

NEURO DELICIOUS Does Drag

Visual Story for
Neurodelicious Does Drag

**Mercury Theatre,
6 April 2023**



LOTTERY FUNDED

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About Neurodelicious

Neurodelicious Does Drag is a show that uses song, dance, storytelling, spoken word and of course, the art of drag with fabulous costumes, in a wildly ridiculous show with adult themes 18+.

The entire cast and majority of crew have brain differences (“neurodivergences”), with examples being Autism, Asperger’s, OCD, Tourette’s, ADHD, Irlen Syndrome, dyslexia, dyspraxia, dyscalculia, and other mental and behavioural differences. Some are diagnosed, and some self-identify.



Hannah Aria is a multi-disciplinary Artist who co-founded the creative collective, called Neurodelicious CIC:

““Neurodelicious shows celebrate neurodiversity and the range of performance flavours that neurodivergent artists bring. Drag is just one of many flavours that will be showcased by the performance movement. Everyone in the collective is continually developing and expanding their creative skillset but we want to showcase each individual’s zone of genius.”

Jonathon Prestney is a Performer and Creative in the arts industry:

“We have ensured the show is more accessible than your average trip to the theatre, to enable everyone to feel included. With live BSL, captioning and interaction in an intimate cabaret setting, Neurodelicious Does Drag celebrates all kinds of personalities and allows the audience to live vicariously through our eccentric Drag personas. We hold a flamboyant, safe space that we’d love you to experience and marvel in.”

You can expect plenty of light hearted fun and laugh-out-loud moments in the performance mix at Neurodelicious Does Drag, including lip-sync dance numbers to cheesy bump ‘n’ grind hits!



Pamela Rath Photography



Simply C Photography

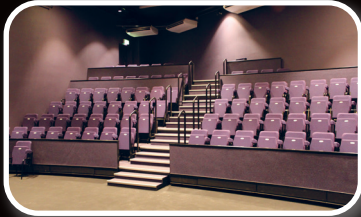


Information About Mercury Theatre

The performance at Mercury Theatre will start at 8pm and the venue will be open throughout the day, so feel free to get there nice and early!

Mercury now has five accessible parking spaces available outside the theatre and these must be booked in advance. You can book a space online whilst buying your tickets if you are signed up to our Access For All scheme, over the phone or in person. There are now more spaces for blue badge holders in St Mary's Car Park directly next to the exit. There is level access and good lighting to leave the car park across the bridge and when you arrive at Balkerne Gate.





Please note there is no parking for standard or blue badge holders around the theatre or within Balcerne Gate. There is a drop off point directly in front of the box office and the Jumbo Water Tower for safe transfer.

The theatre building is more accessible than ever before. The main entrance can be accessed at street level without encountering any steps. Automated doors lead you into the main entrance where you will find their friendly Customer Experience team at the box office with low level serving, cloakroom, and kiosk/gift shop.

Neurodelicious Does Drag will be performed in the Studio. Please ask a member of staff to direct you there if you need. We can seat up to two wheelchair users in Studio, with additional spaces available for specialised performances. The Studio has tiered seating, so if you need step-free access do book a space in our accessible viewing area in row G.

There are two lifts positioned on each side of the building and accessible toilets on each floor.

There is also a café bar located on the ground floor and has plenty of space to sit down and relax.

If you need help or have any questions there are staff members available throughout the building. They wear dark tops with 'Mercury Staff' written on the back and you can ask them questions at any time. Please note that staff are now wearing masks as an option – many choose not to.

You are free to leave the Studio at any time during the performance if you need a little break. There will be a chillout area that you can use to relax located in a nearby meeting room. Please feel free to ask a member of staff to direct you there.

When you are ready to leave, the Customer Experience staff will be happy to call you a taxi. There is a safe comfortable space to wait in the box office area with level access to the pickup area.



Meet the Cast



DEE Straction

Drumroll please for our newborn, Afab Queen, 'DEE Straction'.

