



NEVER SAW THE DAY

Never Saw the Day is one of our most successful and long standing productions. Based on a true story, the play examines the repercussions of a road traffic accident and highlights levels of responsibility for both passengers and drivers. The performance is dedicated to those who have suffered as a result of a road traffic accident and to those who will continue to suffer until society realises the tragic game it plays in the quest for speed and convenience.

The Play

Aimed at the 15+ age group, James, Kaz, Lee, Steph and Vince are a group of friends enjoying all that life has to offer. With humour and high drama, **NEVER SAW THE DAY** follows the lives of these five friends from their local football match, to the cafe, to practicing for their first gig at the local pub. A romance is blossoming and careers are planned, until a tragic accident blights all of their lives. A belligerent attitude towards car driving and passenger responsibility becomes the catalyst for this thought provoking drama.

The content and style of the play is tele-visual and episodic in its format and complements not only the important work of Road Safety Units but also is a useful addition to Drama studies within schools and Colleges. Even the most hardened, streetwise, non-theatre going audiences are moved from laughter to tears in this naturalistic and powerful piece of theatre.

As with all of Walking Forward's productions, **NEVER SAW THE DAY** is executed at a highly professional level. This is not a typical TIE production of old with two actors dressed in black, a rusty car and a puppet. Walking Forward insists that all its productions are polished and professional, incorporating high quality performers, set and equipment.

The production comes complete with 5 performers, set, lighting and sound equipment including microphone, amplifiers and instruments. A set up time of 1 hour is required and approximately 1/2 hour to strike and leave the area as found (only tidier!). The company arrives in a modern purpose built theatre van containing everything needed to set up a show.

The production includes:

- 5 professional actors
- Full set with props, microphone and amplified instruments
- Portable theatre lighting
- Auto cue mini disc sound system

The play lasts approximately 50 minutes.

Optional Workshop

Due to the powerful impact of the messages within the play it is perfectly acceptable to have the show as a stand alone piece. However there is the optional "Terry Springer Show" workshop which is a topical, irreverent debate, in a familiar style, performed in situ for approximately 20 minutes. The nature of this popular debate allows for specific areas of Road Safety issues to be raised at the request of the sponsor.

Key objectives and Messages

NEVER SAW THE DAY deals with the issues of reckless driving, speeding, passenger responsibility and the aftermath of a tragic accident in a highly sensitive and powerful way. At the local Road Safety Unit's request the play can easily be adapted to also include the issue of drink driving.

The key objective of the play is to increase awareness of the potentially negative consequences of road accidents and to challenge contemporary attitudes to road safety. Academic research carried out on this show in Dublin in 2001 found that the show had a strong impact on audiences attitudes towards the potential costs involved in driving recklessly and improved their awareness of the importance of being safe on the road.

