

The Dark Visual Story

This is a visual resource for anyone coming to The Dark by Peut-Être Theatre.

About the show

The Dark is a dance-theatre performance. This means there is lots of movement, including dance, as well as dialogue, live music and singing. Audio Description is integrated throughout the performance.

The show lasts approximately 50 minutes.

Pre-Show Touch Tours

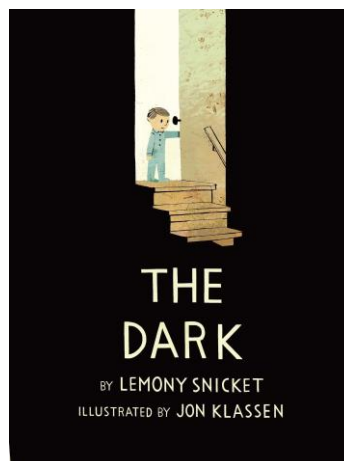
Touch Tours give children the opportunity to meet the performers, explore the set and props, and hear some of the sounds from the show. They are available before the following performances:

- Tues 27 Oct at 2:30pm (Touch Tour starts at 1:30pm)
- Weds 28 Oct at 11am (Touch Tour starts at 10am)
- Thurs 29 Oct at 2:30pm (Touch Tour starts at 1:30pm)
- Fri 30 Oct at 11am (Touch Tour starts at 10am)
- Sat 31 Oct at 2:30pm (Touch Tour starts at 1:30pm)

Book tickets and find out more at [Battersea Arts Centre](#)

The Story

The Dark is based on the picture book by Lemony Snicket, illustrated by Jon Klassen. It tells the story of Laszlo, a young boy who is afraid of the dark. If you haven't already, you may like to read the original picture book before the show to familiarise yourself with the story.



The show includes:

- Moments of complete darkness
- Moving and flickering lights
- Sudden and loud noises
- Mild peril

Performers

Charlie Hendren, who plays **Laszlo**



Eleanor Isherwood, who plays **The Dark**



Here they are in costume:



The Story

At the start of the show, the performers, Ellie and Charlie, introduce themselves and their roles to the audience. They also introduce Tom, the Stage Manager, and describe the layout of the set.



Then the story begins!

We meet Laszlo, a young boy who loves playing with his toy truck and toy car. Laszlo dances, plays and talks directly to the audience.



We see Laszlo at home, where he plays, watches TV and has snacks. The Dark is there too, but Laszlo doesn't see her.



The Dark lives in the basement of Laszlo's house. During the day, Laszlo says hello to The Dark from the top of the stairs. He hopes that if he says hello to The Dark in the basement, it will stay down there and never come into his bedroom.



At night, Laszlo has a night light to help him feel safe from The Dark.



But one evening, the bulb in his night light breaks, and The Dark comes into his bedroom.



The Dark sings, makes music, and uses a microphone, creating an atmospheric and mysterious world around Laszlo. Laszlo is frightened.

The Dark leads Laszlo through his house in the middle of the night. They explore the bathroom, kitchen, stairs, hallway and living room. They play making shadows.



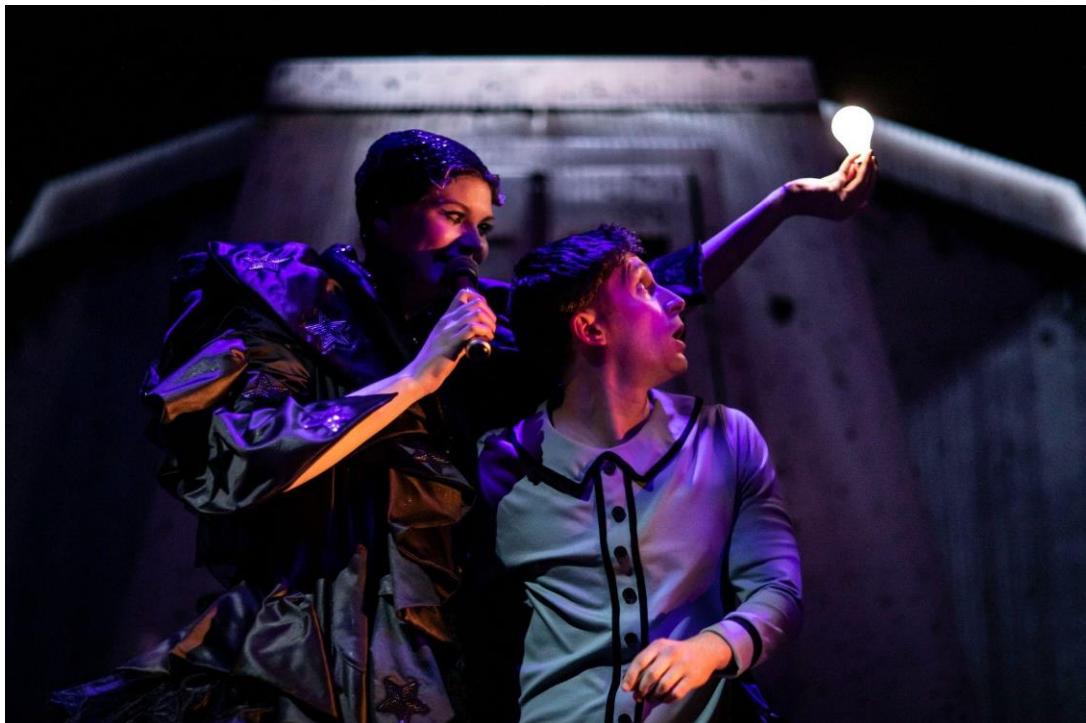
Laszlo has his trusty torch to help him see. He follows The Dark through the house, until they eventually reach the basement.



The Dark leads Laszlo to a drawer. Inside the drawer is a new lightbulb for his night light.



Laszlo realises that The Dark has been helping him all along.



He takes the lightbulb upstairs and fixes his night light.

And, from then on, Laszlo is no longer afraid of The Dark.



How 'dark' is The Dark?

Laszlo, the main character, is a little boy who is afraid of the dark. He talks about his fear openly at the beginning of the show.

There are a few short moments of complete darkness and some extended scenes where the stage is dimly lit, when Laszlo meets The Dark.

The Dark is not intended to be a scary show, but fear is an important theme. The story explores what it feels like to be afraid and how we can learn to face and overcome our fears.

At the beginning of the show, the performers introduce themselves and their characters. Together with the audience, they explore some of the lights and sounds that will be used during the performance, helping everyone know what to expect.

Find out more about the access facilities at Battersea Arts Centre here:

<https://bac.org.uk/access/>

Photos by Helen Maybanks.