

**Manual Cinema's**  
***Leonardo! A Wonderful Show About A Terrible Monster***  
**Sensory Guide**

*Leonardo! A Wonderful Show About a Terrible Monster* uses hundreds of illustrated paper puppets, book pages, two-dimensional props, furry monster puppets, and songs to bring Mo Willems' books to life. Manual Cinema wanted to recreate the experience of holding one of Mo's book pages, which are big, bold, colorful, and full of visual rhythm, with a playful use of scale. Like all Manual Cinema productions, you're invited to watch the big screen like a traditional movie, or to watch the artists below as they create the story in real time. (There is no wrong way to watch the show!).

**Production Design Notes:**

There is a large backdrop on stage lit by LED lights that changes color frequently. Quick cinematic edits of imagery/rapid movement with puppets are projected on a large screen above the stage.

There are several "scares" in the show where Leonardo and other characters are trying to scare each other. The nature of the scares are playful but involve characters jumping into frame while making loud sounds.



Below are sections that have a big lighting change or a loud or high pitched sound. Time codes are approximate

*00:03:00 Introduction to Fuzzy Leo Puppet*

The camera switches from 2D paper puppets to 3D puppets and Leo tries to scare a mouse by jumping into frame with an “ooga booga booga”.

*Bullies*

Three bullies appear with loud music periodically throughout the show and hassle Leonardo. They appear in a high contrast shadow on the backdrop and then the fuzzy puppets pop aggressively into frame. They are loud and move quickly.

*00:17:00-00:18:00 Leonardo’s Big Scare*

Black light puppetry (high contrast neon paper puppets on a very dark stage) and scary monster yelling and growling with sudden visual scares. This is probably the most intense moment in the show.

*00:27:00-00:28:00 Kerry Is Scared montage*

Begins with raindrop falling from the sky and ends with a pencil sharpener. Kerry has a high pitched scream in reaction to objects she is scared of.

*00:33:00-00:35:00 Ice Cream Shop*

Sam and Kerry meet and are scared of each other. The joke is a durational scene in which Kerry and Sam are screaming for a prolonged period of time. Leonardo and Frankenthaler try to make them stop but they can’t. Kerry has a high pitched scream. This is a loud section and the background screaming could be upsetting to some audience members.

*00:36:00-00:37:00 Improvisation with the audience*

At the ice cream shop after the monsters leave, the narrator turns to the audience for help. She asks for suggestions from the kids in the audience for things that Sam and Kerry could do. Some audience members can get loud and there are shows in which the whole audience yells suggestions at once, which could be overwhelming to some audience members.

*00:42:00-00:43:00 Kids scare the monsters.*

This is a short sequence in which the kids make funny/scary shadows to scare the two monsters, who then get scared and yell. It is a high contrast moment with the glowing backdrop on stage (and the rest of the stage dark).