

Visual Story for

SakaSaka

By Compagnie Zolobe
from Madagascar

June 1 - 2 - 3 - 4

Relaxed Performance on
Saturday, June 3 at 1:30pm

at Performance Works
on Granville Island



This Visual Story helps people prepare for coming to a show or decide if this show is right for them.
There is also a Visual Story for Performance Works on our website.

What information is in this visual story?

You can click on the things you want to know about

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Schedule / Important times

These times will be a little different for every performance.

Usually things don't happen exactly at those times.

The performance is about 50 minutes long.

Schedule

- **Between 1:00 pm and 1:15 pm**
The doors open and you can find your seat
- **1:30 pm** The performance starts
- **2:20 pm** The performance finishes

Schedule for the Relaxed Performance

- **1:00 pm** The doors open and you can find your seat
- **1:03 pm** The introduction to the relaxed performance starts
- **1:14 pm** The introduction is over
- **1:15 pm** People who didn't come to the introduction come in
- **1:30 pm** The performance starts
- **2:20 pm** The performance finishes

What to expect at the relaxed performance

The lights above you will always stay on, it may be a bit dark sometimes, but **never all dark**

For what to expect at the other performances, go to the next page.

- It is ok to move
- It is ok to make noise
- It is ok to react
- It's ok to have a quiet snack or a drink
- It is ok to use an electronic device if you need them, but first please
 - turn off the sound
 - turn down the brightness of the screen
- It is not ok to take pictures or make calls
- It is ok to leave and come back again

What to expect at the other performances

It may be a bit dark sometimes, but **never all dark**

- It is ok to move
- It is ok to make noise
- It is ok to react
- It is ok to leave and come back again

Chill-Out Zone

If you want to leave the theatre at any time, you can go to the foyer.
At the Relaxed Performance there will be a Chill-Out Zone in the foyer.

In the foyer you can

- Take a break
- Move around
- Go to the bathroom
- Eat a snack

The Chill-Out Zone will also have:

- Yoga mats & pillows
- Fidget toys & colouring books

You can go back inside to see the rest of the show anytime

The Curtain Speech

Before the show starts someone will come to the stage and talk.

This is a short speech between 1-3 minutes.

These are the things they usually talk about:

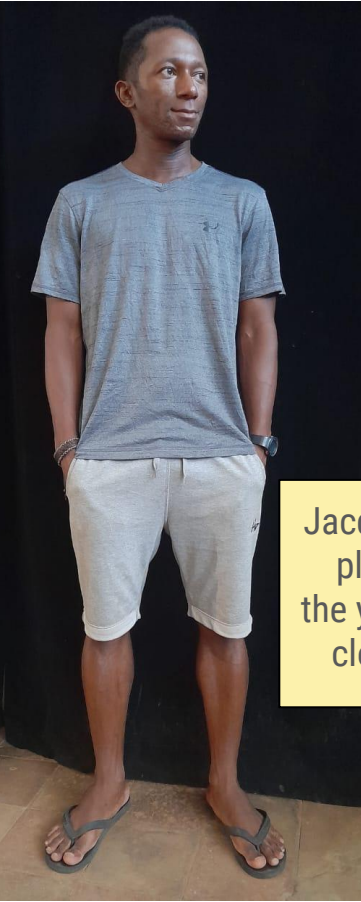
- The indigenous land we are on
- How you can donate to the festival or help in other ways
- Saying thank you to sponsors and donors and volunteers
- What other shows there are at the festival

At the relaxed performance, this person will also remind people that it is a relaxed performance and explain what that means.

This is someone doing a curtain speech.
When you go, it could be another person.



