



Yassama
and the Beaded Calabash

By Lua Shayenne

May 31 - June 2

At the Revue Stage on Granville Island

Tickets: Child/Senior \$13.50

Adult \$23 + s/c & GST



Image description: A black woman in a red suit with sleeves like short wings smiles. She is holding up a hollowed out calabash (it looks like a salad bowl) decorated with little white cowry shells, when she shakes the bowl it makes noise like a rattle.

Introduction for people who are Blind or Partially sighted

Hi, I am Lua, the storyteller for this story.

I am a tall black woman and I will wear a red romper (like a jumpsuit, it is all one piece) with short flared sleeves that almost look like little wings and flared bottoms. It has a tree outline in colourful fabric with the trunk on my right leg and the branches all over the top and sleeves. I also wear a choker necklace with Cowrie or cowry shells and big round earrings made out of the same fabric as the tree.

I will be telling the story in front of a screen that has a savanna landscape in a hot country with tall brown grass and a few trees in the background, a blue sky with only wisps of white clouds.

There will be a musician with me. A black man with a big smile and long dreadlocks. He wears a blue top and pants with the same tree on it in the same colourful fabric. He sits behind a table with a colourful tablecloth that has all his instruments: a balafon, a bell, a rainstick, a Caxixi (ca-chi-chi), a kessing or ksink ksink (also called « sege-sege » or « sesse »), a Nut-shell handbell instrument and a nut shaker. But the instrument he plays the most is not on the table, the djembe, a drum, sits between his legs. He is drumming and making music and noises with the instruments the whole time. For example, every time Yassama goes somewhere he plays the same music on the balafon, that music means time goes by.

I hope you will enjoy the show. And after the show, please come up on the stage with a parent or another adult, and you can come and check out the instruments. If you ask, the musician will let you touch them and see what they are like.