**Kaleidoscope**

**A ballet scenario**

**By Daniel de Andrade**

Version 2 (7th of April 2017)

**Based on a children’s story co-written by**

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**Casting**

8 Northern Ballet dancers

6 young adult dance students

4 children dance students

**SCENE 1 – (@ 5 min 15 sec)**

Kaleidoscope is a place made up of only 3 types of monochrome shapes: Squares, Circles and Triangles. There are no flowers, no plants and no colour, there’s not even any grass. (Mr Bloom arrives in Kaleidoscope and realises there’s something up. His entire outfit is grey, black and white - even his wellies are black. – Overture/ Introduction – 1 min)

Each shape belongs to a different group of people who in their turn each have their own personality.

First we see the people who live in the Square appear. They look ever so serious. They move perfectly together, like machines. They are very possessive over their Square and once they patrol their space they keep themselves to themselves and hide back inside. (45 sec)

Next, the people who live in the Circle appear moving around by following each other. They are very aloof, look shy and are obsessed with keeping their Circle spotlessly clean. Once they are satisfied that their circle is cleaned to perfection they also disappear back inside. (45 sec)

In contrast, the people who live in the Triangle are exceptionally clumsy. They move in a higgledy-piggledy way all over the place. They seem unaware of others and even move their triangle from here to there, invading other spaces and bumping into everything. (45 sec)

Kaleidoscope gets muddled at times when everyone comes out from hiding. Still they are stuck in their ways and never mix with anyone apart from their own kind. (1 min)(Community on screen)

(As ‘all’ the people disappear behind their shapes Mr Bloom becomes concerned about what will have happened to a garden / farm / countryside. It’s always full of colour so he needs to go and check that everything there hasn’t turned grey – especially all the fruit and vegetables. – 45 sec)

**SCENE 2 – (@ 3 min 15 sec)**

Suddenly all 3 groups emerge at once. Everything becomes so chaotic that Saffron, a boy from the Triangles, trips up and gets separated from his group. As he bumps into Squares and Circles Saffron gradually becomes intrigued wondering why they move differently. He even attempts to copy some of their moves as the Triangle people leave. (45 sec)

Rowen, a girl from the Circles, eventually gets distracted by Saffron and is also left behind by her group which leaves. She had never paid attention to the Triangles before and she’s in awe of how Saffron moves. (30 sec)

Then, without realising, Saffron gradually starts to play with Rowen. Together Saffron and Rowen see the Squares and try to play with them. The Square people move past and studiously ignore Saffron and Rowen and leave. (30 sec)

Suddenly Azure, a girl from the Square group realises that Rowen and Saffron are having fun and decides to join in with their game. Saffron and Rowen are also curious about Azure and they start to play together. (30 sec)

As all the people go behind their own shapes suddenly something magical happens! There’s a glow coming from each child which makes them feel a strong connection between each other.

(Mr Bloom moment) Saffron, Rowen and Azure become carried away playing together and leave Kaleidoscope fading behind.

Their journey has begun. (1 min)

**SCENE 3 (PLAYED OUT ON SCREEN) – (@ 2 min)**

Saffron, Rowen and Azure enjoy their freedom and each other’s company. They then see that some fountains begin flowing and they have a wonderful time playing through them. (1 min 30 sec)

Suddenly they point to something glittering in the distance. It is a beautiful pond emanating the colour Blue which they now see for the first time in their lives.

They run towards the pond playing through fountains and as they do the fountains’ water also start flowing in blue. The children jump out from the fountains and land right beside the magical pond of blue water! (30 sec)

**SCENE 4 – (@ 4 min 15 sec)**

Saffron, Rowen and Azure have great fun playing and splashing each other with the water.

They still notice and wonder why they move differently but are more interested in simply having fun in and around the fountain. (I min)

Then they spot a beautiful blue Kingfisher flying by the fountain. They marvel at his colour and grace.

As the bird swoops in flight the colour Blue creates wonderful effects all around them.