The Performers



Jacquelin
plays
the yellow
clown



More on the next page



Ridel
plays
the grey
clown





Mohamad
plays
the blue
clown



The Musicians

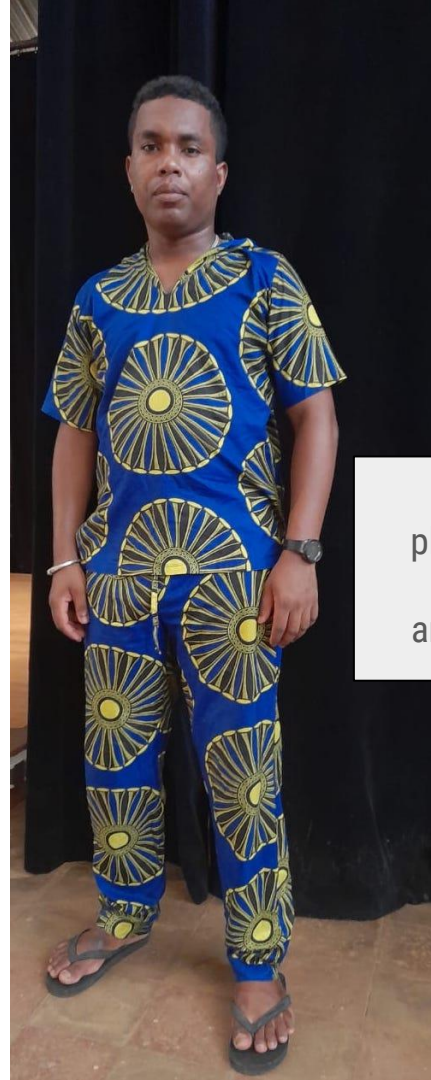


There are also 2 musicians.
They are in the corner on the left.

More on the next page



Vagnonjara
plays bass guitar, djembe,
accordion, flute,
valiha (a string instrument),
a whistle and a rain stick



Hervé
plays a special Malagasy
guitar, the maracas
and a cajon (a box drum)

The Stage



At Performance Works
the floor is the stage.
It is not higher up.

The musicians are
in the corner.

In the beginning
there is nothing
on the stage.

Later the clowns
bring things.
Like a bench to sit on.



About Sakasaka

There are 3 clowns.
They are friends.
They don't talk much.
They do a lot of funny and silly things.

Sometimes they play together really well
and sometimes they don't because they get
jealous of each other or because they don't agree.

But very soon after that they always have fun
together again.



Things in the show that might be intense

These are some things in the show that might be intense.
On the next pages we will explain more, or you can click on them.

- [People laughing](#)
- [A pretend operation](#)
- [Singing or talking in another language](#)
- [Arguments / Not playing well together](#)
- [Making fun of each other](#)
- [Coming into the audience](#)
- [Talking to someone in the audience](#)
- [Some water hitting you](#)

People Laughing

A lot of people in the audience laugh a lot. Sometimes that can be loud. They laugh because they think what the clowns are doing is silly or funny.

A pretend operation

There is a moment in the show where the Blue clown pretends to be dead and the Grey clown pretends to do an operation. It is all pretend. [Click here to go to the part of “everything that happens”](#) about the operation. This is what it will look like.



Singing or talking in another language

The Clowns don't talk most of the time. But there is a moment where the yellow clown starts singing. He sings in Malagasy. At the same time the Grey and Blue dance with him and sing like background singers, they sing: "Sakasaka", that is also Malagasy. It's ok if you don't know what it means. Most people don't. It is not about the words, the important thing is what they do.



Not playing well together

The clowns don't always play well together. Here are some of the ways that happens.

- Sometimes they get jealous if someone else has a bigger cup or do something better than them
- Sometimes they accidentally do something; knock something over, bump another clown... and then the other clown gets upset or mad

They are never mad at eachother for long. Very soon after they are always playing together again.



Making fun of each other

Sometimes they laugh because something is funny.

Other times it is more making fun of each other.



Coming into the audience & talking to someone in the audience

This happens one time.

The clowns are on the bench pretending it is a boat. Grey stands at the front of the bench stretches out his arms. He yells: "I'm the king of..." but then he stops.

He points to the audience and jumps off the bench (the pretend boat). He pretends to swim to the audience. He goes up the stairs into the audience and looks around. Then he ask someone what their name is.

If he asks you, you don't have to answer. If you don't he can ask someone else, that's ok.