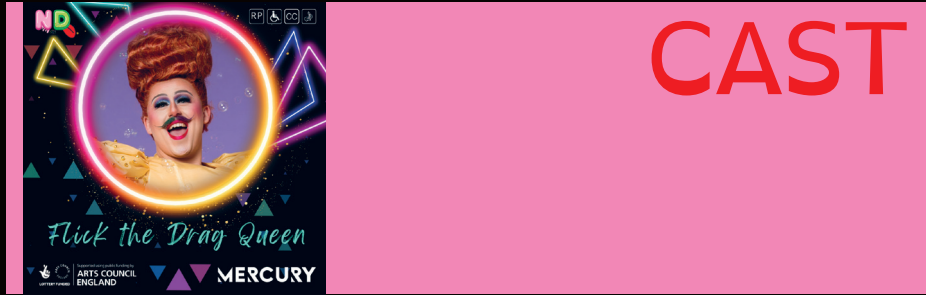
DEE Straction, aka Hannah Aria, is a working class, neurodivergent, multidisciplinary Artist with a shoe addiction (not sponsored by @irregularchoice but should be) and "slight" wig obsession..

Hannah is the founder of Neurodelicious and is a bit of a social justice warrior.

She would describe herself as 50% Comedian 50% philosopher and 0% conformist.

Hannah spends most of her life looking for her keys and phone and keys again because she misplaced them when she was looking for her phone.

Hannah is also a recipient of Mercury Theatre's 'Mercury Creatives' professional development programme.



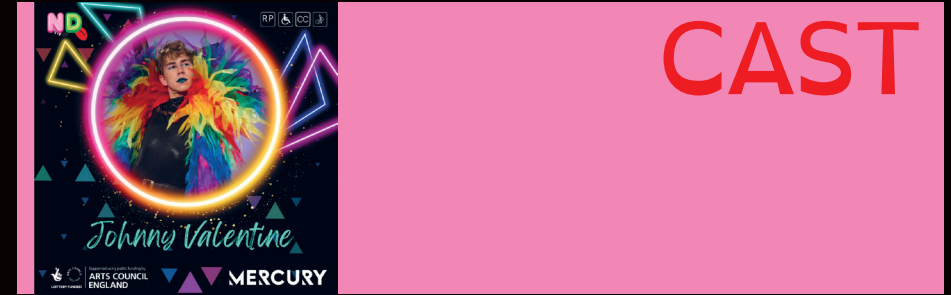
CAST

Flick The Drag Queen

An Essex gal with a curly moustache. Here to bring a smile once in a while.

Jason Reid of gay london life interviewed Flick and said "My drag style is very character-based. I grew up watching Linda La Hughes in Gimme, Gimme, Gimme, and Ab Fab, and being in absolute awe of these fabulously delusional people. I've always been drawn to larger-than-life characters, and they're not hard to come by in Essex. That's what inspires my look as well; the louder and bigger the better. One day I might wear a beautiful gown like I'm off for a night in Yates, and the next a fully rhinestone tracksuit.

If I like it I'll wear it, and I'll make it work. That's the working class attitude in me. I also love being able to play with gender norms in my drag. I may look like a gorge Essex mum but that doesn't mean I need to wear a wig or shave. Drag is dress up and dress up is freeing your imagination."



CAST

Johnny Valentine

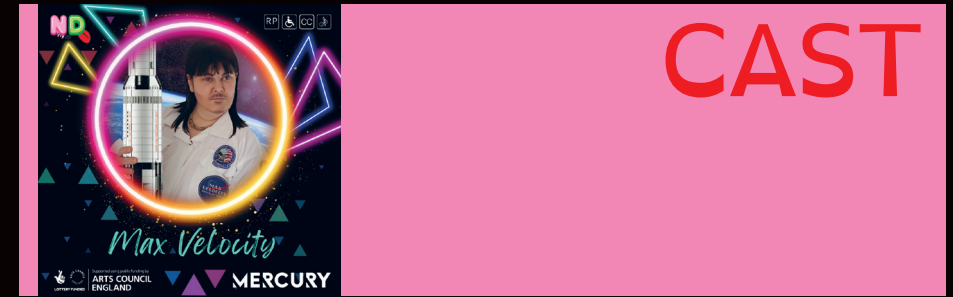
Johnny is an award winning choreographer and multidisciplinary artist. Choreographer credits include 'The Enby Show', The Vaudeville Theatre, London. 'Together We Dance' Waterbear Network, 'BACK TO THE ROARING TWENTIES' (Best USA Premier - San Diego International Fringe Festival & Pick of the Fringe - Colchester Fringe Festival) 'DRAGTOPIA' The Mercury Theatre.