The Kingfisher inspires ‘the audience’ to copy the colour move and as if by magic the sky also turns to blue. (1 min)

The swooping movements of his wings also end up turning on Azure’s glow to blue. Rowen and Saffron realise that Azure’s glow has changed colour. Azure begins to move differently leaving behind her old ‘Square seriousness’ and rigid movements. She is now more attuned to nature and the calming, peaceful blue influence of the Kingfisher. (1 min)

In a moment of thought Saffron and Rowen don’t seem to understand why they are not glowing. (30 sec)

Then the Kingfisher playfully flies past and the children start to follow him. He is too swift for them and quickly disappears in the distance. While searching for the Kingfisher the children spot something else fluttering in the bright blue sky – they curiously run after it full of excitement. (45 sec)

**SCENE 5 (PLAYED OUT ON SCREEN) – (@ 2 min)**

A beautiful yellow Moth if fluttering through the blue sky and ‘all the children’ following the Moth are in awe of its beautiful yellow colour. The Moth is leading ‘all the children’ away from the fountain and then through Hull. (1 min)

Saffron, Rowen and Azure follow the Moth to a field full of beautiful, bright Yellow flowers. Yellow is the second colour that the children see for the first time. (1 min)

**SCENE 6 – (@ 4 min)**

The children and the Yellow Moth finally arrive in the middle of the field where stands a tall Scarecrow whose natural colours blend with all the yellow they can see.

Now at ease with the children’s presence the Moth seems very generous in displaying its wing movements. (45 sec)

While the children pay attention to the Moth, the Scarecrow seems to move, but when they look at him, he is like a statue. The children continue to marvel at the Moth but they are sure that the Scarecrow moves again! Still, he is frozen in… another position!? The children and the Moth eventually turn fast and the Scarecrow is caught out. Everyone laughs! (1 min)

The children and Scarecrow watch as the Moth encourages ‘the audience’ to copy the colour move. As they do Saffron’s glow is switched on. (45 sec)

Azure, Rowen and the Scarecrow realise that Saffron’s glow has changed colour, it’s now yellow. His movements are no longer ‘Triangle clumsy’ and Saffron shows off his new abilities while smiling and having fun just like the happy Scarecrow. (1min)

As they watch the Moth flying away Rowen becomes just a little bit sad, wondering why she isn’t glowing like her friends… (30 sec)

**SCENE 7– (@ 3 min 30 sec)**

Just then Rowen spots a very unusual Toad hopping towards her. Then the Scarecrow also sees that there is another Toad hopping on from the opposite side. They all get out of the way just in time for the 2 Toads to bump into each other. They stop in their tracks after the bump and everyone starts to laugh at them.

They are both bright Red!! Saffron, Azure and Rowen love their colour as they’ve never seen Red before.

The two Toads are very agile and continue springing about and having fun. (1 min)

Suddenly the Toads stop and get Scarecrow and the children to follow them in encouraging ‘the audience’ to repeat the colour move. Once everyone joins in Rowen’s glow switches on. (1 min)

Saffron, Azure and the Scarecrow realise that Rowen’s glow has changed colour to bright Red. She is no longer ‘Circle aloof’ and shows off her new moves which are much more energetic and lively. (1 min)

When Rowen stops showing off she holds her stomach and everybody hears a loud rumble. The Toads hop off after hearing yet another stomach rumble. Rowen is feeling a little bit hungry…

Scarecrow has an idea. The children have experienced the colours blue, red and yellow but they haven’t tried blue, yellow and red food yet.

So he asks them to follow him as he takes them to the best place a Scarecrow knows to find lunch. (30 sec)

**SCENE 8– (@ 3 min 30 sec)**

Mr Bloom and Storm are working in the allotment – watering plants and weeding. There are yellow, blue and red fruit and vegetables to be seen everywhere.

The area is more autumnal in feel – yellow leaves, planters and A frames – there’s no green around.

Mr Bloom and Storm are in still in their monochrome outfits. (1 min)

Saffron, Rowen and Azure arrive with Scarecrow who greets Mr Bloom and Storm. Scarecrow also introduces Mr Bloom and Storm to the children who are stunned by all the colours of the fruit and vegetables.

They can’t believe they are all edible. Saffron tries corn, Rowen crunches a red apple, Azure samples blueberries. They them decide to help Mr Bloom and Storm on the allotment. Scarecrow also tries to help but is more of a hindrance with his clumsiness. (1 min 15 sec)

Renewed by seeing and experiencing the three colours the children begin to dance until they realise that they are glowing together. (30 sec)

They continue to play and are so excited that accidentally Azure and Saffron bump into each other. At the same instant a huge wave of blue and yellow also collide *(on screen)*, creating the colour green which appears everywhere and spreads magically across the grass.

