

In the *Automata Carousel*, one can admire 10 to 12 automata: fully mechanical storytelling machines, all created with recycled wood. The public watches the automata in groups of 4 people maximum from separate lodges (*each with peep-show-window*), while the automata slowly glide by on a carousel. The audience can operate the automata themselves by turning a handle.

check here a video to get a better idea:



The Automata Carousel is a *twelve-sided 'rusty' tent built around a carousel*. The merry-go-round itself has a diameter of 4 metres and is mounted on a 2.5-tonne trailer. Upon arrival, we place the trailer in the correct location, unfold the platform and the large hydraulic arm that serves as the centre pole of the final tent.

Around the merry-go-round, we then build 11 separate lounges and 1 box office (together the 12 sides of the 12-sided polygon). The cash desk (*and also the entrance and exit*) is located at the height of the tow bar of the trailer. This

is important when positioning the trailer (*where will the entrance be?*).

Every lodge has an open entrance on the outside and a wall with a sliding window on the inside (*like a peep show*).

A tent canvas forms the roof of our tent.

All building materials of the tent meet the fire standards.

AUDIENCE/PRESENTATION

The audience buys/gets a ticket: one wooden token per lodge. Up to 4 people can fit in one box. As soon as one box is empty, other spectators can fill it again. They reach their empty box via the walkway around the tent. There, they insert the wooden token into a specially designed 'coin acceptor'. Like a piece of a puzzle, the token fits in there. They slide the coin acceptor, so that the closed (peepshow) window opens automatically. Behind this large, spacious window (1 x 1 metre) they can see the carousel turning. It turns slowly (about 5 minutes/turn).

On that carousel, the automata are set off with a handle for each automaton. The audience can operate this handle themselves: by turning it, the automaton moves.

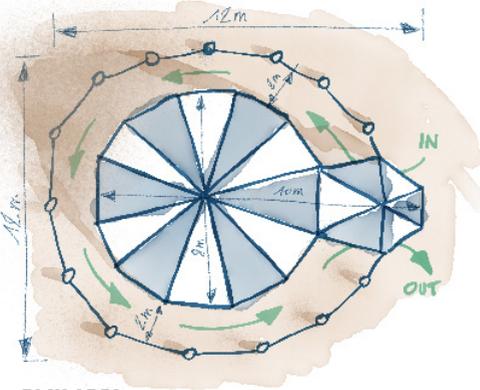
The window closes automatically after 1.5 to 2 revolutions of the carousel. The public is given plenty of time to look at

and review all the automata. The audience leaves the box and makes place for a new group.

DIMENSIONS TENT

The diameter of the tent is 8 metres. The highest point (the ridge) is 5.5 metres (with ornamentation: 6.3 metres). The walls themselves are 3 metres high.

Because the audience must be able to walk around the tent to get from the entrance (at the box office) to their lodge, we provide a path of preferably 2 metres around the tent. We mark off this path with sturdy cones (1 metre high) between which we hang attractive garlands. The free space in front of the tent is therefore preferably 12 metres in diameter (tent + walkway).



PLAY AREA

The play area is a solid, dry, flat surface. This area is easily accessible (and navigable) by both our truck (7.5 metres long, 7450 kg) and our trailer (4 metres long, 2700 kg). They can also remain there during the entire build-up and breakdown, with plenty of space.

CONSTRUCTION TIME

Construction: 7 to 9 hours, depending on location and circumstances. We take into account extra reserve time of 'at most' 2.5 hours (*afterwards, without stagehands*) for setting up and adjusting the automata themselves (fragile work, only by our crew, can also be done before the opening show on game day).

Dismantling: 6 to 7 hours, depending on location and circumstances.

CREW

We come with a crew of 2. **We require at least two (preferably three) handy stagehands (m/f/x) during the entire build-up and breakdown.** If the build-up or breakdown has to take place in the evening *with a deadline*, we need at least 4 handy stagehands (m/f/x).

It is definitely an advantage if we have the same stagehands during the dismantling as during the building up.

CREW DURING SHOW

We run the show with our own crew. We normally do not need extra help.

During possible breaks, we do ask that our carousel be 'guarded'. We need to be able to leave them safely. After all, we can't close everything down while playing (as we do at the end of a performance day).

During the performance, we must always be able to rely on a helpline with as-

sistance if necessary (e.g. in the event of an electricity failure).

