

AFRIQUE EN CIRQUE

Visual Story



Sydney
Festival
2023

What is a Visual Story?

A Visual Story is a visual & written accessible guide to assist you with your visit.

Visual stories are used to prepare a person for and increase the predictability of a new environment or situation. This helps bring familiarity to a process and to reduce anxiety and stress.

This guide provides information on how to access the Afrique en Cirque performance, and what to expect when you arrive and who to ask for assistance.

About Sydney Festival

Afrique en Cirque is part of Sydney Festival 2023 program. Sydney Festival is a city-wide celebration of culture and creativity. From the streets to the beach, in stately theatres and in secret basements, it animates locations across Greater Sydney with a free and ticketed program of theatre, music, dance, visual art and live performance.

We welcome all visitors to Sydney Festival events and are committed to making the festival a safe and accessible space for everyone.

I can find out more accessibility information about Sydney Festival on the website:
www.sydneyfestival.org.au/accessibility



About Afrique en Cirque

Drawing on the Nyamakala tradition of circus practiced in West Africa, Afrique en Cirque troupe have perfected a hectic blend of acrobatics, music and choreography which takes contemporary circus to dizzying new levels of fun.

In *Afrique en Cirque* a handful of daring acrobats, accompanied by skilled musicians, perform authentic and original choreography to the pulsating rhythm of the djembes of Guinea, celebrating the diversity of traditional African arts whilst sweeping viewers into a wildly good time.



About the Venue

The performance of *Afrique en Cirque* will be held at Riverside Theatres.

Riverside Theatres is Western Sydney's premier performing arts centre. With over 1,000 events per year.

Located on the banks of the Parramatta River, Riverside Theatres is wheelchair accessible and has other accessible amenities, including accessible toilets. I can find out more about venue accessibility here:
<https://riversideparramatta.com.au/your-visit/accessibility/>



When is the performance on?

Afrique en Cirque **runs from the 6th to the 15th January 2023.**

**Below are the show date and times I
can book into:**

- Fri 6th Jan, 07:00pm
- Sat 7th Jan, 02:00pm
- Sat 7th Jan, 07:30pm
- Sun 8th Jan, 05:00pm
- Wed 11th Jan, 07:00pm
- Thu 12th Jan, 07:00pm
- Fri 13th Jan, 07:30pm
- Sat 14th Jan, 02:00pm
- Sat 14th Jan, 07:30pm
- Sun 15th Jan, 05:00pm



Relaxed Sessions

Designed for patrons with disability and their families or anyone who may benefit from a more relaxed environment. Relaxed performances usually have slight modifications to sound and lighting, support aids and an open-door policy with a dedicated quiet area.

Relaxed sessions is available on:

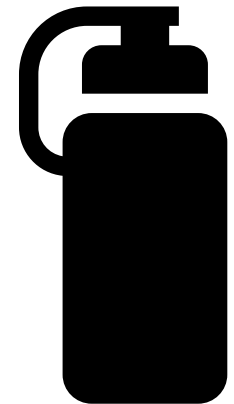
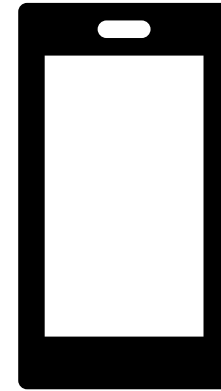
11 January, 7pm

Things that I can bring

I can bring some things that help me feel calm and safe.

These might include:

- Noise cancelling headphones
- Sensory items
- Water bottle
- Mobile Phone



How to book my ticket?

I can book my ticket on the Sydney festival website here:

<https://tickets.sydneyfestival.org.au>

When I book into a session, I can choose my seat by selecting it on the seating map. I can book multiple seats for the one performance by clicking on more than one seat.

Colour chart for seating availability are:

Black – Unavailable

Purple – Your Seat

Teal – Available

1. SELECT A DATE

< JAN 2023 >						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

21/01/2023

● Available

● Selling Fast

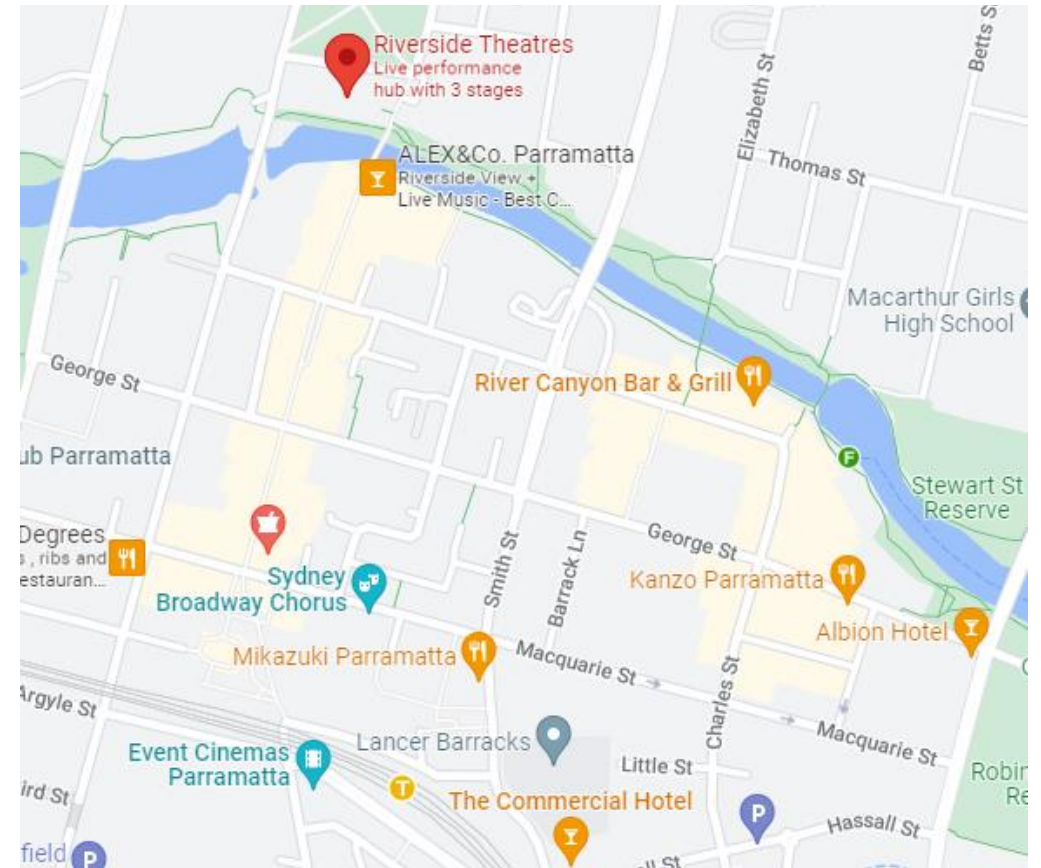
● Allocation Exhausted

Getting there

The performance is located at:
Corner Market &, Church St,
Parramatta NSW 2150

I can get to Riverside Theatre
by train, bus, walking, ferry,
taxi or by car.

Riverside is a 30-minute drive
from Sydney CBD.



Public transport/ Walking/ Taxi or Rideshare/Car

BY TRAIN

Parramatta is linked from all directions by train. Riverside is approximately a 12-minute walk from Parramatta Train Station. Exit from Darcy Street, turn right towards Church Street and follow it up to the theatre, just across the Lennox Bridge.

BY BUS

Bus services are available to Parramatta from all directions: through Hills Bus, Sydney Buses and Hopkinsons. The nearest bus stops are on Wilde Ave/Smith St – a short walk away from the theatre.

BY FERRY

Parramatta Wharf is an enjoyable 8-minute walk to us along the river.

BY CAR

Church Street is currently closed to general traffic between Market & Macquarie Streets, to allow for Parramatta Light Rail works. If you are planning on driving, allow extra time to find parking and to reach the venue.

Check In/Ticking

I will need a ticket to see the show. If I haven't got a ticket, when I arrive, I can go to the Box Office to get a ticket. I will need to wait in a line.

Before the show starts, I might need to wait in the foyer. This is where I can relax with my family or friends until the performance starts.

I can enter the theater doors approximately 10-15 minutes prior to the show starting.



Finding my seat

My ticket will have the door number I need to enter through. An usher will check my tickets and tell me where the door is. Then I can enter the theatre.

Inside the theatre there are red seats. There is a downstairs section and an upstairs section.

An usher will help me find the seat that matches my ticket.

I can find a seating map online [here](#).



Before the performance starts

When the show starts the lights will turn down to make the theatre darker, but it will not go completely dark.

This is now the time I can sit quietly to listen and watch the performance. If I need to talk to my friends or family during the show I can whisper.

I will be seeing a theatre show, not a movie. There will be real people on stage called performers. They might play music, sing, dance or tell me a story. They might wear costumes or make-up. This helps them to tell the story.



What to expect during the performance

The performance takes about 90mins.

Some things I will see and hear during the performance are:

- Smoke and haze effects
- Dancing
- Acrobatics
- Loud instruments, such as drums, guitar and saxophone.
- The performers will be wearing different costumes throughout the performance.

If I arrive late, I will be admitted at an appropriate break in the performance.

I should arrive early to avoid missing the start.



End of the performance

When the show is finished, people will clap their hands. This is to thank the performers. I can clap along if I want to, if it is too loud, I can use my noise cancelling headphones.

When the performance is finished, the lights will turn on and I can exit the theatre at one of the open doors, an usher will be there to help guide the way.

