

AUTOMATA CARROUSEL



scan for short videos

I am **Geert Hautekiet**, an Antwerp-based Belgian artist who makes **automata: mechanical storytelling machines made with recycled wood and a sense of humour. They all understand poetry.**

I exhibit my automata in an attractive way in my **Automata Carrousel: a beautifully designed, rusty-looking eye-catcher at festivals, town squares, events, etc.** It had its world premiere on the site of *'Les Machines de l'île'* in Nantes (France). That is - *let's be honest* - already worth a quality label ...

During our first busy season, we played in **Belgium, the Netherlands, UK and France. After all, the performance is not language-bound.**

Everywhere, it turned out that this Automata Carrousel is **a particularly beautiful and artistically high quality festival act: it works for people from 1 to 101 years of age, all at their own level.** The fascination for the movements of the youngest, the depth of poetry in the stories for the oldest.

I admit that I am proud of that result. In the meantime, I am building new automata for the next tours. **Hopefully, this Automata Carrousel will be something for your festival or event.** In this folder you will find info and photos. **Also check our website or QR-code for videos!**

Warm greetings,

Geert Hautekiet,
storyteller & automata-maker



WWW.AUTOMATA.BE



AUTOMATA CARRUSEL

The Automata Carousél is *a carousél full of automata: around a slowly rotating merry-go-round, 11 separate lodges are built, each with its own peep-show window.* The audience is given a special token at our cash register-kiosk. In separated groups of 4 people maximum, they take place in one of these lodges and open the window with that token. From there, they see the automata pass by. **They can bring them to life themselves by turning a handle.**

Those automata each tell their own story. **Creaking and squeaking, they manage to touch by their somewhat rough and yet subtle design, their far from well-oiled animation that becomes poetic precisely because of that imperfection.** Due to the small, recognisable accents and human touches, even major themes such as refugees, climate, gender inequality, digital life, etc. are given a place for discussion, with humour.

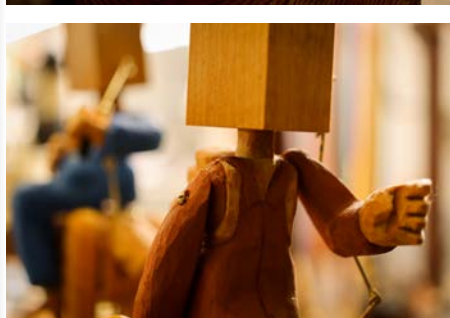
After 8 à 10 minutes, the window closes automatically. The audience has then been able to enjoy all of the automata for a little more than one tour and a half. They leave the lodge (*happily surprised and in good spirits*) and make way for a new group of spectators.

In this way, the Automata Carousél has an audience capacity of up to 220-250 people per hour (or 880 people in 4 hours).

We have already reached these maximums during our first tour. We can handle it. But a nice average audience capacity is +/- 500 spectators in 4 hours of opening time. A good number for a fully coronaproof project.

The show is perfectly accessible for wheelchair users or guide dogs. **It appears to be attractive to all ages. From 1 to 101 years, and everything in between.** More than once, we have seen adolescents enter the tent in a bad mood behind their parents and come out afterwards glowing with joy.






^ flyer of the 2021-première-tour

**AUTOMATA MUST BE SEEN MOVING!
SCAN TO WATCH SOME VIDEOS!**

C'ÉTAIT GÉNIALISSIME
Lena ♥ 

Amazing! We all felt like kids for a few minutes! Thanks for putting stars in our day and our eyes + Oscar

Jérôme Jeanne
Loves from Belgium France

What a piece of art! love it! ♥ 

What beautiful artists and craftsmanship - your passion has no boundaries and moved - thank you.

Très poétique

Merci beaucoup



Juliette et Abel

Werk was binnen komt!

Heel fijn!!

Dank jullie

Absolutely Amazing artwork.

Wattens 30.08.21

Goop!

ça fait tourner l'imagination

THE PUBLIC IS ALWAYS RIGHT

Comments recorded in our guestbook

GREAT WORK! THANK YOU

Beautiful machine.

a great joy to watch.

x Sarah

The look of wonder on child's face was super! Great stuff!!

prachtig, subtiel, grappig, diep geraakt. Dankjewel ♥

*f: Very beautiful, original, creative! Thank you for this beautiful moment of poetry in Nantes.



Très joli, original, créatif! Merci pour ce beau moment de poésie à Nantes.

*f

heel mooi! heel goed gemaakt

PIPP & jaar

*a: very poetic. Thanks a lot!

*b: Work that enters touching Very nice.

*c: Very beautiful! Very well done!

*d: Splendid, subtle, funny, deeply touched. Thank you very much.

*e: I think it was the most beautiful thing I have ever seen.

claf! claf!



*g: I am impressed because you only but recycled.

The innovation behind this was phenomenal, I am in love with the work! Very inspiring!

Reinoud Kruuse

ik vond het het mooist wat ik ooit heb gezien

Je sais impressionner par que vous avez que recyclé.

*g

*Cool! It gets the imagination going!



“C’est génial!” - François Delarozière, artistic leader La Machine, France.

