



2019

JANUARY 17 - 27

*Performances that will*

ASTONISH & DELIGHT



@ChiPuppetFest



ChicagoPuppetFest.org

**THE CHICAGO INTERNATIONAL PUPPET THEATER FESTIVAL** is the preeminent event dedicated to the artform in the U.S. Every other January, the Festival spans 11 days and dozens of Chicago venues, sharing 100+ puppetry activities for 14,000+ guests. Since its launch in 2015, the Festival has highlighted artists from nations such as Iran, Korea, and Chile as well as from Europe, Chicago and across the U.S. with the goal of promoting peace, equality, and justice on a global scale.

The Festival is a collaboration among more than 20 Chicago cultural institutions and is made possible by generous philanthropic support from organizations and individuals.

## FESTIVAL PARTNERS



CHOPIN THEATRE



the dance center

Columbia  
COLLEGE CHICAGO

experimental station  
building independent cultural infrastructure



GARFIELD PARK  
CONSERVATORY



Links Hall



RAFFAELLO  
CHICAGO



**BOX OFFICE QUESTIONS: (312) 753-3234 -or- [boxoffice@chicagopuppetfest.org](mailto:boxoffice@chicagopuppetfest.org)**

# DEAR GUESTS,

I proudly present to you the third edition of the Chicago International Puppet Theater Festival! The humble art form

of puppetry has risen to new heights and our Festival is a celebration of this new renaissance. The puppet speaks a language that crosses all the barriers that divide us humans. When we witness a performance born out of a culture other than our own, our compassion and understanding broadens. This is at the heart of bringing this Festival to you, on this, our shared planet.

You can discover roots of puppet traditions from the delight of the Italian trickster Pulcinelli to the formal beauty of the dolls of the Japanese Kuruma Ningyo. There is something for everyone in this wild mix of shows that unleash puppetry in new and startling ways. Which shows are a must see? - you ask? Don't worry! - I say! Just pick one or two or all! Follow your instincts, not just your mind, and you will find yourself delighted and astonished.

**Blair Thomas**

*Festival Founder & Artistic Director*



Photo: Saverio Truglia

- 19 EXPERIMENTAL STATION**  
6100 S. Blackstone Ave.





**AJIJAAC ON TURTLE ISLAND**  
by IBEX Puppetry [p. 13] For events, see p. 59



THURSDAY JANUARY 17	FRIDAY JANUARY 18	SATURDAY JANUARY 19	SUNDAY JANUARY 20	MONDAY JANUARY 21	TUESDAY JANUARY 22	WEDNESDAY JANUARY 23	THURSDAY JANUARY 24	FRIDAY JANUARY 25	SATURDAY JANUARY 26	SUNDAY JANUARY 27
5:30 pm event 7 pm 8:15 pm event	7 pm	2 pm 7 pm	2 pm							
<b>ARDE BRILLANTE EN LOS BOSQUES DE LA NOCHE</b> by Mariano Pensotti [p. 15]							7:30 pm	7:30 pm	7:30 pm	2 pm
<b>AXIS: THE IMPORTANCE OF...</b> by Compagnie Gare Centrale & Une Compagnie [p. 17]								7 pm	7 pm	5:30 pm
<b>CHAMBRE NOIRE</b> by Plexus Polaire [p. 19]		7:30 pm	2 pm 7:30 pm							
<b>FESTIVAL NEIGHBORHOOD TOUR</b> by Poncili Creación & Gaspare Nasuto [p. 52]	1:30 pm	2 pm				4:30 pm		5 pm	12 pm 2 pm	11 am
<b>HOW TO BUILD A FLYING MACHINE</b> by Jesse Mooney-Bullock, Moonbull Studio [p. 21]						5 pm 7 pm				
<b>IMMACULATE, POIGNANT &amp; MEDIUM LENGTH</b> [p. 23]				7 pm	7 pm	7 pm				
<b>THE PIGEONING</b> by Robin Frohardt [p. 25]	5 pm	11 am 3 pm								
<b>JUST ANOTHER LYNCHING</b> by Jeghetto [p. 27]		4 pm 7 pm	7 pm							
<b>L'APRÈS-MIDI D'UN FOEHN VERSION 1</b> by Compagnie Non Nova [p. 29]						6:30 pm	6:30 pm	6:30 pm	1 pm; 3:30pm 6:30 pm	1 pm 3:30 pm
<b>MANUFACTURING MISCHIEF</b> by Pedro Reyes/The Tank [p. 31]		8 pm	8 pm	3 pm						
<b>NASTY, BRUTISH &amp; SHORT</b> [p. 33]		11 pm	11 pm					11 pm	11 pm	



