

**ABBNEY
THEATRE
ST ALBANS**

Ladies' Day
Girls Like That
All My Sons
Made in Dagenham
The Cripple of Inishmaan
An Enemy of the People
Great Expectations
and more

**JANUARY -
JULY 2025**



Comedy, Drama, Opera, Music

Box Office: 01727 857861
www.abbeytheatre.org.uk

Westminster Lodge, Holywell Hill,
St Albans AL1 2DL

Friendship, family, power and peril – the Ninetieth Season goes on!

Welcome to the second half of the Company of Ten's 90th anniversary season and to another mix of drama, comedy, mystery, music – and wonderful entertainment. We start 2025 in the Studio with Amanda Whittington's **Ladies' Day** – a hilarious play about female friendship and a day at the races. We follow that with our Company of Teens in the powerful and highly topical **Girls Like That** by Evan Placey.

Back on the Main Stage we bring you the Arthur Miller classic, **All My Sons**, which explores the consequences of past actions on families and relationships. Next we move on to something rather different when the talented and energetic young cast of St Albans Youth Music Theatre light up April with the vibrant and inspiring musical **Made in Dagenham**.

The Cripple of Inishmaan in the Studio transports us to Ireland for Martin McDonagh's dark comedic drama. That's followed by a reimagining of another classic – Henrik Ibsen's **An Enemy of the People**, in a new version by Rebecca Lenkiewicz from a literal translation by Charlotte Barslund. Dr Teresa Stockmann's fight for transparency has worrying contemporary parallels.

In June, Jo Clifford's adaptation of the timeless **Great Expectations** by Charles Dickens is our final show on the Main Stage, and we conclude this anniversary season in the Studio with the mystery thriller **Enlightenment** by Shelagh Stephenson.

Interspersed with these Company of Ten productions are a number of exciting visiting shows, including two **STAJE** concerts, an evening with football manager **David Pleat** and the talented youngsters of **Theatrix** bringing us *The Playlet's the Thing*. Later, the **St Albans Chamber Opera** offers An Opera Double Bill, **Out of the Blue** joins us In Concert and **Six of the Best Legends: An immersive rock experience** will give us all a night to remember!

If you'd like to experience the fun and camaraderie of putting on our shows, whether as an actor or by providing support backstage or front of house, visit our website at www.abbeytheatre.org.uk to find out how you can join us. You'd be sure of a warm welcome. The website is also the go-to place to find out more about our theatre, get up-to-date information and buy tickets. We hope to see you soon.



JANUARY STAJE IN CONCERT

ST ALBANS JAZZ ENSEMBLE

STAJE return to the Abbey Theatre for a night of Big Band Jazz. This concert marks the start of their 15th year, and their high-energy and fun-packed performances have attracted an ever-growing and loyal following. With the usual collective of incredible musicians and vocalists, expect a sellout.

9 Jan 2025, 8pm
17 Apr 2025, 8pm
Tickets £15 full price,
£12.50 15 & under
Booking opens 1 Nov
2024/1 Feb 2025
Main Stage



JANUARY—FEBRUARY LADIES' DAY

**By Amanda Whittington
COMPANY OF TEN**

When four friends swap the fish factory in Hull for the front row at the races you can be sure nothing will go quite to plan. This hilarious comedy from Amanda Whittington follows the fortunes of the ladies as they take advantage of the shift of Royal Ascot to York Racecourse for one year only.

24 Jan–1 Feb 2025, 8pm
Sunday matinée 26 Jan,
2.30pm
Booking open
Studio



FEBRUARY THE PLAYLET'S THE THING

THEATRIX

An evening of exciting and original entertainment displaying Theatrix young talents, based on their work with Trinity College London. From Shakespeare to their own original new works, the young actors showcase that all their plays are just the thing!

Junior students
6 Feb, 7.30pm & 8 Feb 2025, 3.30pm
Senior students
7 Feb, 7.30pm & 8 Feb 2025, 7.30pm

Booking opens 1 Jan 2025
(unreserved seating)
Tickets £14 full price,
£13 concessions,
£8 13 & under
Main Stage



FEBRUARY AN EVENING WITH DAVID PLEAT

MIKE ROLLO EVENTS

David Pleat has lived a life at the heart of football, from his debut as an England Schoolboy International in 1960 to his time as a scout for Tottenham Hotspur up to 2024. He achieved success at both Luton Town and Spurs, with time not only as a manager, but also as director of football.

