Luès *Year Zero*

Created in 2026

A musical and visual street performance.

All public.

Introduction

Luès is a world-giant, a machine-clown, a giant puppet who has swallowed his puppeteer.
He is accompanied by Aldo, a little monkey who follows him everywhere on a bicycle. The performance unfolds over a stretched-out second, suspended between a past that is no more and a future that does not yet exist.

Luès is gentle and lavishes the audience with tender gestures; it is as though he has come to console us, the audience, us humans, as if we had missed something important.

During his encounters, he reveals to those curious to discover what he hides in the palm of his hand or under his round hat—which he regards as great treasures. Those lucky enough to discover them will remember them for the rest of eternity… .



Description

We are presented with a strange duo wandering through the public square. Two characters share the stage: a tall clown whom we shall call Luès, closely followed by Aldo, a small monkey on a bicycle. Luès is a mechanical puppet operated by the puppeteer, a sort of exoskeleton. The artist manipulates and animates him from within, hidden from view. He lends him his legs; he makes his heart beat. Luès displays the two faces of the clown, which alternate as he rotates on his axis: the smiling face of the Auguste gives way to that of the sad clown, marked by gravity and discernment. The little monkey, also a puppet, is moved by the mechanics of the bicycle. They are accompanied by timeless music; a succession of little tunes played on the piano lends the sequence an old-fashioned yet very authentic feel. With a short text, the voice of a narrator (male or female) sets the scene and establishes the context: We find ourselves in a space-time that is difficult to define: a moment suspended between a past that is no more and a future that does not yet exist. This is followed by brief interactions with the audience: the puppet's movements unfold with tenderness. This character's purpose is to offer comfort, as if we had missed out on something. He is full of love and gentleness; he cares for others and reaches out to them. Small discoveries emerge from the character's nooks and crannies. These are tiny figures that come to life: when Luès's left hand opens, a tiny dancer appears and dances in the palm of his hand. When his hat lifts off and rises above his head, a circle of musicians appears, playing joyfully. This dancer and these musicians are what Luès holds most dear; they are what he wishes to share with others in this timeless moment, and what he carries with him for eternity.

Additional activity:

During the breaks between performances, Luès and Aldo remain present and visible at the event venue. Wrapped in a large poncho, they sleep or take a nap. Next to them is a small table with paper and pencils; the audience is invited to write or draw whatever they would most like to save and take with them during this moment of eternity. They can then slip their note into the large chest that our two protagonists carry with them. This feeds Luès's dreams whilst he sleeps, and at the same time he becomes the collector of their dreams, which he keeps safely in his large treasure chest. Later, once he has gathered many drawings and words, we can frame some of them and display them on the table so that people can discover the dreams and treasures of their fellow citizens.







Video link

The team

Original concept, direction and puppetry: *Antonin Lefèvre*

Production: Compagnie des Quatre Saisons

Music: *Julien De Borman and Sébastien Willemyns* (Turdus Philomélos, Flygmaskin, Anavantou, Munsch…).

Voices: *Fanchon Lefèvre, Jasmine Tamaz, Antonin Lefèvre*

Costumes: *Lena Desfraine, Antonin Lefèvre and Frédérique Prohaczka*

Small puppets (dancer, musicians): *Sabine Pleers*

Dramaturgical assistance: *Frédérique Prohaczka*

Technical advice: *Eric Lefèvre*

Stage management and puppet manipulation: *Victor Tzermias and Ilana Lahav*

Text: *Frédérique Prohaczka*

Street performance direction: *Fanchon Lefèvre*

Narration:

Male voice in French: *Christian Crahay*

Female voice in French: *Aurélie Beco*

Dutch/German voice: *Annika Seronga*







Luès

Année zéro






WaulSORT
Festival

Technical specifications.

"Luès année zéro "

A musical and visual street performance

All public
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COMMUNICATION :

Please ensure your communications reflect the spirit of our company. Please use the title we have chosen to promote the show: 'Luès année zéro'

THE PERFORMANCE:

Strolling performance
Duration of performances: 3 x 30 min.
Performance venue:
A smooth, level surface such as a road, square or car park made of tarmac or concrete in good condition, with no potholes, kerbs, gutters or steps. No grass, no bumps, no cobblestones, no cable ducts.
Ideal walking distance: 400 metres return
Minimum height along the entire route: 4.50 m
Electrical supply at the set-up area: 220V/16A

Luès must perform with its soundtrack, comprising original music and a spoken text. To avoid a cacophony and respect the atmosphere of each performance, please bear this in mind.
Supervision by volunteers: it is often preferable and sometimes essential that we are accompanied by members of the organising team during the performance to prevent any incidents. However, they should remain discreet and not take up too much space in the performance's visual composition.

SET-UP:

Set-up time: 60 mins.
Dismantling: 60 mins.
Crew quarters: a water point and toilets nearby.
Access to set-up area: for a van + 4-metre trailer
Please allow access to the event site after the final performance to enable dismantling.

TRAVEL/ACCOMMODATION:

Parking: for a van + 4-metre trailer nearby

We also require meals and, in some cases, accommodation for 3 people for the duration of our stay.

CONTACT:

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Department of Circus, Fairground and Street Arts.

FÉDÉRATION WALLONIE-BRUXELLES

Wallonie