VANCOUVER INTERNATIONAL CHILDRENS FESTIVAL

Visual Story for

COMEDY PATROL

From May 24 to 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?

You can click on the things you want to know about

Schedule / Important Times

The Stage

The performers

The musicians

Other people

The curtain speech

Chill-out zone

About the story

Things in the show that might be intense

Lights

Other things

Audience interactions

How people react

Everything that happens

Credits

For the visual story of the venue, please visit The Granville Island Stage Visual Story

Schedule

These times will be a little different for every performance.

The performance is about 50 minutes long.

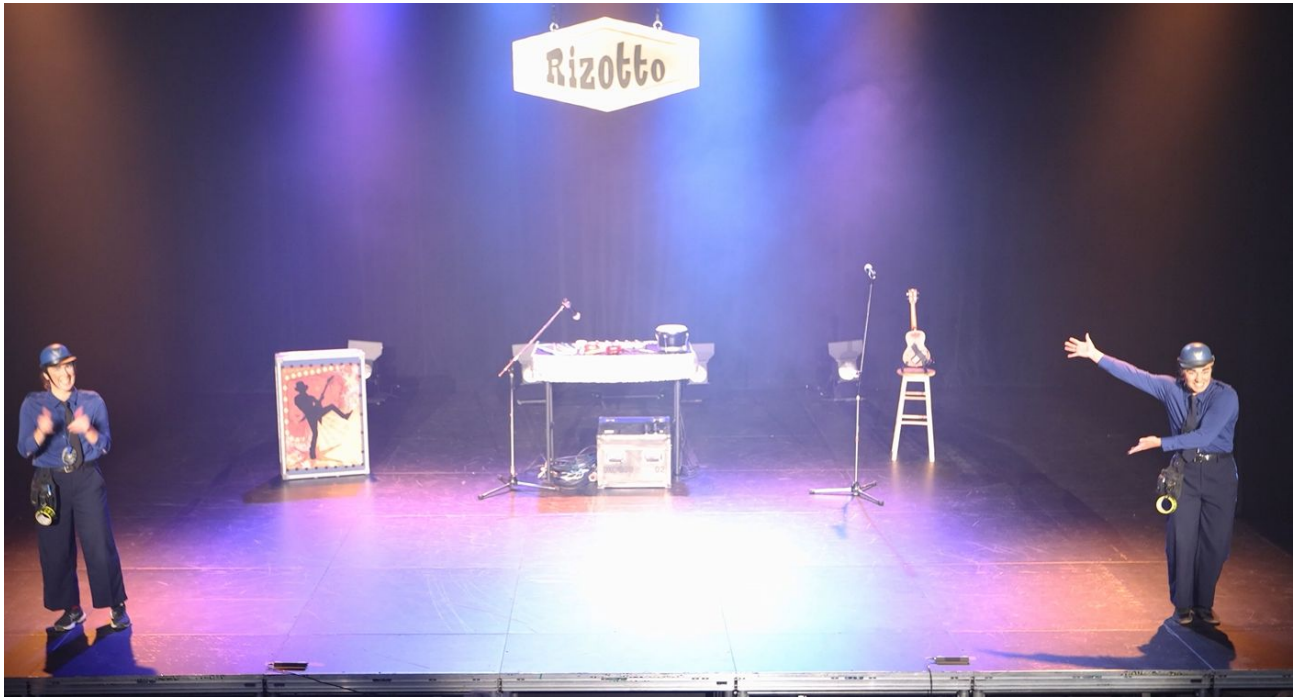
There is a no intermission.

The doors to the theatre open about 20 minutes before the performance starts.

Before that you can wait in the lobby.

The Stage

Here is a picture of the stage with the two performers



The Performers

Dominique Grenier

Marie-Michèle Pharand

Other people

You will hear the voices of two people, but you will not see them

One the voice of **the announcer**

You will also hear the voice of **the technician** in booth

And the star of the show: **Rizotto**
You will never see them but you will hear them doing things, like playing music or fighting

NOTE:
We are experimenting with making the show a better experience
for Deaf and hard of hearing kids.
Saturday May 30th at 10:30am the show will have some extra people,
find out more on the next page

Other people: ASL & Visual Performers

On May 30th at 10:30 am the show will have some additional performers.
We don't have any pictures because we are still figuring it out.

When the two voices (the technician and the announcer) speak
A Deaf performer will be on a screen saying the same thing in ASL

When Rizotto is making noises behind the curtains
there will be hands popping from behind the curtains
to show what they are doing

The Curtain Speech

Right before the show starts the front of house manager will come to the stage and talk.
It might be a little bit different, but this is how it usually goes.