**FESTIVAL NEIGHBORHOOD TOUR**  
by Poncili Creación & Gaspare Nasuto [p. 52]



**THE PIGEONING**  
by Robin Frohardt [p. 25]



**L'APRÈS-MIDI D'UN FOEHN VERSION 1**  
by Compagnie Non Nova [p. 29]



	THURSDAY JANUARY 17	FRIDAY JANUARY 18	SATURDAY JANUARY 19	SUNDAY JANUARY 20	MONDAY JANUARY 21	TUESDAY JANUARY 22	WEDNESDAY JANUARY 23	THURSDAY JANUARY 24	FRIDAY JANUARY 25	SATURDAY JANUARY 26	SUNDAY JANUARY 27
<b>PAPER CUT + GLAMOUR IN THE DARK (GD)</b> <b>MUSICAL CABARET</b> by Yael Rasooly [p. 35]	4	9 pm 11pm GD	9 pm	4 pm							
<b>PESCADOR</b> by Silencio Blanco [p. 37]	7								5 pm	2 pm 5 pm	
<b>SUSPENDED ANIMATION</b> by The Huber Marionettes [p. 39]	13								7 pm	11 am	2 pm
<b>SCHWEINEHUND</b> by Andy Gaukel [p. 41]	4								9 pm	9 pm	4 pm
<b>SHANK'S MARE</b> Tom Lee and Koryu Nishikawa V [p. 43]	9	7 pm	7 pm	11 am 6:30 pm							
<b>THE STRANGER AND THE SHADOW</b> by Rough House [p. 45]	5	7 pm	4 pm	3 pm					7 pm	4 pm	3 pm
<b>TABLETOP TRAGEDIES</b> by Cabinet of Curiosity [p. 47]	2							7 pm	7 pm	7 pm	
<b>TEDIUM and OTHER SENSATIONS</b> by The Neo-Futurists with Mocrep and Theater Oobleck [p. 49]	1	7:30 pm	7:30 pm	7:30 pm				7:30 pm	7:30 pm	7:30 pm	
<b>TRIA FATA</b> by Compagnie La Pendue [p. 51]	4			7 pm	7 pm	7 pm					
<b>ELLEN VAN VOLKENBURG SYMPOSIUM</b> [p. 58]	6		10 am							10 am	
<b>WORK IN DEVELOPMENT—ATALANTA</b> by Leslie Danzig & Jessica Thebus [p. 56]	12							7 pm		4 pm	4 pm
<b>THE CATAPULT</b> Professional Development Workshops for Practicing Artists [p. 57]	Inside the Festival Opening Weekend			Workshop Intensive				Inside the Festival Closing Weekend			



Presented in partnership with

# THE FESTIVALS EXCHANGE



## A CURATED SERIES OF RECIPROCAL PERFORMANCES

The Chicago International Puppet Theater Festival is proud to announce *The Festivals Exchange*, a new program to strengthen the global community of puppetry curators and presenters. In 2019, The Festivals Exchange sparks collaboration between the Chicago Puppet Fest and the **Festival Mondial des Théâtres de Marionnettes** (World Puppetry Festival).

With guidance from the director of the Festival Mondial, the 2019 Chicago International Puppet Theater Festival hosts three remarkable French companies: **Plexus Polaire**, **La Pendue**, and, with co-presenter Chicago Shakespeare Theater, **Compagnie Non Nova**. In fall 2019, the inaugural Festivals Exchange continues with a series of reciprocal performances by U.S. artists at the Festival Mondial in Charleville-Mézières, France, with guidance from Chicago Puppet Fest Founder and Artistic Director, Blair Thomas.



