**Seven Found Hats**

Voices off Stage

*The actors are walking along a street they are dressed in Carnival costumes.*

*Suddenly they come face to face with a large red filling Cabinet in the middle of the pavement. They scrutinize its exterior as if it’s some alien.*

Famata what's this doing here?

 Edwige your guess is as good as mine,

 Virginia maybe someone had a street party,

 Selam it must be some sort of prank

 Anna trick or treat?

 Selam That's for Halloween

 Anna I know, it was suppose to be a joke.

 Beatrice Very strange. Let’s go…..

 Edwige yes. I've got an early start tomorrow

 Some Training in Milton Keyes

*They start to leave*

Virginia Hang on

*She moves in and starts pulling out each drawer bottom to top. Both the bottom and middle drawers are empty, but in the top drawer she finds 7 hats.*

*She starts examining the hats*

 everything happens for a reason.

Fatmata Really?

 Edwige And sometimes for no good reason

 Virginia shh, I'm getting a sense of …..

 Edwige you're always sensing this ,

 that and the other

 Beatrice we’re going to be late

 Virginia wait. Something..... I can't........

*Revealing the Hats*

*She holds up a beret and sings*

 **"non je n'regrette rien,**

 **non, je n'regrette rein.”**

The other women go to join Virginia

*Each one takes up a hat and in a choreographed fashion*

*and places it on their head.*

*Music “Pack Up your Troubles come on get Happy”[Judy Garland]*

*Then they start trying on the hats and swapping them between each other throwing to each other different hats and taking up different stances.*

**Scene 1**

They move to stand in a semi circle around the stage.

*Suddenly turning to the audience, stylised.*

 Fatmata 7 found Hats

 Selma That's what they were. Hats

 Edwige Seven hats

 **ALL 7 stories.**

 Virginia A time and place

 Anna Yes, seven of them.

 Edwige **Each** hat has its own story

 Beatrice One hat one story.

 Fatmata A memory, an happening….

 Selma A departure an arrival.

 **ALL Tell my story**

 **Sing my story**

 Virginia 7 found Hats