



Easy Read

A Visual Story

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TAMASHA

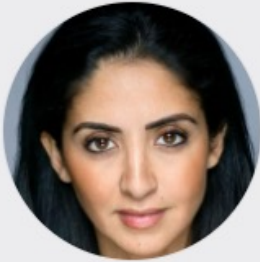
HAKAWATIS

WOMEN OF THE ARABIAN NIGHTS

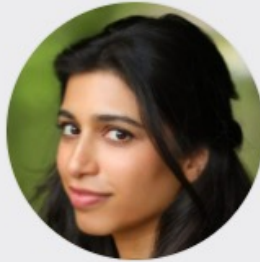
SHAKESPEARE'S
GLOBE



The Cast



Houda Echouafni
WADIHA THE DANCER



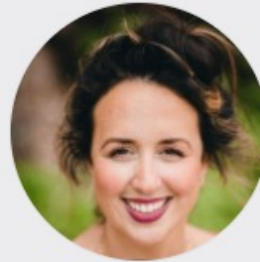
Alaa Habib
FATAH THE YOUNG



Laura Hanna
ZUYA THE WARRIOR

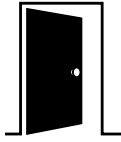


Nadi Kemp-Sayfi
AKILA THE WRITER



**Roann Hassani
McCloskey**
NAHA THE WISE

Show Notes



Relaxed Performance

Relaxed performances will be:

- Wednesday 21st December at 7:30pm.
- Saturday 7th January at 2pm (also captioned).

This will mean:

- An open-door policy: you can come and go.
- There are ear defenders available in different sizes to borrow from the Welcome Desk in the main foyer.
- Option to book seats with less people on the row.
- A Quiet Space is available in the 'Bull Ring' - below the Welcome Desk.
- We have worked to reduce sudden noises and other sensory elements. This means some of the trigger warnings in 'The story' section have been reduced.

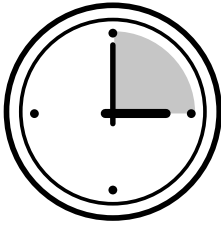


Content and Trigger Warnings

The production includes:

- Strong and sexual language.
- Themes of violence, oppression of women and domestic abuse.

Show Notes



Times

The running time is approx. 2 hours and 20 minutes.

This includes a 20 minute interval.



Music and sound

Check out our sonic story for full information.

Kareem Samara, the composer, says:

"The music in 'Hakawatis' is played on traditional Arabic instruments.

The Oud, the fretless grandfather of the guitar, has a deep and warm sound, melodically leading the songs and providing a base for the Violin to sing over it. The Violin, like the Oud explores the notes between the notes, between the white and black keys of the Piano. It also underscores the other instruments with long drone like sounds, constantly building and easing tension.

Finally, the percussion, the low brooding 'Tar' or 'Duff', the high pitched 'Riq' (Tambourine) which also has sharp symbols attached, colour the compositions and drive the drama of the stories.

Alongside all this, sharp blasts of the Arabic 'Tabla' or 'Darbuka' make the songs and melodies dance through the dialogue of the show. Lifting the spirits and tickling the compositions with joy."

Show Notes



Design

Set

We are in the dungeon of a large palace, carved out of stone in the middle of a vast desert land. There are many chests, cushions, and candles in the space.



Costume

The women wear warm, earthy tones for their dresses.

Lighting



The show is lit entirely by candlelight. There are candles in chandeliers, lanterns, holders on the rear wall and on the pillars.

The candlelight shows the only light they must survive and exist in.

At the start of each story the storyteller's candle is lit, and at the end of it the candle is blown out.

Find out more about Hakawatis:



We have lots of resources, blogs, and events around the show.

Find out more on our website:

<https://www.shakespearesglobe.com/whats-on/hakawatis-women-of-the-arabian-nights-2022/>

Meanings:

Jinn: Intelligent spirit, translated into English as Genie

Hammam: A public spa

The Story



Act 1:

Four women are in the dungeon of a large palace. In Arabic, they describe how "It hurts, what they do to you."

▲ Descriptions of assault.

Fatah enters, and discovers that her fiancé revenges his wife's infidelity by wedding, bedding and beheading a new bride every day. Years later, only five brides-in-waiting remain.