If you want to know why he does that, [you can click here to read that part of "Everything that happens"](#).



Some water hitting you

Because the clowns are playing with water a lot, some people in the audience get hit with a little bit of water. Never a lot. It mostly happens to people in the first couple of rows but it can also happen if you sit higher up.



Sound

Most of the time the musicians are making noises and sound effects that go with what is happening. They also play songs and music but not all the time.

It is never super loud.

The most intense moments or effects:

- The loudest is usually the other people in the audience, when everyone laughs it can get very loud
- Sometimes the sound effects can be a little surprising or sudden because they go with something that happens suddenly

At the relaxed performance the sound will be a little bit less loud.

Lights

It will never be all dark. There are not flashing or coloured lights or moving lights.

It is not very bright, there are lights coming from the side and some from the top.

The light doesn't change much and when it changes it changes slowly.

Introduction at the relaxed performance

This will only happen on the day of the relaxed performance on June 3rd at 1pm

- The actors who play the clowns will introduce themselves
- We will show you what the lights are like
- The musicians will show a bit of what sounds and music they will make
- We will talk about the moments in the shows that might be intense
and then the clowns will show the moments you want to see

After that all the other people will come in to go sit down.

And after 10-15 minutes the show will start.

The people in the audience

There will be a lot of laughing, because the clowns do funny things like silly things that don't make sense or falling or bumping into each other.

Often kids will tell the clowns things:

Warning them about something.

Telling them what they are doing won't work or doesn't make sense.

SPOILER ALERT :

When we say everything,
we mean everything.

Don't read this unless you want to
know everything that happens.

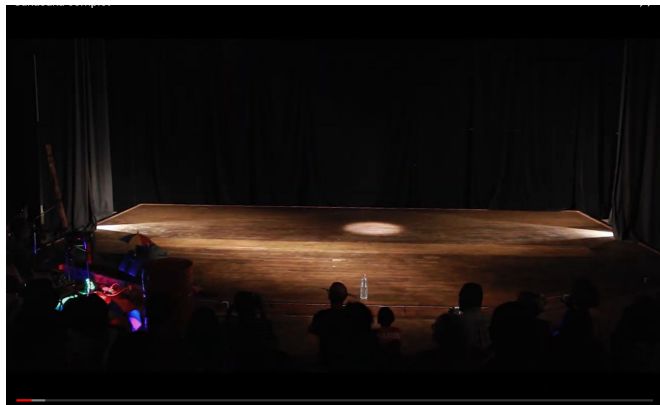
Everything that happens

Because this is a live show, things will always be a little different. But this is everything that normally happens in the show.

The clowns don't have names. So we called them Yellow, Blue and Grey.

At the beginning there is nothing on the stage except the musicians with their instruments and a bottle of water at the front of the stage.

Like in this picture →



When the show starts the Grey and Blue walk by us and Yellow is running after them. But he trips and Grey and Blue are gone. Yellow sees he tripped on a little stone and gets angry at the stone, he kicks it. Then he sees us. He is surprised and freezes. He wants to shuffle away but bumps into Blue and Grey who came back. Yellow shows the others that there is an audience then he runs away.

Like in this picture →



Blue and Grey are also surprised, and a bit shy, they also want to run away but they keep bumping against each other. Then they run away. One by one the clowns come walking across the stage doing funny walks. First Yellow, then Grey then Blue.

Grey comes back. He claps and the band starts playing. He starts to dance stretching out his arms and legs, he gets Blue and Yellow and they all dance like that. Like this →

Yellow gets the audience to clap and then runs away.

Blue and Grey do tricks to the music one by one. Grey is a bit jealous of Blue's tricks and tries to do a really big trick by spinning and spinning until he falls into the black curtains on the side. He is very dizzy. Blue is laughing because it is funny. They bump into each other, they laugh. Blue wants to do low fives but Grey pulls his hands away and Blue almost falls.



They hear a noise, something is coming!

