

RICHARD THREE

VISUAL GUIDE



Image Description: A dramatic image of Alexia Vassos as the character Richard. She is wearing a black top with tulle accents and black pants. She is bracing herself with her arm up against a tree trunk and her other hand on her hip.

**A Visual Guide for audience
members interested in
coming to a performance of
Richard Three.**

Welcome!



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WHO MADE THIS GUIDE

This guide was created by Jeff Yung. Jeff is part of the Artistic Leadership Collective of Shakespeare in the Ruff and is helping to produce this show.

This guide is based on last seasons guide created by Patricia Allison & Christine Horne who worked with a team of consultants to put together all the accessibility information.

The people who consulted for Ruff last season are:

Alex Bulmer - Blind/ Low-vision Community Consultant

Jeff D'Haunt - Accessibility Community Consultant

Elizabeth Morris - Deaf Community Consultant

Angela Sun - Accessible Theatre Practice Community Consultant

This Season we also had the additional consultaion of :

Ophira Calof - Mobility Device User Consultant.

If there is any information in this guide that is missing, or you would like more information , please contact Jeff directly at jeff@shakespeareintheruff.com

Getting Tickets

All of our performances of Richard Three will have accessibility available including open captions. We ask that you book in advance so that we can have an idea of who to expect.

To book tickets go to www.shakespeareintheruff.com/richard-three and choose the date of the performance you would like to attend.

Alternatively, if you are having trouble with the website or prefer to connect with someone directly you can email Katya Arifin at accessibility@shakespeareintheruff.com

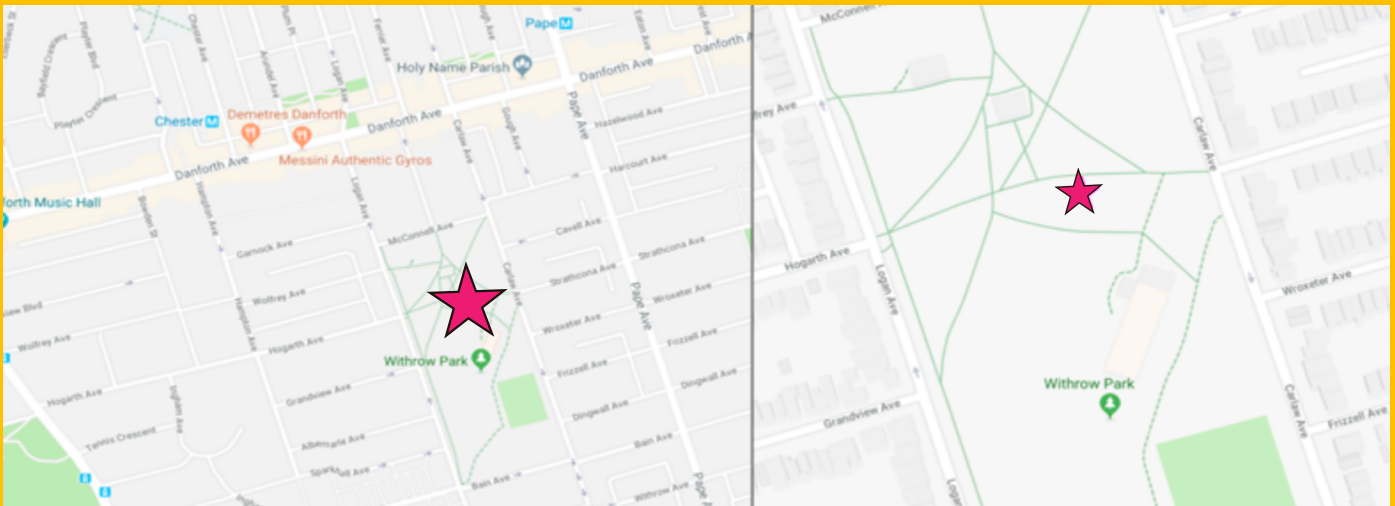
COVID-19 PROTOCOLS

While outdoor protocols around COVID-19 have loosened quite a bit, please read the following recommendations have in place to keep you, fellow audience members, and people who work for Ruff safe.