“The stories of his automata are short but extremely powerful. The fragile aspect of the technique he uses and the dry noise that these automatons give off will move you and awaken the child in all of us!” - Pierre Orréface, directeur Les Machines de l’île, France.

‘As a whole, ‘Automata Carroussel’ offers a glimpse of the world outside this peepshow that resonates many times longer than the ten minutes in which the mechanical storytelling machines pass.’ - review Theaterkrant.nl, The Netherlands.

WONDERMOOI! ^{*h}

CAROLINE & TIMO

Deux septuagénaires ont aimé
retrouver leur âme d'enfant ^{*i}

L3 C.

Poétique, sensible, ingénieuse, c'est un travail
admirable, un voyage inspirant qui rapproche enfants
et adultes dans une expérience du BEAU ^{*j}

VINO et Laurent

Waw! Wat een mooi werk, met mooie
verhaaltjes. Ik wilde blijven kijken. ^{*k}

♥ Juge.

Parque, même pour les maraîchers de grand-père! ^{*l}

Drole, poétique et ingénieux! ^{*m}


Merci pour ce petit bout de rêve... ^{*n}

Un merveilleux moment qui nous ramène dans l'enfance
plein de poésie, de fantaisie et d'humour!
Pour la créativité des enfants et des adultes
seule et à son rythme! Pour la beauté
poétique et simple. ^{*o}

De meester verteller heeft de delijde
zijn verhaal gevonden.

Heel erg mooi... ^{*p}

onze favo was
de kip! ^{*q}



xx

Bijzonder beeld van deze tijdgeest! ^{*r}

^{*h:} Wonderful!

^{i:} Two seventy-year-olds were delighted to rediscover the soul of their youth.

^{j:} Poetic, sensitive, clever, it is an admirable work, an inspiring journey that brings children and adults together in an experience of beauty.

^{k:} Waw! What a beautiful work, with great stories. I wanted to keep watching.

^{l:} Splendid, even for mums of big kids!

^{m:} Funny, poetic and ingenious!

^{n:} Thank you for this little piece of wisdom.

^{o:} a wonderful carousel that takes us back to childhood, full of poetry, fantasy and humour!

^{p:} The master storyteller has clearly found his story. Very beautiful...

^{q:} Our favourite is the chicken! / ^{r:} remarkable picture of this zeitgeist.

ABOUT THE ARTIST



Geert Hautekiet (°May 1968, Belgium) once studied to be an industrial designer, but immediately went into theatre after graduating. **First as a set and costume designer, later also as a singer, musician and above all storyteller.** He became artistic leader of ***Compagnie KAiET!***

With that company he created various successful musical stories on location, all in his native dialect. They toured renowned theatre festivals in Flanders and the Netherlands. He also designed the sets and rusty sound machines. One of his installations (*The Archaeological*

Dig) made the front page of **The New York Times** in 2009. **In its end-of-year issue, New York Magazine even named that project one of the five most surprising cultural projects in the Big Apple that year !**

Since the end of 2018, Geert has been focusing on automata, **combining his skills as a storyteller, designer, scenographer and maker. As an experienced theatre-maker on location, he knows the tricks of the trade to lure international audiences to his Automata Carrousel...**

AUTOMATA CARROUSEL

GENERAL INFO

genre: **installation**

target group/age: **1 - 101 years of age (all ages)**

language: **no language**

duration: **8 - 10 minutes / show - continuous**

capacity: **max. 250 persons/hour - 880 persons / 4 hours**

covid-safe: **yes**

number of performers: **up to 12 automata (machines)**

number of crewmembers: **2**

country of artist: **Belgium**

TECHNICAL INFO

optimal playground: **an even solid surface, accessible by 7,5 m truck and 4 m trailer. This can be a park, a square, a festival site, etc...**

width x depth x height playground: **12 x 12 x 6 meters**

power: **400 V (32 A)** (alternatively: 3 separated 240V (16A))

stagehands: **at least 2** (construction & dismantling)

construction time: **7 - 9 hours***

dismantling time: **6 - 7 hours***

** depending on location, number of stagehands and circumstances*

surveillance: **organiser is responsible**

safe parking: **for 7,5 m truck (< 7,5 ton), in the close neighbourhood of the playground**

(back-up storage during show)

trailer: **stays on the site** (hidden - base for the Automata Carrousel)

CONTACT

website: **www.automata.be**

tel: **+32 456 154 230**

Email: **mailen@geerthautekiet.website**

We speak/write English, French and Dutch

AUTOMATA

*all automata created,
designed and built by:*
Geert Hautekiet

AUTOMATA CARROUSEL

concept & design
Geert Hautekiet

*technical drawings
& co-design:*
Martin Baarda

realisation & construction:
Gatham vzw
Joris Festjens
Francis Barrea
Jurgen Claesen

crew:
Geert Hautekiet
Mik Anthoni

a production of:
Geert Hautekiet
Producties Comm. V

in co-production with



Festival Boulevard
's Hertogenbosch, The Netherlands

with support of:
Zomer van Antwerpen
festival Antwerp, Belgium

Dieuwke Schuytemaker
mecenas, patron

Flanders - 'State of the arts'
& City of Antwerp - subsidy