They stretch their arms out, like something or someone is coming. But first nothing happens. Finally Yellow comes running, carrying a wooden bench like they are airplane wings. He runs around the stage as an airplane. He runs at the others who fall on the ground. Then he lands the plane and puts the bench down. He tries to sit on it but knocks it over and hurts his knee. The other laugh at him while Yellow hops around in pain, then they sit down on the bench.



Yellow wants to sit on the bench and he sits down with his back to the others. He goes around the bench to sit on the other side and the others pull the bench.

← Like this.

Yellow falls on his bum when he tries to sit down. Like this →



Blue and Grey laugh at Yellow. Yellow goes to the other side where there is a spot now. Blue and Grey pull the bench again. But this time Yellow is smart and feels first that there is no bench and then pushes the others over to sit on the bench.

Blue starts clapping his hand on his leg and the others copy him. Blue starts snapping his fingers to the music. They get up and clap on their bodies. They start dancing. One of them will do a movement and the others copy it.

Yellow and blue get tired and they leave.



He puts the bottle on the bench and sits next to it. He sits down next to the bottle like he is in love with it. He pulls the bottle to him. Like this →

He opens the top and smells it, licks it. He picks up the bottle to drink but decides not to. He puts the cap back on and lies down on the bench, looking at the bottle like he is in love.

Blue comes back with his own water bottle. He kicks an empty bottle away. Then he sees Grey with his bottle. He sits next to Grey and shows him his own bottle, Blue's bottle is smaller than Grey's. Blue tries to take Grey's bottle but Grey pulls it away. Blue holds his bottle like a baby.



Then Yellow comes running by holding a water bottle like it is a little dog that is barking a lot. He stops and pets his water bottle.



He shows it to the others. His water bottle starts barking at the two others. Then the three of them sit on the bench holding on to their water bottles.

Suddenly Yellow's water bottle flies out of his hands. Yellow goes back to get it and he crawls on the floor.

← Like this.

He gets it and pets it, but then he drops it again.

Yellow picks it up by squeezing it between his feet and throwing it in the air and catching it with his hands. Like this →



He goes to sit on the bench again Between Yellow and blue.



Grey and blue both pour water into their bottle caps and try to drink but each time Yellow accidentally bumps them because the other clown was angry that Yellow just bumped him. Like here ↓

Yellow tries to pick up the water for Blue but Blue slaps him. Blue and Grey are ready to drink from their bottle cap but Yellow knocks the bottle caps out of their hands on purpose. Then he goes and picks up the bottle caps but he doesn't give them back to Blue and Grey but uses them as eyes.



Like this →



Grey wants to dance so he goes to dance with the bench but then he sits on it because he is also too tired and thirsty, the sticks out his tongue. Like this →

He sees a bottle of water at the black curtain on the right, he runs over but it disappears before he gets there.

Then there is a bottle of water on the left, but it also disappears.



Then a plastic bottle is thrown at him.
He picks it up and wants to drink but it is empty.
← Like here.

Another bottle is thrown. It is also empty.
Then a whole bunch of bottle are thrown. Like this →

But they are all empty. Then Grey sees the full bottle of water at the front of the stage. First he pretends he will share it with people in the front row but then he keeps it to himself.



He starts dancing and Blue and Grey dance too. We hear some howling and Blue and Grey dance, they do the clawing move from the thriller dance. Like this →

Then Blue and Grey each take their bottle cap back and Yellow is surprised. Yellow is upset. He crosses his arms, paces and kicks an empty bottle. Then he sits on the bench with his back to Blue and Grey. Blue and Grey leave. Yellow finds a bottle cap and uses it as one eye and does a funny dance. He also leaves.



The three clowns come back and they all have a Blue cup in their hand Grey has the biggest one Blue has the medium one and Yellow has the smallest one. Yellow drops his cup. Blue Bumps into Grey then walks backwards and steps on Yellowstone Yellow hops on one foot. Grey screams into his cup then covers it. Then he opens it at Blues ear and scream comes out.

← Like this.

Blue gives his cup to Yellow then shines Grey Shoes by lying on the floor, licking them and rubbing his bib overalls on them. He takes his cup back. Yellow picks up his cup and they all dance around.

