

# Keur Mame Boye



TOE  
theatre





'Keur Mame Boye' is a 35-minute puppet show without words

Suitable for all ages from 5 years old  
Adaptable for indoor and outdoor performances

The show can be performed three times a day

# Mame Boye invites us into her shop

With humour, mischief and a few puppets and homemade props, the old woman gives her own unique advice on dental hygiene.

**Cavities better watch out!**

## Distribution

**Concept and Set Design:** Alain Moreau and Nicolas Laine

**Directed by:** Alain Moreau assisted by Nicolas Laine and Sandrine Hooge

**Artistic support:** Mamby Mawine

**Puppet and prop design:** Alain Moreau assisted by Nicolas Laine, Jeanne Guillou, Sandrine Hooge and Geneviève Périat

**Show:** Astou Ndiaye and Seynabou Faye

**Control room:** Amaury Bertels

**Production:** TOF Théâtre (Pascale Mahieu) and DJARAMA (Olivier Guillochon)

**Diffusion:** My-Linh Bui

**Photographs:** François Fogel, Jean Jacques Commien, Patrick Argirakis, Cathy Debrun



**Keur Mame Boye** is a puppet theatre show created by TOF Théâtre with young Senegalese artists from the **Yaak'Art / DJARAMA** company based in Toubab Dialaw, supported by CITF and WBI. It is part of a broader vision to establish theatre for young audiences in Senegal.

The show is intended to be performed in non-dedicated venues, in a public square, in the middle of a market, in a school playground... or indoors. The show is technically self-sufficient outdoors, but indoors, lighting (full lighting) is required.

## The show's origins

Following a masterclass given by Alain Moreau in Senegal in 2022, a cultural cooperation project with the Djarama association was set up at the request of Astou Ndiaye, one of the participants in this training module, and led to the creation of a complete show in 2025. Alain Moreau, Nicolas Laine and Sandrine Hooge accompanied Astou, joined by Seynabou Faye, and together they created **Keur Mame Boye** (under the watchful and benevolent eye of Mamby Mawine).



The overall cooperation project will be complemented by a second show for Senegal, which will be created in December 2025 in collaboration with **LES SAGES FOUS - Trois Rivières** (Canada).



*With the assistance of WBI Bilateral Cooperation and Mobility, the Canada Centre for the Arts, and CITF. With the French Institute of Dakar and the Wallonia-Brussels Delegation in Dakar.*



## Technical specifications...

Suitable for all ages from 5 years old

Duration: 35 minutes

Outdoor and indoor performances

Set-up time: 2 hours

Take-down time: 1 hour

The show requires a protected space, free from noise pollution

Lighting: full lighting is required

### Performance space

6 metres wide

4 metres deep + min. 1 metre between the edge of the stage and the front row

2.5 metres high

Capacity Maximum 130 people

Audience seating required (bleachers or cushions on the floor, mid-height benches, chairs, tables, etc.)

Access doors must be at least 1.25 metres wide. Please contact us if there is a narrower door to access the venue.

# Statement of intention

It all began in April 2022, when Alain Moreau was sharing his expertise over the course of a two day workshop in Ndayane. The recipients of the workshop, youth participating in the Yaak'Art training programme and recruited by Mamby Mawine (founder of the NGO Djarama) , quickly impressed Alain with their aptitude to puppetry, in both manipulating and making.

Moreau realised the necessity and urgency of incorporating puppetry to creatively enable and enrich these young artists in training.

Prompted by a request from one of the youth, Astou Ndiaye, who was 16 at the time, TOF Théâtre and the youth from [Yaak'Art](#) were soon engaged in a professional creative project.

From the outset, the given framework made by Mawine, who

oversees the Yaak'Art training programme, is clear: the show must deal with a crucial educational issue in Senegal. With this in mind, how to also make the show artistic? Moreover, the need to take into consideration the Senegalese context, where shows for young audiences and theatre training are virtually non-existent, but are beginning to take shape thanks to the work of Djarama.

The challenge is therefore to find a form, a theme, a dramaturgy, artistic partners and... the means of production. From the outset, there was a desire to build a collective project, but the challenge was daunting: to create a show that would be a first professional experience for very young artists; a show that could be enjoyed by a wide range of audiences, adults and children, city dwellers and villagers;

a puppet show, a form that is not yet very developed in Senegal.