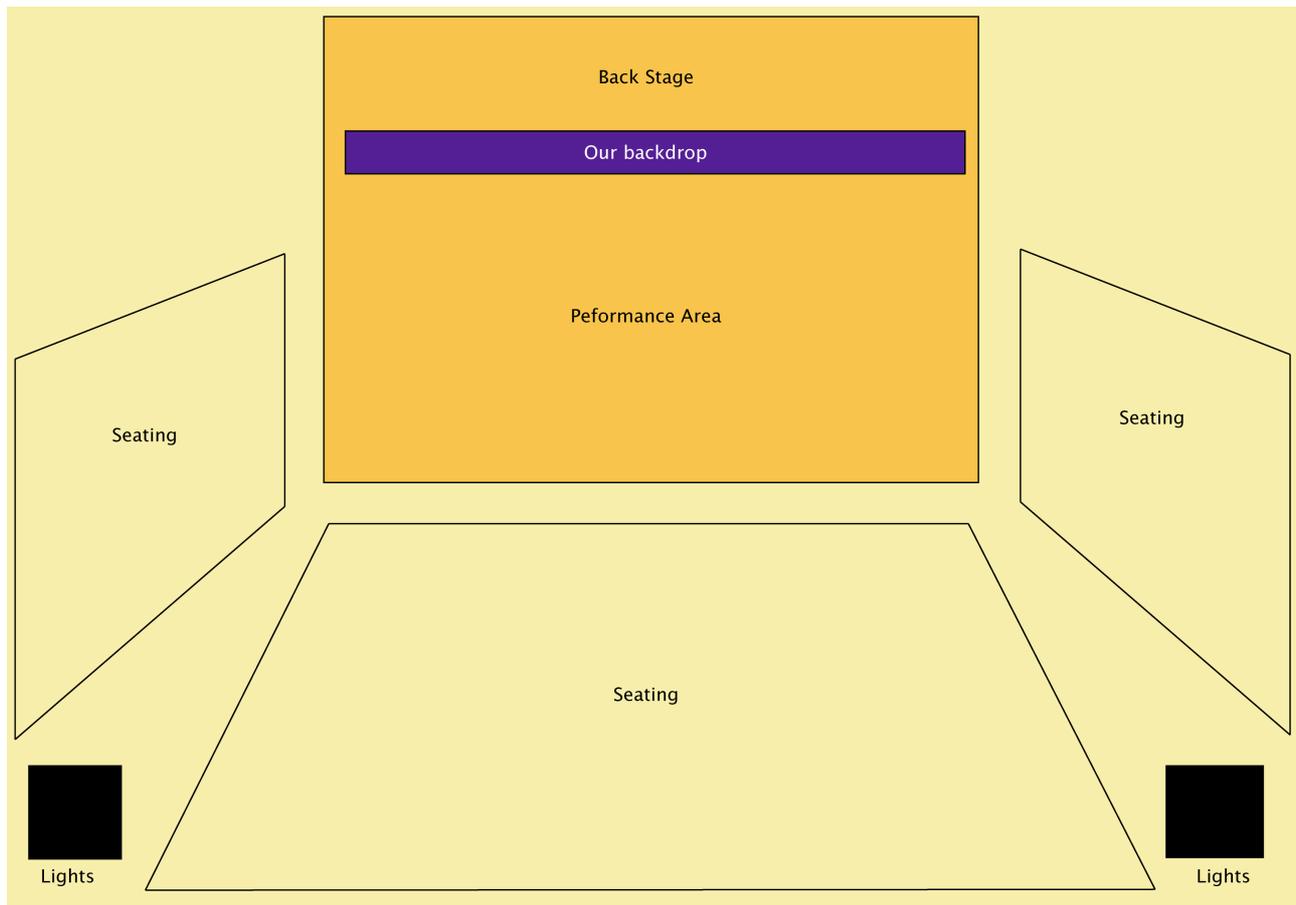
Plan of Set and Venue requirements

NEVER SAW THE DAY has the flexibility to perform in all circumstances. No show has ever been cancelled since Walking Forward's creation in 1992 due to the venue. The show can be performed to any number of audience - the only stipulation being that they can see.

Generally speaking, the better the environment the easier it is to view the plays at their best. The ideal situation is a purpose built theatre with comfortable raked seating, full blackout facilities and a dressing room. But we're realists. Life is never that easy!

There is, however, a guideline for delivering the show to its optimum dramatic impact:

- A cleared space 25 feet x 25 feet is generally required on a stage or floor area with access to 240 volt power sockets. There should be sufficient sockets on separate ring mains to allow for powerful portable theatre lights and sound equipment.
- Lights illuminate the playing area from around 10 feet from the front of the stage area. For this reason black out facilities are advantageous - but not essential.
- PA equipment, instruments, costumes and props are housed behind the screens.



Accommodating the show

Show times within schools should always be booked for 10am and 2pm starts. Although this may not always be viable we strongly recommend that that these are the options given to schools upon booking. It simply allows the actors enough time for traveling to and from each school safely and calmly.

Get-in times should allow 1 hour to set up and 3/4 of an hour to dismantle, tidy and distribute back up materials. Our transit type van is approximately 18 ft in length. Therefore access should be clear and as close to the chosen venue as possible.

Some of our equipment is heavy and awkward and for that reason, locations on ground level and wide doors are advantageous. Tea, coffee or refreshments are always greatly appreciated during the set up and after the performance.

Evaluation

Walking Forward can also provide evaluation for its productions from our own web-based evaluation section. These would be passed on to the LRSU in an unedited electronic format for analysis. Details of this can be seen on our web site www.walkingforward.co.uk.

Insurance

Walking Forward insures its productions, venues and staff. Public liability to £5,000,000 is included in the costs as is Employers Liability and Products Liability. Please note that all Walking Forward's equipment is PAT tested in accordance with current legislation.

There is a tour manager who is responsible for the day to day running of the production and has a company mobile at their disposal for incoming and outgoing calls. An answer phone service is provided during performance. The local Road Safety officer will be given the Tour Manager's contact details before the tour commences.

Contact us

During the tour, regular visits will be made by the management team to ensure quality and delivery.

If you have any further questions or queries regarding the show Walking Forward can be contacted directly on 020 7359 5249 or Mobile: 07595206024.

You can find further information about the company and all our other shows on our website: www.walkingforward.co.uk