ELECTRICITY

We need electricity for our merry-go-round, the led-lighting (inside and outside) as well as for the parts of the show (peepshow-windows, security system for levers automata, coinpushers, ...):

Either **1 x 400 V/32 A*** (our preference - we have the distribution box ourselves) from the power point.

Or 3 x 230 V/16 A (three separate, isolated channels).

The organisation provides a cable from the power point to our carousel and floor safety-protection where the audience walks over this cable.

This cable runs to our carousel (cash desk, at trailer tow hitch height). From there we provide our own junction box and all necessary cabling and safety for the public.

WATER

We do not need running water on our playground. We do need to be able to fetch water nearby with a jerrycan during set-up, playtime and dismantling.

[CORONA] SAFETY

The Automata Carrousel is accessible (and attractive) for young and old. A well thought out and ingenious set-up makes that even children can operate the fragile looking automata without cracking them with their happy enthusiasm.

Thanks to the tent's clever design, the

Automata Carrousel has a maximum capacity of up to 250 people per hour (or more than 880 in one afternoon of 4 hours - *that's the maximum capacity: a realistic average is 500 spectators*) and is **completely corona-proof:**

- *the separate lodges offer space to groups (relatives, family) of up to 4 people per box.*
- *At any time, there can only be 44 people in the tent. They stay there for about 10 minutes each.*
- *Dispatchers are also present in each lodge to clean hands and/or the handle.*
- *The public enters only sparsely: in turns, per lodge. This ensures a constant but perfectly controllable flow. With social distancing.*
- *There is hand gel at the entrance and exit.*
- *Each lodge is an open area in the open air.*
- *Mouth masks are required where necessary.*

FIRE SAFETY

Our carousel is constructed exclusively of materials with fire-resistant and fire-retardant standards. As the boxes have no door and are therefore in open air, every visitor has a clear and quick escape route.

SECURITY

The organiser is responsible for the safety of our play area (*vandalism, theft*). He/she guarantees that our tent is in a safe position from the moment we set it up, during the playing period until after the dismantling. The way in which this safety is guaranteed depends of course on the different playgrounds (physical surveillance, camera surveillance, fencing, closed location...) and is determined in mutual consultation. But the organiser is responsible should vandalism or theft occur. Prevention is better than cure.

**: a 400 V 16 A cable would suffice for our power consumption - and can therefore also be used! - but as these are more difficult to supply, we have opted for the 32 A.*

For our part, we always close our tent completely, cut off the electricity and, where necessary, can hang a cloth around the carousel. Of course, this does not stop thieves or vandals, it only slow them down.

ACCESSIBILITY

Our Automata Carrousel is accessible to wheelchair users. The concept is attractive (and accessible) for young and old. We do ask that children are not allowed to participate unaccompanied. The concept is not language dependent. Also all explanations needed for the use of the carousel are purely pictorial (no language). Our tent is accessible for guide dogs for the blind (*although this is a very visual spectacle*). It is a perfect spectacle for deaf people (*there is no (loud) music and no speaking*). **In short: we are a very accessible project!**

PARKING / PERMITS TRUCK WITH TRAILER

We are touring with **one lorry** M.A.N.:
Maximum Authorised Mass < 7,5 tonnes
Number plate 1 FYR 529 (Belgian)
Fuel: Diesel
Emission standard: Euro 6
7.5 metres long, 3.6 metres high

and **one trailer**, HAPERT:

Maximum Authorised Mass 2,4 tonnes
Number plate Q ABH 029 (Belgian)
4 metres long.

Parking trailer: The base for the merry-go-round is mounted on the trailer. It therefore remains on the playground.

Parking lorry (truck): The organiser will arrange for a safe, free parking space for the truck during the entire play period. ***It is as close as possible to the place of performance (after all, our truck is the backup space and storage during the performance).***

The organiser arranges (and pays, if necessary) for all necessary local permits required to get our truck-with-trailer to the performance location (both free passages and possible Low Emission Zone regulations and/or permits).

For your information: our truck is a perfect match for the Automata Carousel in terms of graphics and lettering. Just like with circuses, it could be parked next to the carousel during the show if there is no safe parking nearby.

CATERING AND ACCOMMODATION

Our crew consists of 2 people. The organiser provides decent sleeping quarters and catering during the build-up, performance and breakdown. Arrangements to be made in consultation.

CONTRACT

This technical rider is an integral part of the contract.

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