***COULD YOU, LIKE, CHILL FOR A SEC?***

**COMING TO HOME MANCHESTER IN 2025**

**FOR ITS UK PREMIERE**

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**DIRECTED BY ANDY FICKMAN**

**WITH BOOK BY BRIDGET CARPENTER,**

**MUSIC BY TOM KITT,**

**AND LYRICS BY BRIAN YORKEY**

**FOR A STRICTLY LIMITED RUN FROM**

**27 NOVEMBER – 31 DECEMBER 2025**

The new musical, *Freaky Friday*, based on the beloved 1972 novel by **Mary Rodgers** and the hit Disney films, which has captured the hearts of generations, will be having its UK stage premiere next year at HOME Manchester. Presented by **Paul Taylor-Mills** (*The Lightning Thief/Heathers*), tickets will go on-sale from 10 am on Friday 13 December, and casting will be announced in due course.

*Freaky Friday* will be directed by **Andy Fickman**, known for bringing the cult-classic *Heathers* from screen to stage and features a book by **Bridget Carpenter**, acclaimed co-executive producer and writer of beloved television series *Friday Night Lights* and *Parenthood*. The musical boasts an extraordinary score by the Pulitzer Prize and Tony Award-winning team of **Tom Kitt** and **Brian Yorkey** (*Next to Normal*, *If/Then*).

*When an overworked mother and her teenage daughter magically swap bodies, they have just one day to put things right again.*

*By spending a day in each other's shoes, Katherine and Ellie come to appreciate one another's struggles, learn self-acceptance, and realize the immeasurable love and mutual respect that bond a mother and daughter.*

*Freaky Friday* the musical is a heartfelt, comedic, and unexpectedly emotional update on an American classic. This vibrant musical reimagines the iconic body-swapping tale with a fresh contemporary score and feel-good moments that are perfect for the whole family.

Now, it’s time for Manchester audiences to experience the magic, music, and mayhem of *Freaky Friday* the musical.

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**NOTES TO EDITORS**

**BRIDGET CARPENTER (BOOK)**

A playwright, television writer, and producer, Carpenter created the 2016 miniseries "11.22.63" for Bad Robot and Hulu from Stephen King's bestselling novel. "11.22.63" which premiered at the Sundance Festival, was nominated for a Writers Guild Award, and won the Saturn Award for best limited series.

Prior to "11.22.63," she wrote and co-executive-produced all five seasons of the Peabody Award-Winning series *Friday Night Lights*. She was a Consulting Producer for HBO's *Westworld* and a Co-Executive Producer for *Parenthood*. In 2013 she was the Executive Producer/Showrunner for the Sundance Channel drama series *The Red Road*.

Carpenter's plays have been produced by Steppenwolf, the Public Theater, the Alley Theatre, La Jolla Rep, Berkeley Repertory Company, Oregon Shakespeare Festival, and many other theaters across the country. She has written several songs for film (*Basmati Blues*; *Dear Dumb Diary*) and has adapted *Freaky Friday* as a movie musical for the Disney Channel, airing in 2018. Most recently, she was awarded the Princess Grace Statue.

Her awards include: a Guggenheim Fellowship, a Jerome Fellowship, a McKnight Grant, the Princess Grace Award, the Kesselring Prize, and the Susan Smith Blackburn Prize. WGA and Emmy nominations for *Friday Night Lights*.

**TOM KITT (MUSIC)**

Tom Kitt is a two-time Tony, two-time Emmy, Pulitzer Prize and Grammy Award winner. As a musical theater composer, he has written the music for six Broadway shows: *Next to Normal* (Tony Award, Olivier Nomination), *If/Then* (Tony Nomination), *Almost Famous* (Tony Nomination), *Flying Over Sunset* (Tony Nomination), *High Fidelity*, and *Bring it On, The Musical*.

His work for the stage has also been seen Off Broadway at Second Stage (Next to Normal, Superhero), The Public Theater (The Visitor, Shakespeare in the Park) and he has worked at some of the most prestigious regional theaters including The Old Globe, Arena Stage, Berkeley Rep, The Signature Theater, and ART. In addition, Tom’s Broadway credits as an orchestrator include: *Next to Normal* (Tony Award), *Hell’s Kitchen* (Tony Nomination), *The SpongeBob Musical* (Tony Nomination), *Jagged Little Pill* (Tony Nomination), *Almost Famous, Head Over Heels, Everyday Rapture*, and *American Idiot*.

