**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