▲ The women rise and burst into song and dance as the music swells.

Scheherazade has been telling stories wrapped in stories to keep the King wanting to know what happens next so that he won't kill her.

Akila decides that they should write stories to help Scheherazade.

They start with the story of The Jinn and the Fisherman: A poor Fisherman catches a lamp holding a Jinn. He has 1 wish: to choose how he dies. The Fisherman tricks the Jinn to going back into the lamp.

This turns into the story of The King and The Sage.

Naha wants the story to be more exciting, so they make it sexual. They write more stories until they fall asleep.

The next story describes a poor farmer who followed his dreams.

Akila tells Wadiha's story, about love and desire. A husband goes to sea, leaving his wife behind. He brings her gifts, but in his absence she had sexual affairs. But she manages to do it all without

The Story



her husband's knowledge.

Time passes, the women want to leave.

⚠ Shouting: Let me out!

⚠ Loud banging, sudden quiet.

Naha's story: Safiya couldn't seduce her husband. One day, at the Hammam, she is receiving the best oral sex. It was a puppy! She accidentally kills the puppy. It was the King's dog. The owner of the Hamman and Safiya find a Jinni, who they ask to help them by making a new puppy. He agrees on the condition that they give him 'A moment' and find Energy, Warmth and Curiosity. On their journey, they find these and the Jinni creates a new dog for them.



Ⓜ Interval is 20 minutes

Act 2:

The women wake up. Wadiha has gone. They worry that Scheherazade has failed.

Zuya's story: A proud Sparrow wanted an eagle for a wife. He became trapped in a ram's wool. The shepherd put the sparrow in a cage.

Wadiha returns, she has a letter from Scheherazade. It says she wants better stories.

Wadiha's story: The Three Sisters sit in a field dreaming of the owner and what they would give him if they were his wife. One says she will give the man good sex, one good food, the youngest says she will give him a beautiful daughter. The owner has overheard all this and marries all 3 sisters.

The youngest sister gives birth to a beautiful girl with



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a gold birthmark. In jealousy, the 2 oldest convince the husband that the mother had eaten her child. The mother is banished.

When the daughter is 10 years old, she returns to her family and releases her mother.

The women discuss how the King must hate women to kill so many.

Zuya's story: The Fox and the Wolf.

The Fox tells the Wolf to be kinder. But Wolf knocks her out. Fox will get her revenge. She found a trap at the entrance to the hen hut. She told the Wolf that he could easily get his dinner. Wolf is trapped, begging for help. No, Fox wails to the Farmer who stones Wolf to death.



The women argue:

Is the story too violent to be sent?

What messages are they sending the King?

▲ Shouting. Fuck you! Kicks over a bucket.

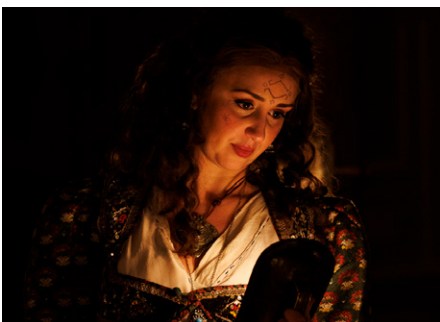
Time passes. They are running out of stories.

Naha's story: The Thief and The Donkey.

A thief challenges another thief to steal a donkey. They unhook the donkey and she pretends that she had been cursed to live as a donkey! Days later, at the market, she is selling the donkey. The old owner berates the donkey and refuses to buy her again.

The doors open. Zuya exits. The women worry.

It's over- The King has fallen in love with Scheherazade.



