



# *Karkaäns*

A place  
The audience  
A machine, improbable  
A beat, a click, the crackle of life

Nine actors arrive from all directions, cross the crowd to the sound of a choir, a song stands out, a deep, gravelly voice.

They respond, advance, move through the audience, then... climb this improbable machine.

The music rises, powerful.

The actors bustle about, seize this being of metal and wood.

The climax... Suspension.

The machine shakes itself.

Welcome to the world of Karkaäns!



Collective writing, directed by Céline Altazin

Writing of the text "Reine du Néant": Marie-Caroline Revranche

Machine creation:

Mathis Jacquet, Céline Altazin, Mathieu Venon, Alexis Nicolle  
and numerous visiting volunteers

Two formats:

Wandering, with fixed stages: duration 1 h 30

or

Fixed: duration 1

Day or night (a preference for the night and its magic)

For All audiences

The team:

Mathis Jacquet: stage manager, bass clarinet and juggling

Céline Altazin: on stilts and juggling

Mathieu Venon: on stilts and juggling

Alexis Nicolle or Pablo Néó: drums

Marie-Caroline Revranche (Lousse): vocals and cuatro

Julien Birot or Alexis Delva: drums Guitar

Marion Fournier: Rope and aerial straps

Valentin Ponce: Juggling

Loïs Alfonso: Acrobatics



## Statement of Intent:

*It's clear that our world is moving fast, perhaps too fast... This smartphone in our pocket is the magical tool that connects us to others, that serves us in our work and our daily lives. Are we really sure of this?*

*This connection, while undeniable in its speed, does it really connect us to ourselves, to others? Overuse, inappropriate use, misinformation, dehumanization, addiction...*

*Among the Karkaänians, the use of this technology sometimes veers toward the absurd, sometimes toward poetry.*

*Karkaäns is the life of nine characters who could just as easily be in an office, on a boat, or in a factory.*

*It is the theater of life, a mirror of our modern society with its flaws and utopias. A world of "everything right now" in which we go from being actors to powerless users, even helpless spectators.*

*Because nothing can replace human warmth!*

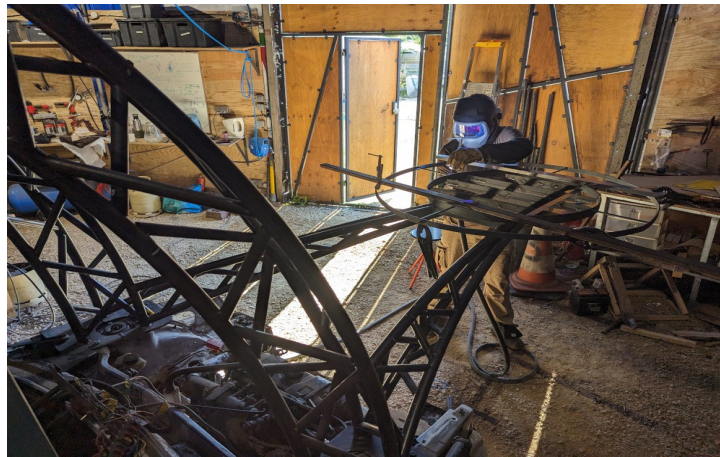
*Karkaäns awakens us; with him, we rediscover the taste for simplicity, emotion, laughter, poetry, and the joy of being together.*

## The machine:

Built on the Company's premises, it is the result of two years of work, including design, planning, mechanics, and construction. The whole thing was handcrafted by four of the show's artists under the guidance of Mathis Jacquet (the Company's technical advisor), accompanied by Céline Altazin, Mathieu Venon, and Alexis Nicolle.

The many volunteers who volunteered for an hour or a week: Zoé, Amaya, Nael, Morgane, Agathe, Benoît, René, Lousse, Bernard, Toma, Luc

100% local mechanical coaching: Nico



The Machine in this show is based on a car. It consists of three platforms at different heights (from 1.2m to 5m) on which the actors move, passing from one to the other via spiral staircases. At its stern, a 5m-high articulated gantry provides a hook for a smooth rope and straps. It is completely self-sufficient in electricity thanks to a battery system coupled with a converter. It is equipped with four speakers on the intermediate platform at 3m (two 10-inch speakers on the sides and two 15-inch speakers at the front and back) as well as a 15-inch subwoofer.

The sound and lighting system is assisted by a computer and a digital mixing desk managed live by the actor/driver/stage manager. All live instruments are backed by a sound system.

**Height** : 5 meters (can be lowered to 3.70 meters for assembly and obstacle crossings)

**Width** : 2.20 meters

**Length** : 6.80 meters

Straight out of our imagination, this machine is the setting for the Karkaäns show.

*It was designed to be the living and working space for the crew that operates on it. It is the cabin of our childhood, the family cocoon, but it also represents the confinement, the shackles of our current world, towards which we silently agree to move.*

## Work stages :

In January 2022, the DRAC (Regional Directorate for Cultural Affairs) supported us for an artistic research laboratory. This is the starting point for this show.

From January to October 2022, the first ideas emerged.  
In October 2022, the mechanical work began to create the machine.

2023:  
The writing is being refined, the construction is in full swing.

2024:  
The musical and artistic creation residencies are coming one after the other :

- June 11 and 12, 2024, at the Imaginarium (79)
- July 29 to 31, 2024, at the Imaginarium (79)
- August 29 and 30, 2024, at the Imaginarium (79)
- September 2 to 5, 2024, at the Imaginarium (79)
- October 28 to November 2, 2024, at "Rue du Cirque" in St. Junien (87)
- November 11 to 16, 2024, at "Rue du Cirque" in St. Junien (87)
- January 5 to 10, 2025, at Point Haut – Cie OFF in Tours (37)

A Coming soon:

February 2025:  
Finishing the machine's bodywork in the workshop  
Refining the musical composition  
Costume design

March 2025 :  
Meeting with two professionals for an external perspective  
Costume creation  
Artist residency from the 16th to the 21st at the Imaginarium (79)

April 2025 :  
Costume finalization  
Lighting design

May 2025 :  
Artist residency from the 4th to the 9th at Point Haut in Tours – Cie OFF (37)  
Public residency exit  
Creation of communication tools (photo and video shoot for a teaser)

Contact Diffusion  
+33 5.17.30.10.18  
diffusion@cirqueasymetrik.com

Artistic  
+33 6.85.55.33.18

Website  
<https://www.cirqueasymetrik.com/fr/index.html>