

# Gérald Laroche — Musician/Storyteller

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## About the Artist



Gérald Laroche is an internationally known harmonica virtuoso, musician, composer and storyteller. A Juno award-winner, his music combines elements of jazz, blues, African rhythms, traditional French-Canadian and world music. He has performed in North America, Africa and Europe, where he has been called a "nouveau storyteller". He has brought his magical performances to young audiences for the past 35 years.

## About the Performance

**Discipline:** Music and storytelling

**Duration:** 50 minutes

**What to expect:** Storytelling using music sound and sound effects (a movie soundtrack live before your eyes, painting pictures with sound and words.

**Technical requirements:** 6x6 performance space, 3 chairs, small table, electrical outlet

**Website:** [www.geraldlaroche.com](http://www.geraldlaroche.com)

## About the Art Form

- Soundscapes and storytelling: The international language of music and sound create fantastic colourful landscapes brought to life by stories and legends of the North West of Canada. Performance available in English or in French or bilingual.
- Value of the performance for the students: students witness creative possibilities. They can in turn explore in writing or storytelling visual arts and music.

## Links to Curriculum

- **History:** social studies, Canadian geography, people, places, past and present.
- **Language arts:** storytelling, storyboards, illustrations, oral and written words.
- **Drama/Theatre:** text, mood, sound and movement
- **Music:** rhythm, melody, composition, moods, dynamics

## Pre-Performance Discussion Questions

- Is it possible to tell a story with sound?
- Can sound create a visual image?
- What is the difference between sound, music and noise?
- Your favourite stories: would you rather read, listen, see or act?

## Post-Performance Activities

- Write or draw images, people, places, creatures you imagined from the soundscapes.
- Create a story using sound from recycled material and simple instruments
- Circle stories: one student starts a theme, subject or place. The next student adds and passes to another student. At the end of the circle, a story is created.

## Post-Performance Discussion Questions

- What instruments did you like the most?
- What did you see in the music and sound?
- How did it make you feel?
- What were your favourite or least favourite sounds and why?
- What were the modes of travel used in the legends?
- What kind of story would you tell?

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