The Story



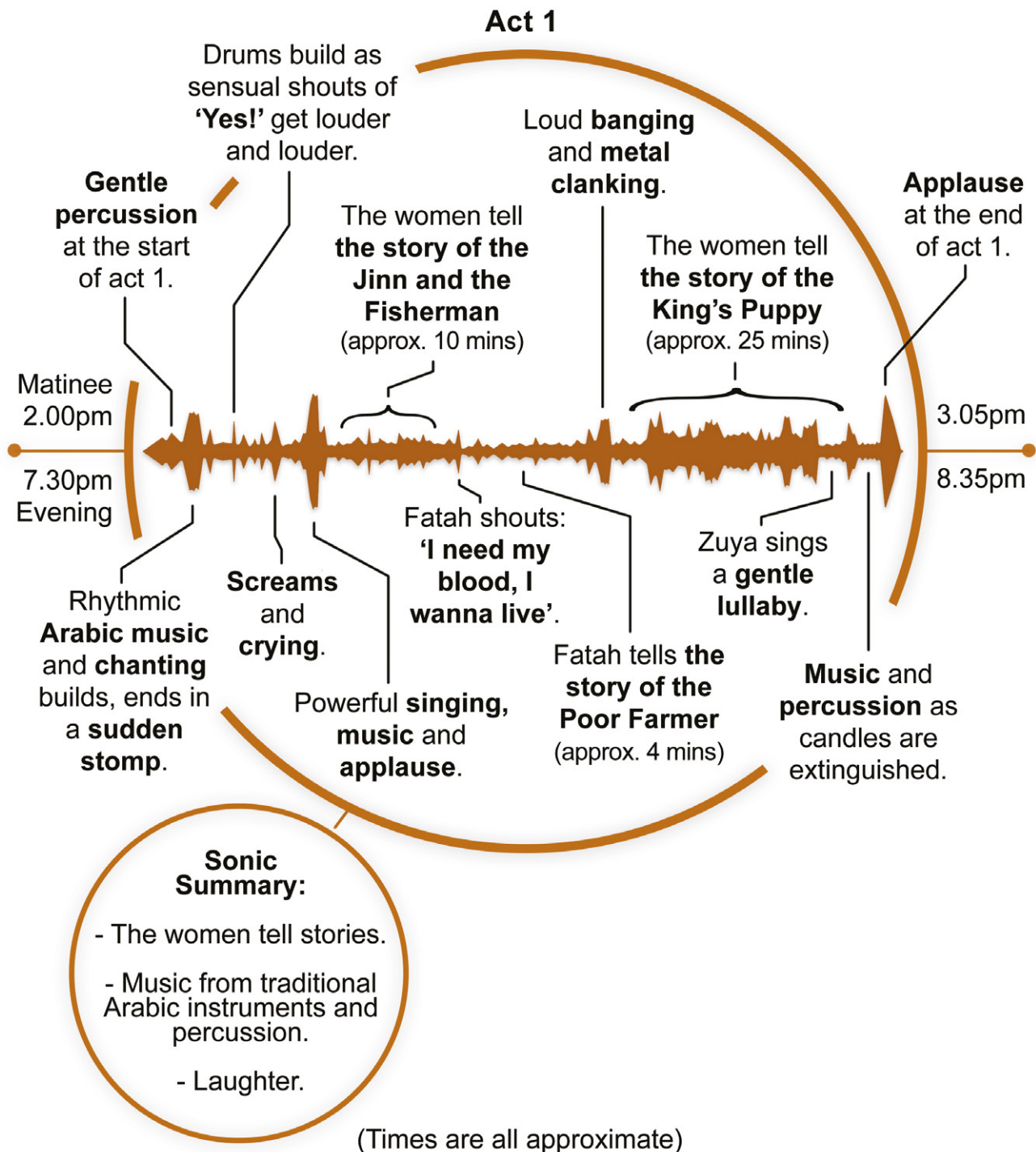
They dream of all the things they can now do.