- Masking for audience, staff, and volunteers is optional. We are a mask friendly zone!**
- Our shows are all outside. If it rains, we will not move to an indoor performance, the show will be cancelled. If that happens, you will receive an email.**
- If you are feeling unwell or have any COVID19 symptoms, we ask that you stay home, and we can do our best to book you for a different show.**

Withrow Park

The show is being performed in Withrow Park, which is located between Logan and Carlaw Avenue just south of Danforth Avenue. The address of the park is 725 Logan Avenue, Toronto. The ★ marks the performance location.



Withrow Park

Chester Station Route

The two closest TTC subway stops to Withrow Park are Chester Station or Pape Station.

If you get off and exit at Chester Station

- Head south on Chester Avenue towards Danforth Avenue (towards Astoria Restaurant)
- Make a left onto Danforth Avenue and keep walking till you hit Logan Avenue (at the TD Canada Trust)
- Turn right and head south on Logan Avenue (towards easy Financial)
- Keep heading south on Logan Avenue past Frank Land Community Centre (on your right)
- Cross the street using the cross walk at McConnell Avenue and towards tennis courts to enter the park.



Withrow Park

This is a photo of the park if you enter from Logan Ave.



Withrow Park

Pape Station Route

The Pape Station Route has a better street lip and may be preferred for people using a mobility device.

Exit at Pape Station

- Head south on Pape Avenue towards Danforth Avenue (towards the Scotiabank branch).
- Go past Danforth Avenue and make a right on Harcourt (you should see “Janice Foley Place”).
- Travel down Harcourt and the entrance to the park is on the south west corner of Carlaw Avenue and McConnell (at Holy Name Catholic School).



Withrow Park

This is a photo of the park if you enter from Carlaw Ave.



FRONT OF HOUSE

When you arrive on-site, you will be greeted by:

- **Front of House Manager - Lucia**
- **Front of House Staff - Katya**
- **Other members of our team - Janice, Shivani or Jeff and/or a volunteer (the grouping will change nightly)**



Lucia



Katya



Janice



Shivani



Jeff

WASHROOMS

There are two gendered, accessible washrooms. Just North of our performance are a that are open until 10:00pm. It's the building with green and yellow columns.



WASHROOMS

The ramps to the washroom should be wide enough to accommodate most mobility devices, however please note the proximity of the ramp edge to the columns on the building is quite close.



WASHROOMS

The male gendered washrooms have:

- **one accessible stall**
- **one non-accessible stall**
- **two urinals.**



The female gendered washrooms have:

- **one accessible stall**
- **two non-accessible stalls.**



WASHROOMS

All accessible stalls contain grab bars that may not be as up to date as expected.

Please refer to photo's below for a visual of their placement in the accesible stalls.



OPEN CAPTIONS

Audience members can reserve a spot in our captions section (also our mobility device seating) in advance by selecting the option when you reserve a ticket.

The screenshot shows the ticketing interface for 'Shakespeare in the Ruff'. On the left, there are several accessibility options, each with a quantity selector (set to 0) and a price:

- Rent a Chair**: \$10.00. Description: Leave your lawn chair at home and rent one of ours!
- Rent a Cushion**: \$4.00. Description: Rent a cushion (generously donated by the Musical Stage Company!) to make your grass seat more cozy.
- Accessibility Option: Open Captioning**: \$0.00. Description: Reserved seating with Open Captions. This option is highlighted with a red box.
- Accessibility Option: Touch Tour**: \$0.00. Description: Register for a guided Touch Tour at 7pm before the performance. Designed for blind and low-vision audience members.
- Accessibility Option: Street-to-Seat Guide**: \$0.00. Description: Register to have a volunteer meet you at your car, TTC stop, or nearby intersection and guide you into the park. Designed for blind, low-vision, elderly, or other audience members who could use this a [See more](#)
- Accessibility Option: Description Buddy**: \$0.00. Description: Register to have a volunteer meet you at your car, TTC stop, or nearby intersection and guide you into the park. Designed for blind, low-vision, elderly, or other audience members who could use this a [See more](#)

On the right, the event details are displayed:

- THU AUG 17 (preview) - Richard Three by Patricia Allison**
- Date/Time**: Thu, August 17, 2023 07:30 p.m. - 09:30 p.m. EDT
- Location**: 725 Logan Ave, Toronto, ON M4K 3B9, Canada

Below the event details is a promotional banner for 'SHAKESPEARE IN THE RUFF PRESENTS RICHARD THREE'. At the bottom right, there are social media sharing icons and a 'Free forms by zeffy' logo.