Mr Bloom’s and Storm’s outfits also turn from monochrome to green, including their wellies. (30 sec)

Saffron and Azure are stunned by the green that they have made.

Scarecrow explains that together with Rowen they can create every colour in the world. (15 sec)

**SCENE 9– (@ 3 min)**

The children are all so excited! They try a new experiment…

* Rowen makes her way to one side and gets ‘the audience’ there to repeat the colour move.
* Saffron goes to the opposite side and gets ‘the audience’ there to repeat the colour move.
* The audience keeps repeating the move as they rush towards each other and Saffron throws Rowen high up in the air with a spin.
* Waves of Red and Yellow collide *(on screen)*, creating the colour Orange and a stunning sunset.
* As a surprise the Kingfisher flies through displaying his chest which has also turned orange. (1 min)

Now for yet another experiment…

* Rowen makes her way to one side and gets ‘the audience’ there to repeat the colour move.
* Azure makes her way to the opposite side and gets ‘the audience’ there to repeat the colour move.
* The audience keeps repeating the move as Rowen and Azure run to meet in the air with a jump.
* Waves of Blue and Red collide *(on screen)*, creating the colour Purple.
* A Purple Butterfly appears together with their friendly Yellow Moth fluttering around each other.
* Specs of Purple is seen in some little flowers and also in the sunset sky. (1 min)

Finally the Ladybirds appear in the allotment to join the children, Scarecrow, Mr Bloom and Storm celebrate all the colours. All the little animals wave good-bye as they leave while Mr Bloom and Storm tend to their multi-coloured allotment. (1 min)

**SCENE 10– (@ 2 min)**

The children stop and realise that Scarecrow is still neutral and not colourful. Saffron, Rowen and Azure decide they could make a difference to him. So they dress Scarecrow up in multi-coloured clothes that Mr Bloom and Storm help them to find.

Scarecrow is delighted and so are the children!

Now to make a difference to Kaleidoscope! They all set off together. (2 min)

**SCENE 11 – (PLAYED OUT ON SCREEN AND ON STAGE) – (@ 30 sec)**

Squares, Circles and triangles brings us back to Kaleidoscope.

**SCENE 12 – (@ 2 min 45 sec)**

Back in Kaleidoscope, life is continuing as before. Still only three shapes with three groups of people stuck in a rut. Everything is still monochrome.

First we see the Squares appear, looking serious and moving like machines. They hide back inside. (15 sec)

Next, the Circles appear still following each other, aloof and shy. They also disappear back inside. (15 sec)

Then the Triangles run about bumping into everything. (15 sec)

Kaleidoscope gets muddled again when they all come out from hiding. (15 sec)

Scarecrow, Saffron, Azure, Rowen, Mr Bloom and Storm arrive. The people of Kaleidoscope are really surprised by Scarecrow and immediately hide as they’ve never seen something so multi-coloured before. (15 sec)

Saffron, now wearing yellow, runs towards his old Triangle. Scarecrow invites ‘the audience’ to do the colour move. Saffron touches the Triangle to magically turn it from grey to yellow. (30 sec)

Azure, now wearing blue, runs towards her old square to turn it to blue while Storm invites the audience to do the colour move. (30 sec)

Rowen, now wearing red, runs towards her old Circle to turn it to Red while Mr Bloom to do the colour move. (30sec)

The children group up and wait in anticipation of what may happen…

**SCENE 13– (@ 4 min)**

After a little moment of quiet…

The people of Kaleidoscope emerge from their shapes, now in multi-coloured clothes.

They start to mix. They are really surprised at their new colours and that the other town residents are multi-coloured just like themselves. (1 min)

They look at each other and decide to change the wider environment. They all encourage ‘the audience’ to do the colour move towards the whole community (on screen). Everyone reacts to the colour change in the whole world. They go around the place moving things and transforming their old shapes. (1 min)

Mr Bloom, Scarecrow and STORM marvel at this wonderful multi-coloured world and how Kaleidoscope is a complete Kaleidoscope of fantastic colour.

Now they are also inspired to have fun by following together, moving together and being clumsy together. Their final dance features Saffron, Azure and Rowen while Mr Bloom, Scarecrow, Storm, ‘the audience’ as well as the community (on screen) join in the dance. (2 min)

**THE END.**