



# Relaxed Performance Guide

*Blithe Spirit*

by Noël Coward



**May 9, 2026 at 2:00 p.m.**

**100 Spadina Crescent East**

**Persephone Theatre, Rawlco Radio Hall**



**This is Persephone Theatre.**

**These doors are the entrance.**

**Enter these doors and you will be in the box office.**



**You can buy your tickets from the box office.**

**Don't forget to bring a mask with you if you need one. Audience members can wear masks if they want to.**



**Once you have your ticket, you can enter the lobby.**

**There will be people handing out programme booklets with information about the show.**

**There is a QR code to scan with your phone to read a digital version of the programme.**

**You can go up the stairs or the ramp.**



**You can buy snacks and drinks from the concession stand.**



**This is the way to the group washrooms.**

**There is a public washroom near the back of the main floor available for you to use. Signs will tell you where the entrance and exit to the washroom are.**

**There are three single room washrooms you can use. There are two on the second floor and one on the main floor.**

**All bathrooms are marked with a blue circle.**

**Like this - **



**If you want to go to the second floor, use the stairs or the elevator. This is the way to the chill out zone.**



**This is the elevator.**



**These are the doors to enter the theatre to watch the performance.**

**These doors will remain open during the performance and you are free to leave and come back any time.**



**This is the hallway to the theatre.**



**This is the door to the main floor of the theatre.**



**These are the rows of seats. Each row has a letter and each seat has a number.**

**If you need help finding your seat, please ask any of the volunteers wearing black and white clothes.**

**You can leave the theatre through the same door you entered.**



**This is Melanie.**

**She is the Front of House Manager.**

**Melanie, concession staff, or volunteers can help you find the chill out area or the washrooms.**

## **ABOUT THE PLAY**

**NOTE:** This performance of *Blithe Spirit* will also include live captioning. You will see text appear on a small screen located by the stage. As it is done live, it may not display exactly what the characters say at the exact time they say it.

### **CHARACTERS:**

EDITH - the maid

RUTH - Charles' second wife

CHARLES - an author

DR. GEORGE BRADMAN - a friend and doctor

MRS. VIOLET BRADMAN - a friend and the doctor's wife

MADAME ARCATI - the medium

ELVIRA - Charles' first wife

**SETTING:** 1920's, Charles' house in Kent, England.

**RUNNING TIME:** 2 hours and 35 minutes, plus one 20 minute intermission.

### **CONTENT ADVISORY:**

One swear, social drinking

## **SUMMARY:**

### **ACT ONE**

Charles Condomine and his wife, Ruth, have invited their friends Dr. and Mrs. Bradman to join them in for dinner with a local clairvoyant, Madame Arcati. Charles wants to observe the behavior of Madame Arcati during a séance as research for his next novel. They all doubt her abilities but much to the surprise of everyone, some startling things happen. Charles' first wife, Elvira, who died before the events of the play, appears - but only Charles can see and hear her.

The next morning, Ruth is very cool to Charles and insists that he was drunk the night before. To prove her presence, Elvira moves objects around the room.

Ruth invites Madame Arcati back to get rid of Elvira but Arcati does not know how. Suspense builds

when some suspicious accidents take place. The first act ends with Ruth leaving in the car and she is killed in an “accident.”

## **ACT TWO**

Charles calls Madame Arcati to get rid of Elvira. However, it backfires and in walks the ghost of Ruth, now plainly visible to Charles. After trying all sorts of supernatural tricks, the ghosts simply will not go away. Then Madame Arcati realizes who really called up Elvira and Ruth – after another séance – the ghosts vanish at last.

Charles, now alone, but not really alone, teases Ruth and Elvira about how much he will enjoy his freedom. Chaos ensues with props moving on their own on stage as the ghosts of his wives take out their frustration.



**This is the stage during the show.**



**The lighting on the stage will change during the show.**

**Sometimes it will be dark. Sometimes it will be bright.**



**This is Johanna.**

**She plays Edith.**

**This is what Johanna looks like out of costume.**



**This is what Johanna looks like on stage during the show.**

**Pictured here, Johanna is dressed in period clothing.**



**This is Shannon.**

**She plays Ruth.**

**This is what Shannon  
looks like out of costume.**



**This is what Shannon  
looks like on stage during  
the show.**

**Pictured here, Shannon is  
dressed in period clothing.**



**This is Tim.**

**He plays Charles.**

**This is what Tim looks like  
out of costume.**



**This is what Tim looks like  
on stage during the show.**

**Pictured here, Tim is  
dressed in period clothing.**



**This is Kevin.**

**He plays Dr. George Bradman.**

**This is what Kevin looks like out of costume.**



**This is what Kevin looks like on stage during the show.**

**Pictured here, Kevin is dressed in period clothing.**



**This is Lisa.**

**She plays Mrs. Violet  
Bradman.**

**This is what Lisa looks like  
out of costume.**



**This is what Lisa looks like  
on stage during the show.**

**Pictured here, Lisa is  
dressed in period clothing.**



**This is Katie.**

**She plays Madame Arcati.**

**This is what Katie looks like out of costume.**



**This is what Katie looks like on stage during the show.**

**Pictured here, Katie is dressed in period clothing.**



**This is Vanessa.**

**She plays Elvira.**

**This is what Vanessa looks like out of costume.**



**This is what Vanessa looks like on stage during the show.**

**Pictured here, Vanessa is dressed in period clothing.**

## **During and After the Play**

**During the performance the house lights will be on and the doors will be open.**

**You are welcome to leave and come back to your seat whenever you like.**

**You can leave the theatre during the performance to go to the washroom or to the chill out zone.**

**The chill out zone will be in the lobby. It will be marked by a yellow square. Like this - **

**There will be soft furniture to sit on, books, and soft toys available.**

**The staff and volunteers will be happy to help you with directions to and from the chill out zone.**

**You will know the performance is over when the actors take a bow. After the performance you are free to go home.**

**We would love to hear about your experience at  
Persephone Theatre and what you thought of the  
play.**

**Email us at [olivia.s@persephonetheatre.org](mailto:olivia.s@persephonetheatre.org).**

**Thank you for coming!**