*How can we support these young people in this first experience?*

*How can we achieve a result that will resonate with Senegalese audiences when the cultures and practices of those involved are so different?*

*What topics should we cover that will be meaningful? What language should we use, and what codes will be understandable to everyone? Is humour universal? Could the show travel beyond Senegal?*

The creation of this show is part of a vision of continuing education, professional integration of young people and cultural economy in connection with audiences. For several years now, Djarama has been setting up an entire cultural ecosystem with a view to empowering local talent and giving

them the means to find employment in their own country. The project therefore addresses broader issues: promoting women's empowerment, offering young people prospects for the future, contributing to the diversification of a professional sector in Senegal, nurturing a pilot project that could become a model and be replicated elsewhere, and aligning with the priorities of the Sustainable Development Goals, which give children the opportunity to flourish and the right to have fun and be amazed. It aims to be an example of hope for the empowerment and emancipation of young people, especially women artists in Senegal.

**More information on the [Djarama website](#).**



**Djarama**, based in Ndayane and Toubab Dialaw in Senegal, is a humanist and innovative association created in 2005 by Mamby Mawine (registered name Patricia Gomis), accompanied

by her family of artists and cultural actors. The association works to give all children access to culture, artistic expression and a fulfilling education, in order to develop their creativity, independence and civic awareness.

The association carries out its projects through the creation and dissemination of shows, training young people in the performing arts (Yaakaar programme), organising artistic and cultural exchanges and encounters, internships, workshops, seminars, festivals and activities, both nationally and internationally.

The association also supports the **Djarama company**, the only professional theatre company for young audiences recognised in Senegal and internationally renowned for its socially conscious productions

combining clowning, puppetry, object theatre and circus arts.

In 2015, Djarama founded a **national network for young audiences**, mobilising schools, regional cultural centres, the Grand Théâtre National, French Institutes and Alliances, in order to broaden access to culture throughout the country.

It is also behind the **International Puppetry Arts Festival - Djaram'Art**, an inclusive event for children from all walks of life. It contributes to cultural openness and brings together international artists, thereby promoting new collaborations.

Djarama promotes a sustainable, community-based lifestyle that incorporates organic farming, food self-sufficiency, renewable energy and personal development through art, culture and education.



## The TOF Théâtre

TOF Théâtre is a Belgian theatre company that was founded in Brussels in 1987, spurred on by the resounding success of its first show, *Le tour du bloc*. Created and directed by Alain Moreau, the company introduces audiences of all ages to the art of contemporary puppetry.

A fan of minimalist realism, described as offbeat or crazy, as diverse as it is unclassifiable, TOF Théâtre creates shows that tour Belgium and abroad. It makes unlimited use of various artistic forms: theatre, music, puppets and fairground arts, and appeals to young audiences, adults and families alike.

It creates for the stage and the street, transports its art to spaces dedicated to culture or not, invades theatres and festivals... It appeals to seasoned professionals, knowledgeable citizens, but also ordinary people, those who do not cross the real or virtual thresholds of culture.

Every year since 2014, TOF has organised the **MAboule Festival** of Puppetry and Related Arts. This unusual event brings contemporary puppetry, object theatre and fairground entertainment to life in Genappe in December.

[www.maboule.be](http://www.maboule.be)



## TOF Théâtre is also behind the MONTY initiative.

This artistic, cultural and civic third place combines a theatre workshop, a theatre and cinema, a civic meeting place, a collaborative grocery store, a bar hosting concerts, exhibitions, etc. Our company is responsible for its artistic direction, programming projects we have fallen in love with

## LE MONTY

during our tours, brand new shows, cult shows by iconic artists in the sector, Puppet Crash Tests and other test beds. With the help of a wonderful group of committed citizens, it welcomes those who love to cultivate creativity and encounters.

[www.lemonty.be](http://www.lemonty.be)

## Performances created

1987 <i>Le Tour du Bloc</i>	2007 <i>Le grand retour</i>
1988 <i>Radio Tom</i>	2009 <i>Premiers pas sur la Dune</i>
1992 <i>Camping Sauvage</i>	2009 <i>Sur la dune</i>
1995 <i>Cabane</i>	2011 <i>Piccoli Sentimenti</i>
1996 <i>Eugène, le Roi de la frite</i>	2013 <i>Dans l'atelier</i>
1998 <i>Patraque</i>	2014 <i>Soleil Couchant</i>
2001 <i>Le Petit Bazar Erotik</i>	2016 <i>J'y pense et puis...</i>
2002 <i>Les Zakouskis Erotiks</i>	2018 <i>Pourquoi pas!</i>
2002 <i>Duel</i>	2021 <i>Echappée Vieille</i>
2003 <i>A Tout Jamais !</i>	2021 <i>La Clé du 7e</i>
2004 <i>Bistouri (fairground version)</i>	2023 <i>Été 69</i>
2005 <i>Les Bénévoles</i>	2023 <i>Chaud must go on</i> (Nicolas Laine - associate artist)
2006 <i>Bistouri (theatre version)</i>	
2007 <i>Fritkot</i>	2024 <i>Keur Mame Boye</i>



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