The three clowns point at the bench and sit down. They get up and down but never all at the same time.

Then Blue and Grey want to pick up their water bottles but they bump into each other. Like in this picture →



They switch sides to pick up their bottles. They try to pour water into their cups and their elbows keep hitting each other. Like this →



The band plays music from The Good the Bad and the ugly, a cowboy movie while Blue and Grey try getting their elbows higher till they are standing up on the bench.

They sit down. Yellow takes the cups from Grey and Blue and drinks them. Blue and Grey refill their cups and when they try to drink but Yellow bumps them and the water goes into their face. Then they start throwing water at each other with the cups and running around.

At the end of the water fight Yellow and Grey both pour a whole bottle of water on Blue. ← Like this.

Blue has no water in his cup or his bottle and he is soaked. He smiles and he leaves.



Yellow has no more water in his bottle but Blue does and Blue pours water and drinks it from his cup. Yellow wants water but Blue doesn't give him any and then Blue throws water at Yellow and pours water on his shoes but none in his cup. Yellow is very thirsty, Grey looks at him. Like this →

Grey Gives Yellow the bottle Grey leaves. But the bottle is empty, Yellow drops it on the ground and is sad he sits down on the bench with his little tiny Blue cup.

Then Yellow gets excited he goes and puts his hand in the water on the floor and then shakes it into his little cup.



Then he rolls in all of the water on the floor and he tries to shake the water from his hair into the tiny cup and wring water out of his clothes.
← Like here.

Then he sits on the bench to drink it but he accidentally knocks it over and is very sad. He picks up the cup. There is nothing in it. The musicians play a song in Malagasy. Yellow sits back on the bench and tries to drink but the cup is still empty.

Yellow leaves.

Blue and Grey come back with Blue buckets and Yellow follows them with a mop. Blue puts on his bucket like a helmet, Yellow puts them up on his head like hair and Grey is balancing his bucket on his head. Like this →

Grey tries to do tricks balancing the bucket on his body but it doesn't always work. Then he starts putting all the empty bottles in his bucket.

Blue takes the mop from Yellow and accidentally slams him on the toe. He gives the mop back to Yellow and Yellow tickles Blue with the mop then he leans on it. Blue pulls the mop away and Yellow falls on the floor. Blue pushes Yellow with the mop and Yellow rolls and bumps into the bench and the bucket with all the empty bottles falls off the bench.



Blue does a funny dance with the mop then he holds it like a spear and Chase's after Yellow and Grey. First Yellow jumps on Grey's back then Grey jumps on Yellow's back and they run away.

Blue is alone and mops the floor until he gets tired and sits on the bench. The band starts playing romantic music and Blue looks at the mop and falls in love with it. He strokes the mop's hair, dances with the mop and starts kissing it. Grey and Yellow come back holding the Blue bucket they see Blue kissing the mop.

← Like this.

They make fun of Blue. Blue starts mopping at their feet.



They all get onto the bench. The musicians start making sounds like waves and Blue starts using the mop as if it is a paddle for a boat. Grey stands on top of the bench stretches out his arms.

Like this →

One of the musicians starts playing a song from the movie Titanic on a recorder and Grey stands on the end again with his arms stretched out. He yells: "I'm the king of..." but then he stops. He points to the audience and jumps off the bench that is now a pretend boat. He pretends to swim to the audience. He goes up the stairs into the audience and asks someone what their name is. Then he pretend to swim back to the boat and stands on the end again with his arms stretched out and yells: "I'm the king off..." and then adds the name of the person in the audience.



Then Grey points forward with his hand and yells "Alefa" the others also yell and point. Blue starts peddling with the mop at the back and Grey steers with the bucket.

Then they starts wobbling and they pretend to fall in the water and the bench falls over on top of Blue.

Grey gets up first, and starts cleaning up the empty bottles. Yellow gets up, sees Blue under the bench and is worried. Grey helps him take the bench off Blue. Yellow steps on Blue's belly and his arms and legs flail up.

← Like this.

