# Sir Ian McKellen Hospitalized After Stage Fall During 'Player Kings' Performance in London



Sir Ian McKellen, 85, was hospitalized after falling off the stage during a performance of "Player Kings" at the Noël Coward Theatre in London's West End on Monday, June 17, 2024. McKellen, who plays John Falstaff, fell during a battle scene involving the Prince of Wales and Henry Percy. The fall occurred in front of the audience, who were evacuated as the show was promptly canceled.

Audience members reported that McKellen cried out in pain and appeared conscious as staff and medical personnel attended to him. "Player Kings," adapted and directed by Robert Icke, is a production of Shakespeare’s "Henry IV Parts I and II" and has been running at the Noël Coward Theatre since April. The production is scheduled to move to the Bristol Hippodrome in July and will also be staged in Birmingham, Norwich, and Newcastle.

McKellen's career spans over six decades, earning him acclaim for roles in both film and theatre. He is best known for his portrayals of Gandalf in Peter Jackson’s "The Lord of the Rings" trilogy and Magneto in the "X-Men" films, in addition to numerous Shakespearean roles on stage.