**Let The Right One In**

**based on the novel and screenplay**

**by John Ajvide Lindqvist**

**adapted by Jack Thorne**

**Programme notes for Audio Described Performance**

**Abbey Theatre, 6th January 2018, 2pm**

Welcome to the introductory notes for **Let The Right One In** adapted for the stage by Jack Thorne. The play is directed by John Tiffany, and designed by Christine Jones. The Associate Costume Designer is Aileen Sherry, with wigs and make-up by Val Sherlock and Special Effects by Jeremy Chernwick. Lighting Design is by Chahine Yavroyan. Music is composed by Ólafur Arnalds with Sound Design by Gareth Fry. The Movement Director is Steven Hoggett.

The performance begins at 2pm, and lasts for two hours and fifteen minutes, with one 20 minute interval.

**ABOUT THE PLAY**

Oskar is a lonely, bullied teenager who lives with his mother on the edge of town. Eli just moved in next door. She doesn’t go to school and stays indoors all day. These two young misfits soon forge a deep connection but, when a series of mysterious killings plagues the neighbourhood, their friendship is tested beyond all imaginable limits.

Please note that this production is recommended for adults and fearless teenagers aged 13+**.** The production contains violence, strong language, loud noises and flashing lights.

**ABOUT THE SET**

The stage is covered in a fine dusting of powdery snow with the front half of the stage left bare and the back half filled with tall, silver-birch tree trunks with branches neatly trimmed off so that they stick out only a foot or so from the tree. They form a wintery woodland, lit in icy blue for most of the performance. Stood amongst the leafless trees on our left is a lone streetlamp – its slender, metal pole almost the same as the trees, but with an orange streetlamp on top, cutting through the pale light. On the right-hand side stands a Jungle-Jim climbing frame of tubular steel poles and sheets of perforated metal, unpainted so as to blend in with the frosty scene around. Panels of clear PCV plastic are attached to the frame creating cubes into which people can climb. This scene remains constant throughout with extra locations shown by bringing on a few pieces of furniture into the snowy clearing at the front of the stage. Each new location is marked by a pool of light (some circular, some rectangular) when the rest of the stage falls into shadow.

The changing room of a local swimming pool is created by bringing on 3 tall, narrow metal lockers with blue painted doors and a single wooden bench on our right-hand side. A small convenience store is represented by a small wooden counter no more than a metre wide, wheeled in to our left. Its two shelves and small counter-top are crammed with plastic boxes filled with all kinds of sugary sweets, chewing-gum and marshmallows.

The flat shared by Oskar and his mother is shown by bringing on a green velour sofa to the right of centre, which they sit on, their faces lit by an unseen flickering television. Oskar’s bedroom is simply a single bed with blue and red duvet set, over on our right. Eli’s flat is more starkly shown: just a folding wooden table and a large wooden chest, both in the centre.

Oskar’s Dad’s flat is enveloped in a small pool of light centre-stage with a little coffee table with cushions on either side, and a game of draughts set out.

Small, interior spaces are lit in a warmer yellow light, while the outdoor scenes are in harsh white light, or a chilly pale blue. Occasionally, a fine mist spills across the stage.

**ABOUT THE CHARACTERS AND COSTUMES**

The costumes and hair styles are fashioned from the style of the mid 1980's.

**Oskar** played by **Craig Connolly** is a young man appearing to be in his mid to late teens. He wears brown snow boots, wine red trousers and a warm mustard yellow and dark grey checked jacket. The tail of an off white shirt can be seen under a grey blue jumper. His thick brown hair fashioned in a short basin haircut. Thick bushy eyebrows frame his docile and downward looking face.

**Oskar's Mum** played by **Ruth McGill** is a woman in her thirties. She wears a brown over the knee fitted leather skirt. Her short auburn hair, is styled but nevertheless sticks up awkwardly at the top of her head. She wears a cream blouse over which she wears an oversized dark green cardigan. A surly smile and frowning forehead are her predominant facial expressions.

**Eli** played by Katie Honan is a young woman of similar age to **Oskar**. Her movements are sharply precise, icy almost. She wears a flimsy cotton coral pink long sleeved plain top. Dirty white plimsoles with a thin red rim and white ankle socks. Her light grey cotton trousers fall to just above her ankles. A slight, wispy woman with delicate but, pointed facial features. Beady eyes, pale face and orangey red lips and a long brown birds nest of hair hangs around her face and falls down her back. She moves incredibly agiley across the space. Like a gymnast.

Halmberg the cop is played by **Bob Kelly**. He is a broad shouldered man sporting a navy blue Berhaus all weather jacket with navy blue smart trousers, a light blue shirt and tie with gold and brown stripes. On his feet black winter boots.

**Bob Kelly** also plays **Mr Avila** the physical education teacher. He wears a navy blue adidas tracksuit. Made from sweat shirt material. A thick red and white line carved in the outfit. Tufts of his hairy chest peep out of his white vest top. The outift is complete with white wrestling boots on his feet. His hair a greasy brown short back and sides and bristles on his unshaven face.

**Richard Clements** plays the **shopkeeper** and **Oskar's Dad**. He has wavy short brown hair and as the **shopkeeper** he wears silver rimmed glasses. A light blue v neck jumper with a navy blue and white stripe through it. A grey t-shirt underneath. His hair is a little greasy and he sports the makings of a moustache.

As **Oskar's Father** he wears grey corduroy trousers tucked into long red woolly socks and a stripey jumper.

Hakan played by **Nick Dunning** is a man in his late fifties or early sixties with bright white hair which is a little unkempt. His clothes are smart but on closer inspection we observe they are well worn. Black trousers with a black jumper and brown leather winter lace up boots. When outside he wears a grey over coat.

**Jonny** played by **Jamie Hallahan** is one of the teenage school boys. He wears pale blue jeans, black dunlop runners and a navy blue tracksuit top with a red stripe down the side. His hair a slightly overgrown short back and sides.

**Micky** played by **Tommy Harris** also plays a teenage school boy and a friend of **Jonny's.** He wears a red top with black jeans and a tracksuit top.

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That concludes the introductory notes for this production of **Let The Right One In**. They were prepared by Máirín Harte and Bríd Ní Ghruagáin. The performance will be audio described by Máirín Harte. Audio description at the Abbey Theatre is provided by Arts and Disability Ireland with support from The Arts Council.

Thank you. Go raibh maith agaibh.