Tom has also been active in the world of film and TV. As one of the vocal arrangers working on the Pitch Perfect films, Tom most notably helped create the classic “Riff-off.” Tom also served as music supervisor/arranger/orchestrator for *Grease Live*, and contributed songs for *Royal Pains*, *Penny Dreadful*, and *Sesame Street*. He also provided music supervision for the NBC series, *Rise* and served as a Supervising Music Producer on the Bobby Lopez/Kristen Anderson-Lopez/Steven Levenson/Thomas Kail musical television series *Up Here*. And he is known for his three original opening numbers for The Tony Awards, “This Party’s for You” in 2024, written with Amanda Green for Ariana Debose, “Live” in 2019, written with David Javerbaum for James Corden, and the Emmy Award winning “Bigger” in 2013, written with Lin-Manuel Miranda for Neil Patrick Harris. Tom is also proud that his musical adaptation of *Freaky Friday*, co-written with Bridget Carpenter and Brian Yorkey was turned into an original movie musical for Disney Channel.

Tom is a Sony Masterworks artist, with whom he recorded his debut album, Reflect in 2021.

**BRIAN YORKEY (LYRICS)**

Brian Yorkey received the 2010 Pulitzer Prize for Drama, the 2009 Tony Award for Best Score, and the Outer Critics Circle Award for *Next to Normal* and was also nominated for the Tony Award for Best Book of a Musical. He partnered again with the Next to Normal team on *If/Then* (Tony Award Nominee for Best Score) starring Idina Menzel. Brian co-wrote the libretto for *The Last Ship* (Outer Critics Nomination, with John Logan), with a score by Sting. He wrote lyrics for the Disney Theatricals musical adaptation of *Freaky Friday*, which also became a Disney Channel Original Movie. Brian most recently served as the Executive Producer and Co-Showrunner for the Netflix series *Echoes*.

Prior to that, Brian was the Creator, Executive Producer and Showrunner of *13 Reasons Why* for Netflix and Paramount Television. He has also directed for theatre and television.

**PAUL TAYLOR-MILLS – PRODUCER**

Paul Taylor- Mills is the Artistic Director of The Other Palace Theatre, London. He has worked as Advisory Producer to Andrew Lloyd Webber and The Really Useful Group.

Stage credits include: At the Turbine Theatre - *My Son’s A Queer (But what can you do?)*(The Garrick, Ambassadors Theatre – Olivier Nominated, Best Entertainment or Comedy Play); *Closer To Heaven; Eugenius!; But I’m A Cheerleader, My Night with Reg*, *MTFestUK 2021, 2022, 2023 and 2024*, *Cinderella: The Socially Distanced Ball,* *Hair (*part of the Turbine on the Jetty Season), *Torch Song, High Fidelity*and *Cat In The*Hat.

Elsewhere, *The Lightning Thief* and *Cruel Intentions* at The Other Palace, *Heathers the Musical* at the Theatre Royal Haymarket, The Other Palace and UK Tour (winner of the WhatsOnStage Best New Musical Award), *Murder For Two* at the Watermill Theatre and The Other Palace, *Cake*the UK Tour and Lyric Theatre, *Boy Out The City*and *Bloody Elle*at the Lyric Theatre, *The Wild Party*at The Other Palace, European Premiere of Disney’s *Peter and the Starcatcher*at the Royal & Derngate, Northampton, *Side Show*at Southwark Playhouse, *The Last Five Years* at the St. James Theatre (winner of the WhatsOnStage Award for Best Off-West End Production) *End of The Rainbow* on UK Tour, *In The Heights* at Kings Cross Theatre and Southwark Playhouse (winner of three Olivier Awards), *Casa Valentina* at Southwark Playhouse, *Carrie The Musical* at Southwark Playhouse (winner of The WhatsOnStage Off West End Award), and Associate Producer on *The Importance of Being Earnest*starring David Suchet on UK Tour and the Vaudeville Theatre.

**LISTINGS**

***FREAKY FRIDAY***

**27 NOVEMBER – 31 DECEMBER 2025Directed by Andy Fickman**

**Book by Bridget Carpenter
Music by** **Tom Kitt
Lyrics by** **Brian Yorkey**

**Address:** 2 Tony Wilson Place, Manchester, M15 4FN

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**Website:** [**https://homemcr.org**](https://homemcr.org)

**Production Artwork:** Available to download [**HERE**](https://we.tl/t-cRwNvQXaJq)

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