He is joined by Brian Horton and Clive Allen, two players who excelled under his astute coaching and enjoyed their own successful football careers.

11 Feb 2025, 8pm
Booking open
Tickets £30
Main Stage



FEBRUARY GIRLS LIKE THAT

**By Evan Placey
COMPANY OF TEENS**

This powerful play explores the impact of social media on teenage identity and relationships. It follows a group of high school girls who navigate the complexities of friendship, self-image, and societal expectations in a world dominated by online interactions.

A private photo is shared, and then shared again, widely, igniting a cascade of events that forces the characters to confront their own insecurities and the harsh realities of digital culture.

13–15 Feb 2025, 8pm
Booking open
Tickets £12 full price,
£10 concessions
Studio



FEBRUARY—MARCH ALL MY SONS

**By Arthur Miller
COMPANY OF TEN**

It's August 1947, and Joe Keller is surveying damage to an apple tree planted in memory of his older son, Larry, a war pilot missing in action for three years. As the play unfolds, Joe and his family are forced to confront their painful past as secrets are revealed in this poignant reflection on materialism, moral responsibility, the consequences of dishonesty and the burden of guilt.

28 Feb–8 Mar 2025, 8pm
Sunday matinée 2 Mar
2025, 2.30pm
Booking open
Main Stage



MARCH AN OPERA DOUBLE BILL

ST ALBANS CHAMBER OPERA

Cavalleria Rusticana, with its famous 'Easter Hymn' tells of Turiddu, who returns from the army to discover his fiancée Lola has married Alfio. His revenge unfolds with ultimately fatal consequences. Gianni Schicchi, Puccini's comic opera, shows how greed becomes all-important. The sublime score includes 'Oh My Beloved Father'.

Both operas are sung in English and are accompanied by the SACO orchestra.

23–29 Mar 2025
Matinée 23 Mar, 2.30pm
Tickets £19,
£10 full time education.
25–29 Mar, 7.30pm
(no performance on 27 Mar)
Tickets £23, no concessions
Booking opens 1 Jan 2025
Main Stage



APRIL MADE IN DAGENHAM

Book by Richard Bean, Music by David Arnold,
Lyrics by Richard Thomas
ST ALBANS YOUTH MUSIC THEATRE

This vibrant musical is based on the true story of the 1968 Ford sewing machinists' strike in Dagenham. Rita O'Grady is a factory worker who is fed up with the inequality she sees. As she leads her co-workers in a fight for equal pay and better working conditions, the women face numerous obstacles, from personal sacrifices to workplace discrimination.

10–12 Apr 2025, 7.30pm
Saturday matinée
12 Apr 2025, 2.30pm
Tickets £14 full price
£12 concessions
Booking opens 1 Jan 2025
Main Stage



APRIL–MAY THE CRIPPLE OF INISHMAAN

By Martin McDonagh
COMPANY OF TEN

This darkly comedic play is set on a remote Irish island in the 1930s. It follows Billy, a young man with a disability, who struggles for acceptance in a community that often ridicules him. When news spreads of a film crew arriving on a neighbouring island, Billy seizes the opportunity to escape his mundane life staring at cows and pursue his dreams of becoming an actor.

25 Apr–3 May 2025, 8pm
Sunday matinée 27 Apr
2025, 2.30pm
Booking opens 1 Feb 2025
Studio



MAY HENRIK IBSEN'S AN ENEMY OF THE PEOPLE

In a new version by Rebecca Lenkiewicz from a
literal translation by Charlotte Barslund
COMPANY OF TEN

In this reimagined version of Ibsen's play, Dr Teresa Stockmann, a passionate and dedicated medical officer, discovers that the town's famed spa water is contaminated. Initially celebrated for revealing the truth to the community, Teresa soon faces fierce opposition from her brother, the mayor and other influential townsfolk who put money ahead of public health.

16–24 May 2025, 8.00pm
Sunday matinée 18 May,
2.30pm
Booking opens 1 Feb 2025
Main Stage



MAY OUT OF THE BLUE IN CONCERT

OUT OF THE BLUE

Oxford University's premier lower voice a cappella group has over 20 million views on YouTube and has toured all around the world including the US, Switzerland, Canada, India, China and France, playing to international acclaim, all while raising money for Helen & Douglas House, the world's first Children's Hospice. They are firm favourites at their annual sell-out shows during the Edinburgh Fringe Festival.