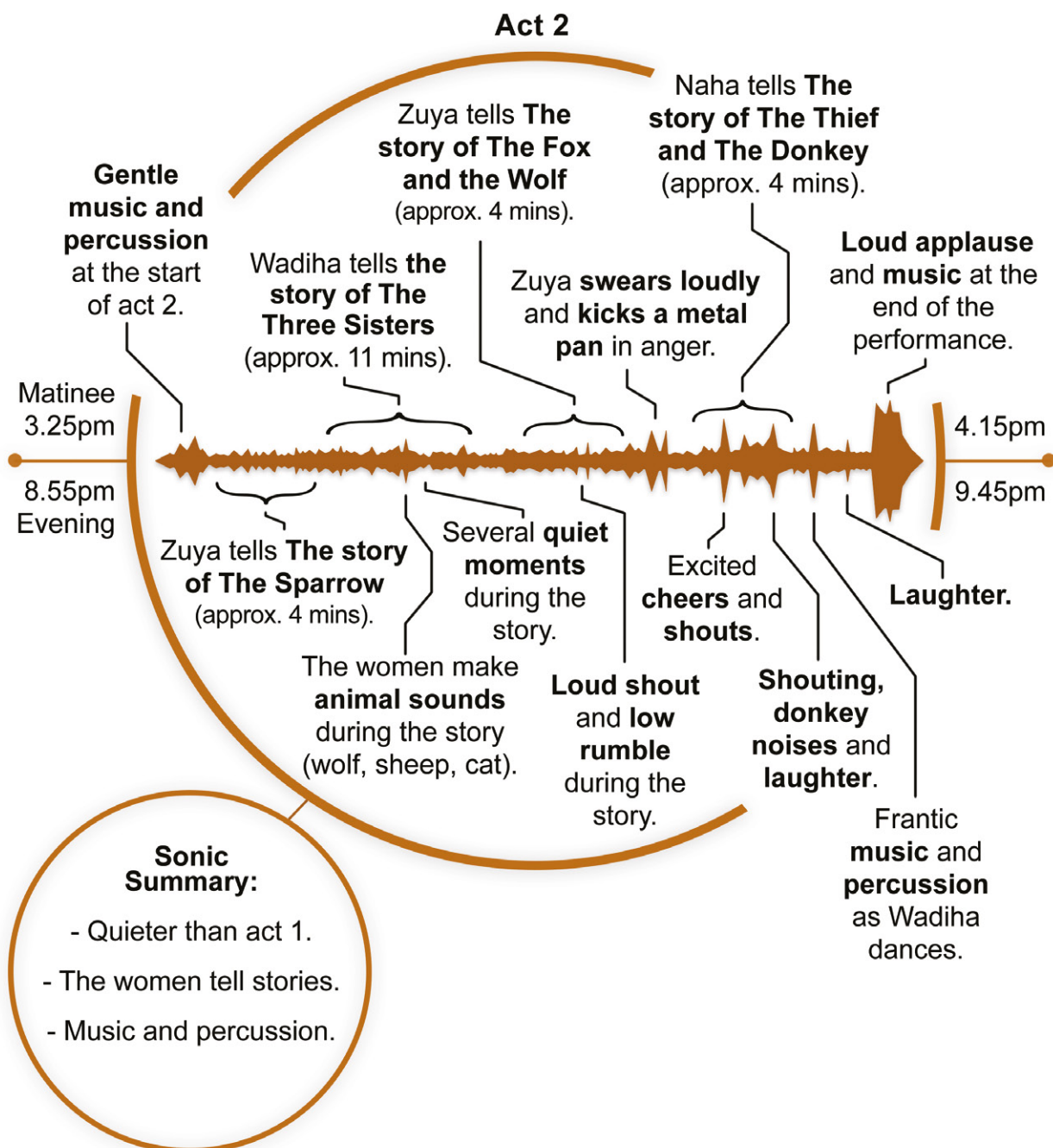
Before they can leave the youngest says they cannot go without Scheheerazade because the King may be her husband but he is a killer. So the women leave to find her and discover what she wants to do.

Sonic Story

This 'Sonic Story' provides information about what to expect from the music and sounds of Hakawatis: Women of the Arabian Nights.

It shows the volume changes throughout the performance and highlights loud and quiet moments and moments when the sound changes suddenly.





About the music and instruments:

The music in Hakawatis is played on traditional Arabic instruments including **Oud** (leading the songs with a deep warm sound), **Violin** (building and easing tension) **Darbuka** (providing sharp blasts that make the songs and melodies dance through the dialogue of the show) and percussion including the low brooding **Tar** (or Duff) and the high pitched **Riq** (Tambourine) with sharp symbols that colour the compositions and drive the drama of the stories.

Kareem Samara (composer of Hakawatis)

Sonic Story- Provided by Tourette's Hero

Further information



Have further questions about this performance?

Find out more about Shakespeare's Globe here:
<https://www.shakespearesglobe.com/>



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