



Visual Story for  
Kym Gouchie & Band  
May 27 - 30  
At the [Granville Island Stage](#)

A visual story helps people prepare for a new experience or decide if this show works for them



# What information is in this visual story?

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This visual story tells you all about the show

[To see the visual story for theatre, click here](#)

It also has lots of pictures about how to get there and what is inside the building

## Schedule / Important times

These times will be a little different for every performance

The doors to the theatre open between 15 and 30 minutes before the show starts

If you arrive earlier you can wait in the lobby

The performance is about 50 minutes long

There is no intermission

# What to expect at a show that is Always Relaxed

The lights above you will always stay on, 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's ok to have a snack or a drink
- It is ok to use your electronic devices (on silent)
- It is ok to take pictures or videos (without a flash)

And Kym loves it if you share them with her and tag her on social media

BUT it is not ok to make phone calls

There will also be a chill out zone, find out more on the next page

# Chill-Out Zone

There will be a chill-out zone in the lobby

- If you want to leave the theatre at any time you can go there
- A volunteer or usher can show you where it is
- It will have
  - Comfortable seats, yoga mats, pillows
  - Fidget toys & colouring books
  - Noise-cancelling headphones
  - A tv so you can still watch the show

You can go back into the theatre any time

# The Musicians



This is Kym Gouchie,  
She sings, plays the  
hand drum and ukulele



This is Dan Barton,  
he plays the drums



This is Naomi Kavka,  
she plays the cello



This is Brigitte, she  
plays the keyboard



This is Zak, he plays the  
guitar

## Special Guests



Carys will come onto the stage to help sing some of the songs



# The Curtain Speech

Before the show starts someone will come to the stage and talk. It might be a little bit different, but these are the things they often talk about:

- The Indigenous land we are on
- Thank you to sponsors and donors and volunteers
- How you can donate to the festival or help in other ways

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

This is a short speech  
between 1-3 minutes

[Click here to read the speech](#)

# Languages

In this show Kym will speak and sing in  
English, Dakelh, Cree, Secwepemctsin

Lot of songs have chants

A chant doesn't have a language, they are sounds that express a feeling  
So sometimes it might sound like a different language when it is a chant

# Sound

It is a concert and there will be amplified sound

The music is not super loud, it is soothing and playful

These are the sounds or effects that will be most intense:

- Repetitive sounds
- Drumming (drum kit and traditional hand drum)
- High pitch sounds (chanting)
- Quiet moments
- Background tracks
- Sound of a raven

# Lights

Overall the lighting is simple, it changes gently between songs

- No blackouts or intense lighting like flashing or strobe lights
- There will always be some light on the audience

# Introduction

This show is always a Relaxed Performance

There is no introduction before the show

Kym will introduce everyone at the end of the show

And if you need more to prepare for the experience than the visual story,  
please get in touch with the festival

## How people react

People are often singing along, clapping their hands and moving to the music

Sometimes they react and say things

Kym will ask everyone to follow along with movement or to sing along

A lot of people do, you don't have to

There is dancing and movements

Repeating things and singing along with chants

## How every show is a little different

Every show is made in the moment  
Connecting with who is there and what is happening in the room  
There is a lot of spontaneity  
Some things that might and probably will happen:

Talking to people  
Inviting someone onto the stage  
Sharing a story or a different story  
Asking to turn the light up or down  
Singing a song that wasn't planned  
Changing the order of the songs  
Not singing one of planned song

## SPOILER ALERT :

When we say everything,  
we mean everything.

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

## Everything that happens

First there is a curtain speech

The band comes onto the stage: Dan, Naomi, Brigitte and Zak.  
When they are ready with their instruments, Kym comes onto the stage  
with her hand drum.

Kym sings a song to honour the land we are on.  
It is a song that honours the ancestors that took care of the land for  
hundreds of years and it reminds us to do the same.  
It has some chants. A chant expresses a feeling, it has no literal  
meaning.

Then there is the sound of a raven and Kym pretends there is a real  
raven in the room but really it is Naomi making the sound.  
Then Kym sings the song called *I Heard a Raven*.  
This song is in English and also has some parts in Dakelh and Cree.



The next song is called *Hunter*.

