**FOLLOWING SELL OUT RUNS AT THE TURBINE THEATRE AND AT THIS YEAR’S EDINBURGH FESTIVAL**

***MY SON’S A QUEER, (BUT WHAT CAN YOU DO?)***

**WRITTEN & PERFORMED BY ROB MADGE**

**AND DIRECTED BY LUKE SHEPPARD**

**TRANSFERS TO THE GARRICK THEATRE**

**FOR A STRICTLY LIMITED RUN**

**FROM 21 OCTOBER – 6 NOVEMBER 2022**

***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 originally had a critically acclaimed, and sold out run at the Turbine Theatre in 2021. Following another sell out run at this year’s Edinburgh Festival, ***My Son’s A Queer, (But What Can You*** ***Do?)*** will transfer to the Garrick Theatre, in London’s West End, from 21 October to 06 November 2022.

 *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.*
Winner of the ‘WhatsOnStage Best Off-West End Production 2022’ Award, ***My Son’s A Queer, (But What Can You Do?)*** is the joyous autobiographical story of social-media sensation **Rob Madge** as they set out to recreate that parade - and this time, nobody, no, nobody is gonna rain on it!

**Paul Taylor-Mills**, Artistic Director of The Turbine Theatre said “Exactly three years ago I took a group of my colleagues and friends on a boat along The Thames to a relatively unknown theatre space hiding beneath one of the most iconic buildings in Europe, The Battersea Power Station.

The Turbine Theatre was born. A bold and unique space where new work could be created. I made a commitment in front of everyone that we’d have a West End transfer within a year. Both brave and naive at the same time, little did we know what was to come. I even wrote it on the walls in big pink letters to remind me. Admittedly there were two years that we won’t go into now but we’re finally able to say that The Turbine Theatre is going to take its first show to the West End.

*My Son’s A Queer, (But What Can You Do?)* is the epitome of everything I dreamed The Turbine could be. A story of hope and acceptance, a celebration of life and a thrilling adventure rooted in trusting those we collaborate with. It has gone from a DM on Twitter during lockdown, to a fully produced sell out show in our theatre, to a run-a-way Edinburgh Season inside a big purple cow - many awards later, we’re at The Garrick. *My Son’s A Queer, (But What Can You Do?)* will play a limited season in the West End this Autumn and we hope that this is the start of many more transfers to come!”

**NOTES TO EDITORS**

**ROB MADGE WRITER/PERFORMER**

Rob Madge’s theatre credits include: *Millennials* (The Other Palace Studio); *Bedknobs and Broomsticks*(UK Tour); *Mary Poppins*(Prince Edward Theatre); *Macbeth*(Gielgud Theatre);Artful Dodger in *Oliver!*(Theatre Royal Drury Lane); Gavroche in *Les Misérables* (25th Anniversary Tour and 02 Concert); *Matilda the Musical*(Courtyard Theatre); *Timpson the Musical*(Edinburgh Fringe and Stockwell Playhouse);*Momentarily Held*(Royal Academy of Music)and *Leave A Light On* (Virtual Show).

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*.

**LISTINGS**

***MY SON’S A QUEER, (BUT WHAT CAN YOU DO?)***

**THE GARRICK THEATRE**

**21 OCTOBER – 06 NOVEMBER 2022**

Written and performed by **Rob Madge**

Directed by **Luke Sheppard**

Composition by **Pippa Cleary**

Orchestration by **Simon Nathan**

Mixing by **Chris Fry**

Designs by **Ryan Dawson Laight**

Projection Design **by George Reeve**

Video Engineering by **Neil McDowell Smith**

Associate Sound Designs by **Anna Short**

**Ticket Price:** From £20.00

**Booking:** 0330 333 4811

**Address**: The Garrick Theatre, 2 Charing Cross Rd, London WC2H 0HH

**Website**: <https://www.nimaxtheatres.com/>

**Artwork:** Available to download [HERE](https://we.tl/t-ZDBFq5i1kw)

**Past Production Images:** Available to download [HERE](https://we.tl/t-Mo0VV3cxNU)

**Twitter:** @Rob\_Madge\_02

**Instagram**: @robmadge02

**PRESS CONTACT: EMMA HOLLAND PR (EHPR)**

**W:** [**www.emmahollandpr.com**](http://www.emmahollandpr.com)

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