Theatre

The Harbourfront Centre Theatre can accommodate a maximum of 298 patrons for *The Clearing*. On the main level, there are 16 wheelchair-accessible seats plus 16 companion seats and 96 standard seats. On the first balcony, there are 67 seats, and on the second balcony, there are 103 seats.

Please note the balconies are only accessible via stairs (no elevator access).



The doors to the theatre will be opened 30 minutes before the show is set to start.

Audio Description Introductory Notes will be given 10 minutes before the start of the show for audience members who have picked up their receiver and earpiece.

People you Might See

The Artist: JJJJerome Ellis

Visitor Service Representative or Ticket Seller: This person will be at the Box Office and will help you pick up your tickets or help you buy tickets for the show. This person will also help you pick up your Audio Description receiver and earpiece if you will be using the service.

House Manager or Supervisor: This person will be moving around the space to answer questions and make sure you get into the theatre and experience the show.

Usher: This person will check your ticket before entering the theatre space. This is a good person to ask if you have questions or would like help finding your seat.

House Technicians: These people will run the lights and sound for the show, and they sit in the “booth” which is a small room at the back of the theatre.

Volunteers: Harbourfront Centre volunteers will be available to answer questions, assist if needed, and wear t-shirts that identify them as volunteers.

Operations Staff (Custodians): These people will ensure that the venue is kept clean and tidy.

Security: These people are there to make sure things are safe.

ASL Interpreters: This performance will be presented with ASL Interpretation. You will see an ASL Interpreter on stage.

When the Show Begins

You will know the show is starting when the theatre lights begin to dim – this is supposed to happen. This is a Relaxed Performance, so the theatre lights will stay slightly on so that it is not as dark. People in the audience will stop talking, and it may be very quiet.

During the Show

This section contains information about what to expect during *The Clearing*. If you prefer not to know what happens, you may skip this section.

JJJJerome Ellis takes us on a musical journey through the asters, past some egrets, to his home.

Musician, poet, and stutterer JJJJerome Ellis offers a performance that celebrates stuttering and disabled speech more broadly as a vital way of being. Through music, literature, performance and video, he researches relationships between blackness, disabled speech, divinity, nature, sound and time.

There will be a piano on stage and music included in the performance.

To learn more about JJJJerome Ellis, you can [find his bio on the CoMotion Festival event webpage](#).

Relaxed Performance

If you need to take a break during the show, you can move around the theatre or go into the lobby, where it will be quieter. You may still hear some of the sounds from the show while you are in the lobby, but it should be quieter than inside the theatre space. Sounds from the audience (such as “stim” sounds) are welcome and expected during the show.

If you need a place to take a break before or after the show, there is a Chill Out Space available in the Harbourfront Centre Main Building at 235 Queen’s Quay West. More details are available in the **CoMotion Festival Access Guide**.

When the Show Ends

At the end of the show, the lights will go back on. People may clap their hands or make other sounds to show that they enjoyed the show. You may join in if you like, but you don’t have to.

Sometimes people make loud sounds if they really enjoyed the show (like loud whistling). If you find this overwhelming, it may be helpful to prepare a plan for this moment such as plugging your ears when the clapping starts.

We want to hear from you!

If you have questions about the information in this visual story, please contact:

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