25 May 2025, 2.30pm
& 7pm
Booking opens 1 Mar 2025
Main Stage



MAY SIX OF THE BEST LEGENDS

NATHAN SMITH

Get ready for a night of legendary rock music like you've never experienced it before. This immersive, interactive show features the greatest hits of Dire Straits, Pink Floyd, Eric Clapton, Jimi Hendrix, Van Halen and Gary Moore. From start to finish, this electrifying performance by a world-class live band will transport you back to the golden age of rock, with stunning visuals, high-energy performances, and a chance to become part of the show itself.

31 May 2025, 8pm
Booking opens 1 Mar
2025
Main Stage



JUNE GREAT EXPECTATIONS

By Charles Dickens, adapted by Jo Clifford
COMPANY OF TEN

When young Pip helps an escaped convict named Magwitch, he unwittingly sets off a chain of events that will change his life forever. Thanks to a mysterious benefactor, he becomes a gentleman, captivated by the beautiful but cold-hearted Estella, who was raised by the eccentric Miss Havisham. His obsession leaves him grappling with his desires, social class, and the complexities of love.

13–21 Jun 2025, 8pm
Sunday matinée 15 Jun
2025, 2.30pm
Booking opens 1 Mar
2025
Main Stage



JULY ENLIGHTENMENT

By Shelagh Stephenson
COMPANY OF TEN

When a student disappears during his gap year in the Far East, his parents are left fighting for answers. Where did he go after his last check-in? Who was he with? Unsure if he is alive or dead, they embark on a journey to find anyone who can help them uncover his whereabouts.

As pieces of the puzzle come to light, a darker truth begins to emerge. When the net of lies and deceit closes in, will they be able to find the answers they so desperately need? And will they be able to trust what they find?

4–12 Jul 2025, 8pm
Sunday matinée 6 Jul
2025, 2.30pm
Booking opens 1 Mar
2025
Studio



BOOKING TICKETS

01727 857861
Box Office opening hours
Monday-Friday, 9.30am-12 noon

Please note that the Box Office closes from mid-July until 1 September.

You may book online at any time on our website.

Company of Ten productions: £14 full price,
£12 concession (Other ticket prices may vary)

www.abbeytheatre.org.uk

Please note that all productions are subject to alteration. Please check our website for the most up-to-date information.

BOOKING

ONLINE at www.abbeytheatre.org.uk where you may also sign up to receive our e-newsletter.

BOX OFFICE on 01727 857861 Monday to Friday, 9.30am to 12 noon, and thirty minutes before each performance. Closed from mid-July until 1 September.

M	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	N		
L	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	I		
K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	K
J	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	J
H	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	H
G	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	G
F	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	F
E	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	E
D	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	D
C	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	C
B	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	B
A	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	A
MAIN STAGE																						



In the main auditorium, rows A to C are at ground level, rows D to M are raked. In the Studio, seats are unreserved.

We are no longer able to send tickets by post. Discounts are available on bookings of more than ten full price seats.

The Box Office opens thirty minutes before each performance for sale and collection of tickets. Latecomers will only be admitted at the discretion of the management.

All productions and dates may be subject to alteration. Please check online or contact the Box Office.

VISITING

The Abbey Theatre is at Westminster Lodge, Holywell Hill, St Albans AL1 2DL, a short distance from the centre of St Albans and the Cathedral. There's plenty of parking nearby, including a number of blue badge bays.

We have a licensed bar, and coffee and ice cream are available during intervals. For the hard of hearing, Sennheiser infrared headsets are available from the Manager's Office. We warmly welcome wheelchair patrons but, as spaces are limited, please check availability when booking.

JOINING

The Company of Ten is St Albans' longest established and most prestigious theatrical group, and the resident company at the Abbey Theatre. Although, as members, we are unpaid, we aim to run the theatre to a professional standard. Anyone can join. Besides acting, there are opportunities in stage management, design and construction, sound, lighting, props, wardrobe, marketing and front of house. You can also support us by becoming an Abbey Theatre Friend.

To find out more, please visit www.abbeytheatre.org.uk

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