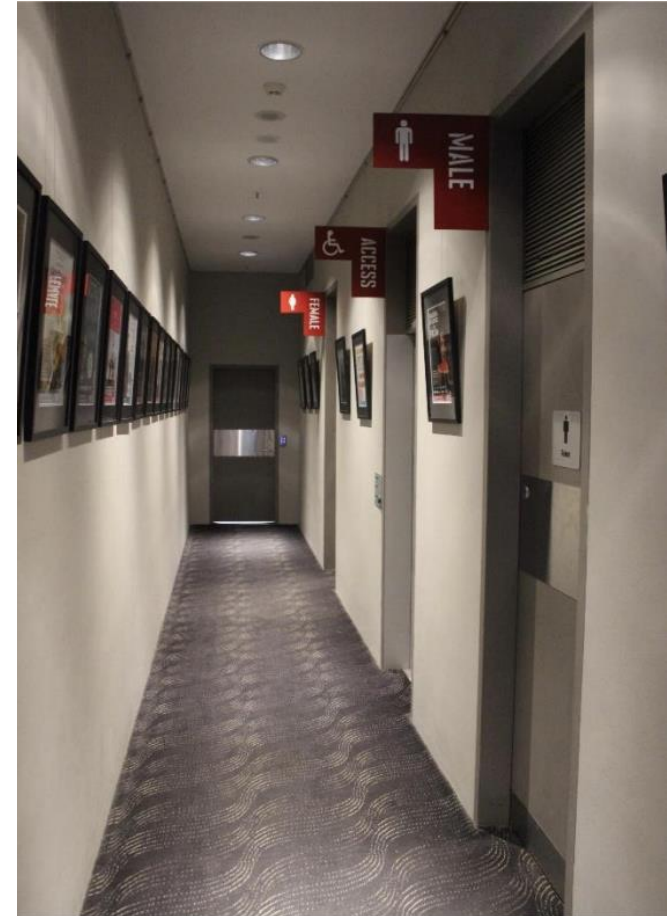


Toilets

I can find accessible toilets inside the venue; they will be clearly marked with a red sign on the outside.

The staff at Riverside Theater can help me find the toilets if I need help.

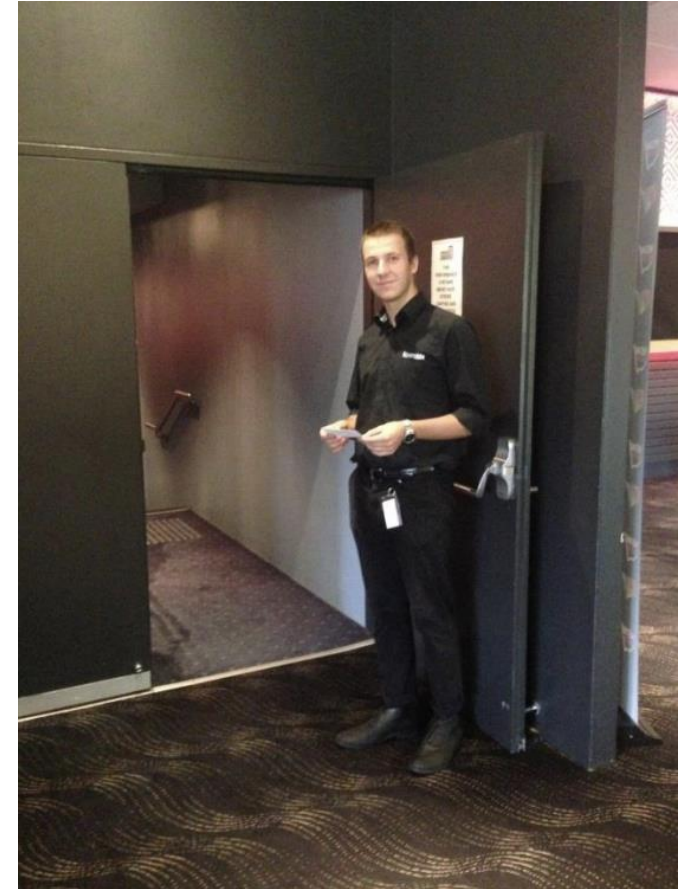
I should try to use the toilet before or after the performance, so that I don't miss out on anything exciting.



Who will I see, and who can help me?

If I need help, I can ask a Riverside Theater Front of House staff member who be working throughout the performance. They will be able to provide me with information and help with first aid.

I can identify them by their black shirt with the Riverside Theater logo.



Quiet Spaces and Hidden Disabilities Sunflower Lanyard

I can access a quiet room by asking venue staff and I can exit the performance at any point if I need to.

Hidden Disabilities Sunflower Lanyard

- The Sunflower is a globally recognised symbol for Hidden Disabilities.
- The lanyard is a way that people with Hidden Disabilities can indicate to staff that they may need extra support, time and understanding.
- If I have a Sunflower lanyard I can bring it with me, and the Front of House Staff are trained to recognise it.
- It is OK if I don't have a lanyard, I can still get help if I need.



Thank you for visiting



We hope you enjoy your visit to
Afrique en Cirque at Sydney Festival