MOBILITY DEVICE SEATING AREA

We have a designated seating area on the grass that is mostly flat for mobility devices (also the open captions seating). When you are booking your tickets, please check the option that you will be using a mobility device, and we will ensure we reserve a spot in that area for you.

The screenshot shows the Shakespeare in the Ruff ticket booking interface. On the left, there are three accessibility options, each with a quantity selector set to 0 and a price of \$0.00. The third option, 'Accessibility Option: Mobility Device Seating', is highlighted with a red border. Below these options is a 'Select' button. On the right, the event details are displayed: 'THU AUG 17 (preview) - Richard Three by Patricia Allison', the date and time 'Thu, August 17, 2023 07:30 p.m. - 09:30 p.m. EDT', and the location '725 Logan Ave, Toronto, ON M4K 3B9, Canada'. A large yellow banner for 'SHAKESPEARE IN THE RUFF PRESENTS RICHARD THREE' is shown below the event details. At the bottom right, there are social sharing icons and a 'Free forms by zeffy' logo.

People using mobility devices such as wheelchairs, scooters, or walkers are recommended to go slowly and exercise caution, as they would in any city park.

MOBILITY DEVICE RAMP



We also have a 20 ft. ramp that is 29” wide that could provide a better transition from the path to the grass.

People using a mobility device are recommended to go slowly and use caution, as they would in any city park.

THE PARK ENVIRONMENT / TAKING A BREAK

The show is performed in a public park. You may see people walking by, dogs, or hear traffic, an icecream truck, or kids playing in the distance. These elements aren't part of the play, but it's okay if you get distracted by them every now and then. The actors have rehearsed in the park, and are used to the environment.



If you need a quiet moment, you can exit the audience, and sit at one of the many picnic tables in the park. Feel free to bring sensory objects with you. When you are ready to come back to the play, one of our volunteers can fill you in on what you've missed, and help you back to your seat.

THE ACTORS



Alex Bulmer (she/her) is playing the role of Richard. Sometimes referred to in the play as Richard of Gloucester "Other Richard" Alex is Blind.



Alexia Vassos (she/her) is playing the role of Richard. Sometimes referred to in the play as Gloucester and Plantagenet. Alexia is a little person.



Christine Horne (she/her) is playing the role of Everyone Else. The characters include, Margaret, George (Clarence), Anne, Elizabeth, Edward and Duchess

THE ACTORS

Christine Horne (she/her) is playing multiple characters in the play. Each character has a specific look based on her costume. Each one is detailed below.



Margaret



Anne



George/Clarence



Edward



Duchess



Elizabeth

THE STORY

A crack in the multi-verse sends a Richard who is Blind, out of his timeline and crashing into the timeline of the Richard from Shakespeare's Richard III.

These two Richards are very different because the world's they grew up in are very different. The Richard who is Blind, grew up in a world where Disability is valued and Disabled people are looked to as leaders. The Richard in Shakespeare's world, lives in a world where Disability is viewed as a weakness and wants to be king to show his power.

These two Richards try to set aside their differences to help each other on their journey's.

WHAT TO LOOK OUT FOR

The show contains:

- **Fast paced dialogue**
- **Language that switches between Shakespearean English and Contemporary English**
- **Loud atmospheric sound cues**
- **Actor's yelling at each other**
- **Ableist & Sanist language and attitudes**
- **Murder**
- **Grief**
- **Manipulation**
- **Insults**

This show is Disability focused, but is created from a very specific perspective of Disability. The content may evoke strong reactions or personal associations.

We invite you to care for yourself in ways that feel meaningful and supportive to you.