Yellow and Grey bring the bench away, Blue gets up waves and yells at them but when they turn around he drops back down and pretends to be dead. Yellow and Grey pick Blue up. Grey cranks his arm so that Blue stays standing up. Now Blue stands frozen stiff. Grey leaves and Yellow wants to follow him but then Blue starts falling over so Yellow grabs him. Yellow starts opening and closing Blue's mouth and then he pretends to take selfies. Blue comes alive again and smiles for the picture.

Like this →

But when Yellow turns to him he freezes again.

Grey comes back with the bench. Yellow lets go of Blue and Blue falls over but Grey catches him. He pushes Blue back to Yellow. Blue falls back and forth like a plank of wood. Together Grey and Yellow lie him down on the bench.



Grey and Yellow hug. Blue's arms suddenly stick up in the air. It scares Yellow and Grey. They push them down. They hug again and Blue's arms stick up again. Grey pushes them down and instead Blue's leg comes up, almost kicking Yellow.

← Like this.

Yellow tries to put it down. At first it doesn't work but then Blue sits up when he tries again. Grey pushes him back down but his legs stay up in the air. Then he pushes really hard to get the legs down without him sitting up. Grey leaves.

Yellow is scared to come close. He taps Blue's foot with the mop stick. Nothing happens. Then he comes closer. He touches Blue on his chest. Nothing happens. On his leg. Nothing happens. Then he gets a big smile. He points his finger in the air and then slowly goes down to touch Blue's pants where his penis is. Suddenly Blue slaps his hand and waves no with his finger. Like this →
Yellow is scared and jumps back.



Grey comes back with a pail of water. Yellow puts the mop in it and mops Blue's chest. Nothing happens. Grey washes his hands in the pail like a surgeon preparing for surgery. ← Like this



Then Yellow takes a very large pretend knife out of his pocket. It is pretend so there is no real knife. He gives it to Grey who uses it to pretend to cut Blue's chest open like in a surgery or an operation. They both pretend they are looking into Blue's chest. Like this →



Grey pretends to take out an intestine, Yellow helps him pull it, it is very long so Yellow pretends to wrap it around his arms.

Like this →

Grey cuts the pretend intestine with the pretend knife. Yellow dances around pretending he has the intestine around his neck.

Grey pretends to take Blue's heart out.

He gives it to Yellow who washes the pretend heart and cleans it.

Then he holds it up to his ear like this ↓



Suddenly we can hear it beat. He gives it to Grey who pretends to throw it back into Blue's chest. He pretends to take the intestine from around Yellow's neck and pretends to throw it back in too. Grey pretends to sew Blue's chest back up. Like this →



Then he throws the pail of water on Blue. Blue jumps up and the bucket on his head goes over his eyes so he can't see. Like this →

The three clowns sit on the bench. Yellow has the mop and starts to play it like a base. It sounds like a base because the musicians are playing the base at the same time. He starts to sing a song in Malagasy. He sings and dance and Blue and Grey dance behind him with the Blue bucket and pail. They sing along: "Sakasaka".

Like here ↓



Then Yellow starts to run around the stage with the mop between his legs like a witch on a broom. Blue and Grey stop and leave with the bench.

Yellow keeps dancing and singing in Malagasy. He slides on the ground. Blue and Grey come back and drag Yellow off the stage. Yellow comes running back, he slides on the ground again and keeps singing. Blue and Grey drag him off again.

Like this →



Then the three clowns come back dancing with straight stretched arms.
Like this →



They come to the front and bow. People in the audience clap and cheer.

The musicians come and bow too.
Like this ↓



Then they all leave. The Clowns wave goodbye. The show is over.



Credits

This Visual Story was created with the help of a template created with the input of many consultants, patrons, artists and fellow arts organizations.

Special thanks to the PuSh International Performing Arts Festival, Intrepid Theatre, Vancouver Writers Fest, the Gateway Theatre and Jake Anthony.

Want to create a visual story for your show, event or venue?
Email Anika Verveckan and she will share the template: anikasurtitles@gmail.com

She also welcomes all feedback!