It is a boy named Hunter and a bunny and about friendship. Sometimes Kym asks for two kids to come onto the stage to be Hunter and be the bunny.

The song is about Hunter who goes hunting for a bunny but the bunny wants to be friends instead and they become friends. Kym shows some movements that kids like to copy and you can if you want to, making bunny ears when she sings about the bunny and goggle eyes for binoculars.



The next song is *Dakelh Counting Song*

In this song teaching everyone to count from 1 - 10 in Dakelh.

Kym invites Carys (the girl in the picture to the left) onto the stage and asks her to start the song. Carys learned to count to 10 in Dakelh from Kym's song and loves to help teach others.

Kym and Carys want everyone to sing and count along with their fingers, first they ask everyone to copy the names for the numbers.

The next song is *Hop Hop*

Kym asks if anyone has ever played “Simon Says” and a lot of people yell “Yes!” and she says:

“This one is Kym says, but nobody will be out!”

Kym will tell people to do a lot of things like:

- Hop hop
- Clap clap
- Touch the sky
- Touch the earth
- Snap your fingers (or just say snap snap)
- Stretching
- Patting your own back (good job)

At the beginning of every verse everyone can sing along with the chant if they want, it goes: way-yi-ya-hay

Carys is still on the stage, dancing along and showing the moves

At the end of the song Kym tells everyone to sit down again



The next song is *Nk'essih Cho*.  
That means "I love you sooooo much" in Dakelh language.

Kym asks what the one thing is that everyone needs besides water and people start yelling things. Usually one of the things people say is "Love" and she says "Yes!"  
She asks everyone to repeat after her "Nk'essih" and "Cho" and she explains what it means.

There are also chants that everyone repeats and actions pointing to the top of our head, ears, eyes, mouth, nose and your toes.

Sometimes Kym points to the wrong thing, like nose when she is singing mouth and everyone laughs because it is funny and silly.

We all sing together about how much we love our parents, grandparents, ourselves and everybody.



**Nk'essih cho!**  
(I love you a lot!)

The next song is *Atsoo Shun*, that means grandmother song in the Dakelh language.

Kym asks for the lights to be a bit lower.

Kym talks about her grandmother.

She creates a sacred space to honour all the ancestors (all the people who came before) in the spirit world.

Then you will hear a recording of her grandmother's voice saying "It's a beautiful day, we are all together, we are hunting, we are fishing and we are picking berries" in Dakelh

Then Kym starts to drum and sing.

And as she sings, we still hear her grandmother's voice and later also Kym's great niece who copies her great-great-great-grandmother's words.

It is about traditional practices like hunting and gathering.



The next song is *Too Beh Ts'ughuna*

Kym tells everyone that it means “we live by water” in Dakelh and without water we would not be able to live and that simply means that “Water is Life”. Then she asks everyone to repeat “Too Beh Ts'ughuna”.

Kym tells the story of how this song came to her in a dream. She asks if anyone has ever woken themselves up when they were dreaming. And then she sings the song.

The next song is called *Gratitude*.

Kym talks about how important it is to be grateful and that there are many ways to say thank you.

She will tell people how they say thank you in Dakelh, Cree and Secwepemctsin then she asks the kids in the audience how they say thank you in their culture.

Then Kym starts to sing the song.

It is a hip hop song and Kym will ask everyone to stand up and dance along

The last song is called *Shun Uts'stejun*, which means “We are playing music together” in Dakelh.

Kym names all of the musicians and what instrument(s) they play, then that musician plays their instrument and everyone claps.

After that song, Kym thanks everyone for coming in many different languages and that this is the end of the show. Everyone in the audience claps, everyone on stage bows. Then the show is over.

If you would like to hear the music from the show, you can go to Kym's website: [www.kymgouchie.com](http://www.kymgouchie.com) to download the album.

You can also listen to the songs [on Youtube](#).

# Credits

This Visual Story was created by [Kym Gouchie](#) and her manager Jen with the help of a template created with the input of many consultants, patrons, artists and fellow arts organizations.

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Want to create a visual story for your show, event or venue?  
Email Anika Vervecken and she will share the template: [accessactivator@gmail.com](mailto:accessactivator@gmail.com)

We welcome all feedback!