- They welcome everybody and asks them to pay attention to the land acknowledgement
- We hear the voices of children talking about the indigenous lands we are and our relationship with indigenous peoples
- They say a few more things, for example:
  - Thank you to sponsors and donors and volunteers
  - How you can donate to the festival or help in other ways
  - Where the exits are
- They leave then the show starts

This is a short speech
between 1-3 minutes.
Click here to read an example of the speech

When the show is in French, you will hear the curtain speech, there won't be a person

This is someone reading the curtain speech

The Chill Out Zone

The Chill Out Zone is outside of the upstairs theatre doors.
Wherever you are sitting, walk up the stairs and the chill out zone is outside of these doors.

You can come out of the theatre and back in whenever you are comfortable.
The chill out zone will have:
Comfy seats and pillows
A weighted toy or blanket
Colouring pages
Books
Fidget toys

About the Story

The stage is set, the lights are ready, and the little officers are on patrol. As the audience takes their seats, two officers bustle about, trying to keep things together. The concert by singing sensation Rizotto is about to begin… but Rizotto refuses to come on stage!

The officers try to convince Rizotto to come out, they try to entertain the audience themselves as well.

Lights

Overall the lighting is simple, it lights up the stage so it looks like daylight, it is more dimmed for some scenes, like when one of the cop is seduced by the inmate or when it's the slow motion. There's only one black out during the show and it's at the beginning.

There will be no strobes.

At the end, there will be police car lights.

There are some pictures on the next two pages

Some of the lights

There will be different colours moving around.

They don’t change suddenly.

There is no flashing but there will be pulsing police lights that go from blue to red but not super fast.

There will be moments where it is darker (see next page)

Example Spotlights

Sometimes it will feel a little darker
when there is a spotlight
on one person or two people.

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.

- Slapstick / hitting each other
- Sound of a fight
- Talking in gibberish
- Taking a volunteer in the audience (adult)
- Fighting in slow motion

Slapstick / hitting each other

Slapstick jokes are often about people getting hurt like falling, tripping or hitting each other.

There will be a lot of jokes like that, like here in this pictures where the mini cops slap each other in the face.

It is all fake, the actors on the stage never really get hurt.

Sounds of a fight

At two moment in the show, you will hear the sound of a big fight backstage.

Talking in gibberish

Don’t worry if you don’t understand what the Patrol is saying, it is not a real language. Sometimes, clowns will speak gibberish so it can be understood all around the world. The words are not importants, it’s all their bodies talking. You’ll understand even if you don’t understand what they’re saying, that’s the beauty of the clowns!

Fighting and slow motion

The mini cops will fight, it is not real fighting, it is pretend. The fighting will look funny and silly, some of it will look more like acrobatics and some of it will be in slow motion.

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Taking a volunteer from the audience

After 30 minutes of the show, the mini cops will choose a male adult in the audience, will make him put a funky jacket, make him dance and hold music instrument.

This person will have nothing to do but to follow silly orders from the Comedy Patrol.

Audience Interaction

Add any information about interaction with the audience

- The Comedy Patrol will walk in the aisle at the beginning of the show
- One of them will pick a volunteer during the show
- They will ask to sing along and clap your hands at the end of the show

How people react

Examples:

In this show people in the audience always laugh a lot
because the Comedy Patrol are very silly and don’t know how to do their job.
Sometimes people applause after an acrobatic movement or after a song.

Sometimes people talk to the mini cops to help them figure out the problem.

SPOILER ALERT :
Don’t read this unless you want to know everything that happens

Everything that happens

We try to share what will happen but because it is live performance, things may always be a bit different

At the beginning, there will be an announcement about the famous Rizotto’s concert that is about to start. As the singer is an inmate, the two mini cops are hired for the safety of the audience.
But Rizotto doesn’t want to go on stage.

The show “Comedy Patrol” is about how those two silly cops will try to convince him to come and play along.

There's going to be two announcements for the audience to make some noise so Rizotto can come on stage, but he starts to make fun of the mini cops. Those two will go find him back stage but will come back with fear in their eyes.

And then, they'll realised that the audience might be in danger, so they'll put a "CAUTION" yellow tape to make sure it's secure, but they'll end up wrap in the tape.

As Rizotto is still not coming on stage, the Patrol will try and sing a song to keep the audience waiting.

One of the mini cops will put Rizotto's tap dance shoes and do a silly number. But looks like the shoes are taking control of her!

After a while, a coffee break is much needed ! The two mini cops will try to balance the coffee on their hands, elbows, fingers and even while handstanding !

Because they didn’t pay much attention to Rizotto, they’ll lose him. And as his agent is on it’s way, they will pick someone in the audience to pretend the inmate is well and ready for the show !

Rizotto was at the bathroom! He will ask the mini cops to do a song together, and will give them a sign with “+ POLISSES” (police) and the Patrol will find a put to put the sign right under the Rizotto’s sign.

And then the concert can begin !
But will Rizotto come to sing? Those two silly cops got tricked by him as he’s leaving the stage on his motorcycle !

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 Vancouver International Children's Festival and its Youth Council members,
Intrepid Theatre, Push, Vancouver Writers Fest, the Gateway Theatre and Jake Anthony.

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

She also welcomes all feedback!