

GENERATING NEW WORK. POWERING PREMIERES. RE-ENERGISING CLASSICS.

MY SON'S A QUEER BUT WHAT CAN YOU DO

WRITTEN & PERFORMED BY ROB MADGE

DIRECTED BY LUKE SHEPPARD

RUNNING AT THE TURBINE THEATRE

FROM 17 JUNE – 03 JULY 2021

My Son's A Queer But What Can You Do, written by and performed by **Rob Madge** (*Oliver!*, *Les Misérables*) and directed by **Luke Sheppard** (& *Juliet*, *In The Heights*) celebrates the joy and chaos of raising a queer child, and runs at the Turbine Theatre for a limited run from 17 June until 03 July, with press night on 23 June 2021.

When Rob was 12, they attempted to stage a full-blown Disney parade in their house for their Grandma. As Rob donned a wig and played Mary Poppins, Ariel, Mickey Mouse and Belle, their Dad doubled as Stage Manager, Sound Technician and Goofy. Unfortunately, Dad missed all his cues and pushed all the floats in the wrong direction. Mum mistook Aladdin for Ursula. The costumes went awry. Ariel's bubble gun didn't even work properly. Grandma had a nice time though.

Join Rob as they delve into the archives of their old home videos in attempt to recreate this parade and celebrate the joy that can be discovered when parents champion the creativity and absurdity of their child.

Paul Taylor-Mills, Artistic Director, The Turbine Theatre, said "Over the last year we've all spent a lot of time online. We've seen performers relish in the digital world and seeing Rob's rise to social media notoriety has fascinated me. The first time I watched one of Rob's childhood videos I burst into tears. It reminded me of my childhood and that there is another side of the queer narrative that is often presented on stage. And that was that, we set about sharing Rob's beautiful story with more people.

I have been transfixed, entertained and completely moved by the videos Rob shared. Rob has a touching honesty that is impossible to resist and I can't wait to share *My Son's A Queer But What Can You Do* with our audiences at The Turbine Theatre."

NOTES TO EDITORS

ROB MADGE WRITER/PERFORMER

Rob Madge's theatre credits include *Mary Poppins*, *Macbeth*, Artful Dodger in *Oliver!*, Gavroche in *Les Misérables* (25th Anniversary Tour and 02 Concert), *Matilda the Musical*, *Timpson the Musical*, *Held Momentarily* and *Leave A Light On*.

His TV credits include *The Sarah Jane Adventures*, *That Mitchell and Webb Look*, *The Armstrong and Miller Show*, *Kröd Mändoon* and *the Flaming Sword of Fire* and *Poirot: Appointment with Death*.

Other work includes sharing lots of ridiculous home videos of living room performances on Twitter: Rob_Madge_02

LUKE SHEPPARD/DIRECTOR

Luke Sheppard's theatre credits include: *Rent* (Hope Mill Theatre); & *Juliet* (West End); *The Secret Diary Of Adrian Mole Aged 13 ¾: The Musical* (West End, Menier Chocolate Factory & Leicester Curve); *Billionaire Boy* (Nuffield Theatre, Southampton & UK Tour); *Newsies* (Arts Ed); *Murder For Two* (Watermill Theatre, The Other Palace & UK Tour); *Spring Awakening* (Hope Mill, Manchester); *In The Heights* (Kings Cross Theatre & Southwark Playhouse); *Peter And The Starcatcher* (Royal & Derngate); *Night Must Fall* (Salisbury Playhouse & UK Tour); *Stig Of The Dump* (UK Tour); *Oliver!* (Watermill Theatre); *Working*; *Casa Valentina*; *Next Fall* (Southwark Playhouse); *A Christmas Carol*; *The Adventures Of Pinocchio*; *The Hundred And One Dalmatians* (Castle Theatre); *Bed And Sofa* (Finborough); *The Great British Soap Opera* (Jermyn Street & Edinburgh) and *Jet Set Go* (Jermyn Street & Theatre 503).

His production of *In The Heights* won three Olivier Awards and a nomination for Best New Musical. The show also won the Broadway World Award for Best New Production of a Musical and received nine WhatsOnStage Award nominations, including Best Director. His production of *Spring Awakening* was awarded the WhatsOnStage Award for Best Regional Production. *The Secret Diary Of Adrian Mole Aged 13 ¾* received nominations for the Evening Standard Award for Best New Musical and the UK Theatre Award for Best Show for Children and Young People. Luke was also nominated for the Off-West End Award for Best Director for *Casa Valentina*.

PAUL TAYLOR-MILLS BIOG

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

Recent credits include: At the Turbine Theatre include *Cinderella: The Socially Distanced Ball*, *Hair* (part of the Turbine on the Jetty Season) *Torch Song*, *High Fidelity* and *Cat In The Hat*. Elsewhere, *Heathers The Musical* at the Theatre Royal Haymarket and The Other Palace (winner of the WhatsOnStage Best New Musical Award), *Murder For Two* at the Watermill Theatre and

The Other Palace, *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.

THE TURBINE THEATRE

GENERATING NEW WORK. POWERING PREMIERES. RE-ENERGISING CLASSICS.

The Turbine Theatre is a brand-new theatre on the banks of the Thames next to the iconic **Battersea Power Station**, presented by Bill Kenwright and founded and led by Artistic Director **Paul Taylor-Mills**. The theatre is located under the Grosvenor Bridge railway arches at Circus West Village, the first chapter of the iconic Battersea Power Station's regeneration, which is already a thriving riverside destination with exciting restaurants, bars and cafés already open, located at the foot of the iconic Grade II* listed landmark.

LISTINGS

MY SON'S A QUEER BUT WHAT CAN YOU DO

THE TURBINE THEATRE

17 JUNE – 03 JULY

PRESS NIGHT 23 JUNE

Ticket Price: £20 per ticket *

Seats are separated into bubbles of 1, 2 or 3 seats by perspex screens. These distanced bubbles may not be broken, merged or separated when buying tickets.

Booking: www.theturbine theatre.com

POSTER IMAGES DOWNLOAD [HERE](#)

Address: The Turbine Theatre, Arches Lane, Circus West Village, London, SW11 8AB

Website: TheTurbineTheatre.com

Twitter: @TurbineTheatre
#PoweringTheImagination

PRESS CONTACT: EMMA HOLLAND PR (EHPR)

W: www.emmahollandpr.com

Emma Holland

E: emma@emmahollandpr.com

M: 0791 709 4203

Georgie Robinson

E: georgie@emmahollandpr.com

M: 0751 211 2776

