

# Shenanigans

By Jam.Shenanigans





### **Contact:**

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### **Credits:**

Artists & makers: Batist Van Baekel & Henri Kangas

Outside eye: Sander De Cuyper, Aurelia Brailowsky & Michael Zandl

Technical advice: Michael Zandl

Light design: Batist Van Baekel with the help of Jaakko Sirainen

Music: Jago Moons

Co-production: Cirklabo (BE), PERPLX (BE), Circusstad-Festival (NL), Itujen katselmus (FIN)

Residencies: Circolito (BE), TENT (NL), Korzo Theater (NL), Studio 104 (NL)

Made possible by: Taiteen edistämiskeskus (FIN)

With thanks to: Melody Nolan & Lily Schlinker

Pictures by: WieBa Photography

### **In Short:**

Duration: 50 min, max 2 x / day - Adapted 30min version max 3 x / day

Language: non-verbal

Target audience: families, +6 years of age

Venue: indoor - frontal- minimum 6m x 4m (width x depth) - free height minimum 4m

Technical rider: provided upon request

# Shenanigans

## **Why do we stop playing when we grow up?**

*Shenanigans* is a circus performance about the importance of playfulness, creativity and imagination in a society in which everything revolves around screens. In *Shenanigans*, we follow the adventure of two characters going through a ritual to revive their inner children. Through a series of juggling events, the characters playfully explore their relation to each other and their inner children. Ordinary toys, familiar to everyone, become the centerpiece of the performance. Through the manipulation of airplanes, toy tracks, and an inflatable swimming pool, the performers invite the audience on a journey to reminisce about their own relationships to their inner children. The performers share their personal childhood dreams in the hopes of inspiring people young and old to never let go of theirs. The performers attempt to pursue a reality where both ‘playful’ and ‘serious’ can be used in the same sentence.

## **Shenanigans is an ode to the inner child.**

The performance is inspired by the feelings provoked when one asks:  
Could a roller coaster come to life through the performers manipulating its tracks?  
Can a swimming pool filled with 574 balls become a fountain of infinite juggling?  
Is it possible to be too playful?

The creation of *Shenanigans* arose from the need to keep on playing even after “becoming adults”. Both performers had felt the feeling of growing up looming overhead for a while, but neither was ready to move on to adulthood. The performance is an ode to the performers themselves, their personalities, their friendship and their outlook on life.

*Shenanigans* is an interactive performance. The performers want to concretely get the audience to play. During the show, the performers invite the audience to participate in bringing their childhood dreams to life.

## **Can the dream of an infinite race track become a reality when 100 audience members all hold its tracks?**



# Jam.Shenanigans

*Jam.Shenanigans* is a Belgium-based circus company specialized in the creation of object manipulation performances for family audiences. The company consists of two members: **Batist Van Baekel (BE) & Henri Kangas (FI)**.

Van Baekel and Kangas met each other during their studies at **Codarts Hogeschool voor de Kunsten in Rotterdam, Netherlands**, where they each acquired their Bachelor of Circus Arts, specializing in object manipulation.

More information about the company and their future plans **can be found on their website.**

[www.jamshenanigans.com](http://www.jamshenanigans.com) / [info@jamshenanigans.com](mailto:info@jamshenanigans.com)





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