WE WILL ROCK YOU. Act 2 Audio Description programme notes.

As the curtain rises for Act 2 we see a dark stage with vertical binary letter and number codes flashing, screened onto the backdrop, with blinking blue lights.

Act 2 Opens in Virtual High and the Gaga kids singing One Vision. They are wearing Virtual Reality headsets, and fitted black bodysuits with white tracery and white trainers. We then move to the laser cells holding the captive Bohemians to the music of ‘The seven seas of Rhye’. They are ‘Tasered’ by Khashoggi who at the hospital then calls for doctors to bring on helmets which will reprogramme them to forget Rock and Roll. They are forced into a row of electric chairs with green lights, and as the sparkling helmets light up, they jerk and writhe as their brains are drained and they become limp zombies.

Galileo and Scaramouche have escaped from Khashoggi’s clutches, and are on the run in a barren wasteland that resembles a slag heap. He tells her his dream that the Bohemians were sent to the ‘Seven seas of Rhye’. They realise that they have had devices implanted in their scalps by Khashoggi’s doctors and using a shard of glass remove the implant from each others heads as the evening skies darken to burnt orange. Together they sing ‘Who wants to live forever’ and lie down in a passionate embrace. The scene then changes to the morning where they awake cuddled up together.

Scene 4 is in the Killer Queens boudoir, surrounded by her team of female handmaidens. She is wearing a black coronet, jewelled bodice with long black fringing. Her handmaidens are wearing black masks, mock military jackets over short black skirts, split at the thighs by open zips over high heeled boots as they sing ‘Fat bottomed girls’. The Queen is very pleased with her success at subduing the Bohemians and celebrates to the music of ‘Don’t stop me now’ until Khashoggi arrives to tell her that Scaramouche and Galileo have escaped. She forces him to his knees in a stranglehold, and as he pleads for his life, she casts him into a sea of flames framed by red screens. Wearing black frock coats the handmaidens goose step to the Queen singing ‘Another one bites the dust’

Scaramouche and Galileo are on the road backed by a night time scene of tower blocks with lights on inside. They argue to the sound of ‘Hammer to fall’.

Back in the Heartbreak Hotel, which looks like a brick underground boiler room, complete with valves, dials and pipework, the Bohemians stand limp as Buddy sings ‘Days of our lives’. He carries a bottle of booze, and walks to each of them filling their beakers. He fishes down the front of his trousers, and brings out a video cassette that he has hidden. They have a vague memory of a slot for video cassettes in the front of a television set. We hear the start of Bohemian Rhapsody and the dazed Bohemians begin to stir out of their stupor. Galileo raises an arm to echo the triumphant, fist punching salute of Freddie Mercury beamed onto a screen in front of him.

Eschewing the ‘Bicycle’, Buddy Galileo and Scaramouche arrive on the Harley into the ruined framework of Wembley Stadium, and ponder how to make music without any instruments. To the sound of a heavy beat, they try out the words to ‘We will rock you’ , and as they sing, bricks fall from the wall to reveal a hidden cavity containing an electric guitar. Galileo twangs some tuneless chords, before Scaramouche grabs it from him, and shows him how it’s done. The music attracts the attention of Killer Queen who appears on a huge screen above their heads. To the music of ‘’Tie your mother down’ the Queen puts her fingers in her ears. The screen goes fuzzy and she is finally destroyed.

A glittering white Wembley Stadium surrounds the Galileo, Scaramouche and the Bohemians as they all sing ‘We will rock you’ and ‘We are the champions’. As an encore and finale the entire company sing Bohemian Rhapsody