Johnny has previously appeared in 'Shakespeare Live!' The Royal Shakespeare Company, BBC2, 'Kinky Boots', Spa Pavilion Theatre. 'Musical Starnights European Tour' Showfabrik. 'GREASE', Royal Caribbean Productions. 'Little Mix Takeover' McDonalds' Commercial. 'Dick Whittington & His Cat' Stageworks Worldwide Productions. Ensemble 'The Golden Kite' The Lyceum Theatre, London. Sebastian 'Jack & the Beanstalk' The Hackney Empire, London. 'Aladdin' The Sunderland Empire, UK Productions. Jonathon was professionally trained with a scholarship at The Urdang Academy.



Tinderella

Tinderella, aka Hayley Russell, is a professional dancer and an up-coming choreographer. Since graduating from a Masters Performing Arts in 2020 her credits include: 'Together we Dance' global film (waterbear network), 'Back to the Roaring Twenties' (Best USA Premier - San Diego International Fringe & Pick of the Fringe - Colchester Fringe Festival), The Enby Show (Vaudeville Theatre London), DRAGTOPIA (Mercury Theatre Colchester), Lates: Cocktail Cabaret (Mercury Theatre Colchester), Fight Captain & cast member 'BOUDICA' Arts Council England funded R&D (Colchester Castle).



Max Velocity (Carla Keen)

Max Velocity (Carla Keen), is a one-man interactive, intergalactic planetary comedy experience (well, that's how he'd describe his job interview for NASA). Carla Keen is a theatre-maker, clown and improviser. Carla is fascinated by the present; the uniqueness of an instance, and how we attempt to capture, save and retain moments ('moment-specific' theatre).

Carla is the artistic director of The Ministry of Unplanned Occurrences, a theatre company who make unscripted live shows in Cambridge. Carla has an MA in Advanced Theatre Practice from the Royal Central School of Speech and Drama. Max is a mechanic.

Running order & What to Expect

Neurodelicious Does Drag will consist of a one hour performance.



Part 1.

Intro

Flick The Drag Queen will be presenting Neurodelicious Does Drag. They will walk on stage to a pumping soundtrack created especially for Neurodelicious before welcoming you to the performance.

Part 2.

Flick The Drag Queen "Be Our Guest"

Flick will start the performance by singing a brilliantly witty remake of Beauty and The Beast's song "Be Our Guest".

Part 3.

The Birth of DEE Straction

Flick will then welcome Jonny Valentine and Tinerdalla to the stage, who will bring with them a rather unusual curtain from which our newest Drag AFAB Queen will be revealed...

Part 4.

DEE Straction "The Queen of Distraction"

DEE Straction will perform her spoken word piece titled "The Queen of Distraction".

Part 5.

Johnny Valentine and Cinderella

Johnny Valentine and Cinderella will next take to the stage for a fun, interactive and diverse set of dance routines. Expect soundtracks including "Pure Imagination", "Candy shop", "Yummy", "What's your flava", "El Tango De Roxanne", "Banana Don't Jiggle Jiggle", "Hollaback Girl", "Blue (da ba Dee)", "Deeper Shade of Blue", "Milkshake", "Cream" and "Purple rain".

During the performance you will also have the option to join in whilst in your seat by copying the actions "Yummy Yummy" shown to you by Johnny Valentine and Cinderella and by making your own 'slurp' sounds in time to the music!

Part 6.

Max Velocity

Wannabe astronaut Max Velocity will next take to the stage as he performs an interpretive dance routine to the soundtrack of "The Final Countdown" and "Intergalactic".

Max will then answer a number of interview questions posed by NASA (voiceover), including a demonstration of orbital flight using a Pringles can, an exhibition of his physical prowess, and a presentation of the history of astronauts according to hair style.

Part 7.

Flick The Drag Queen "Gemma Mix"

Flick The Drag Queen takes to the stage to provide a hilarious lip sync routine to a soundtrack containing quotes from the one and only Gemma Collins alongside the song "Come Here For Love".

Part 8.

Finale and bows

The full cast will close the show by taking their bows on stage to a pumping medley of "What Dreams Are Made Of", "Hot Sauce and High Heels" and "These Boots Are Made For Walkin'".





Contact

If you would like to receive any further information about Neurodelicious prior to the performance, please contact us at info@neurodelicious.com and the team will be happy to help!



Thank You

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and Choreography

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by katymac.co.uk

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Lee Thomas,
Graphic Design
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Nicola Nugent,
Neurodelicious Soundtrack

At Swefn's Edge,
Cinematic Dreamscapes
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Dance East
danceeast.co.uk

Cambridge Junction
junction.co.uk

Colchester Arts Centre
colchesterartscentre.com

Colchester Fringe
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Graeae Theatre Company
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Spaces of Joy
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