**PLEXUS POLAIRE**  
*Chambre noire*

January 18 - 19  
(see page 19 for details)



**LA PENDUE**  
*Tria Fata*

January 21 - 23  
(see page 51 for details)



**COMPAGNIE  
NON NOVA**  
*L'après-midi d'un fohn  
Version 1*

January 23-27  
(see page 29 for details)

MacArthur  
Foundation



*The Festivals Exchange is supported by The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation International Connections Fund. Performances by Plexus Polaire are also supported by FACE Contemporary Theater, a program developed by FACE Foundation and the Cultural Services of the French Embassy in the United States with the support from the Florence Gould Foundation, Institut français-Paris, the French Ministry of Culture and private donors. Additional support for women artists has been provided by Fondation CHANEL.*



US / NEW YORK

Photo: Richard Termine

CHICAGO PUPPET FEST *in partnership with* AMERICAN INDIAN  
CENTER *presents:*

IBEX PUPPETRY

# AJIIAAK ON TURTLE ISLAND



THURSDAY, JANUARY 17 - SUNDAY, JANUARY 20

A family-friendly First Nations spectacle, *Ajijaak on Turtle Island* draws on Ojibwe, Lakota, and Cherokee lore to celebrate the profound interdependence of the natural world and its inhabitants. Separated from her family in a Tar Sands fire, the crane Ajijaak makes her first migration from Canada to the Gulf Coast alone, discovering the strength of her song along the way. Blending puppetry and traditional dances, *Ajijaak on Turtle Island* reveals a world that brims with life.

## STUDEBAKER THEATRE

Fine Arts Building  
410 S. Michigan Ave.

\$40; \$30 students

Thursday, January 17: **7 pm**

*Prelude Reception* (see pg. 59): **5:30 - 6:30 pm**

*Opening Night Celebration* (see pg. 59): **8:15 pm**

Friday, January 18: **7 pm**

Saturday, January 19: **2 pm + 7 pm**

Sunday, January 20: **2 pm**



[chicagopuppetfest.org](http://chicagopuppetfest.org)



60 minutes  
*For all ages*





ARGENTINA

Photo: Loderndes Leuchten

MCA STAGE and CHICAGO PUPPET FEST present:

MARIANO  
PENSOTTI

# ARDE BRILANTE EN LOS BOSQUES DE LA NOCHE

(Burning bright in the forest of the night)

THURSDAY, JANUARY 24 - SUNDAY, JANUARY 27

"What is to be done?" One hundred years after Vladimir Lenin posed the question, sparking the Russian Revolution of 1917, Argentinian theater maker Mariano Pensotti seeks an answer for our time. A professor of Russian history has lost her touch; a guerrilla fighter returns home to find that much has changed; and a journalist receives an unexpected promotion. Fatefully interconnected, all three women see in each other new possibilities for radical change.

## MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART CHICAGO

Edlis Neeson Theater  
220 E. Chicago Ave.

\$30

Thursday, January 24: 7:30 pm

Friday, January 25: 7:30 pm

Saturday, January 26: 7:30 pm

Sunday, January 27: 2 pm

For ages 16 and up

MCA  
CHIC  
AGO

This performance is presented  
in Spanish with English  
supertitles.



chicagopuppetfest.org





BELGIUM

Photo: Alice Piemme

CHICAGO PUPPET FEST *presents:*

GARE CENTRALE  
and UNE COMPAGNIE

AXIS: THE IMPORTANCE OF HUMAN  
SACRIFICE IN THE 21ST CENTURY

FRIDAY, JANUARY 25 - SUNDAY, JANUARY 27

It's official: the world is going to hell in a hand basket. A pair of European aristocrats cling to their luxuries while the axis that once kept them upright begins to increasingly resemble a roundabout. From Belgium, the celebrated, master performers **Agnès Limbos** (Gare Centrale) and **Thierry Hellin** (Une Compagnie) bring a devolving romp of disorientation, broken jargon, long, obsessive complaints, fretting, and fidgeting as they face the unimaginable and lose their capacity for language from the confines of their lovely drawing room.

**CHOPIN THEATRE**

1543 W. Division St.

\$40; \$30 students/seniors

Friday, January 25: **7 pm**

Saturday, January 26: **7 pm**

Sunday, January 27: **5:30 pm**

60 minutes

**For ages 16 and up**



[chicagopuppetfest.org](http://chicagopuppetfest.org)

Presented as part of The Festivals Exchange (see pgs. 10-11)

FRANCE / NORWAY

Photo: Benoit Schupp

CHICAGO PUPPET FEST in partnership with the THE DANCE CENTER  
OF COLUMBIA COLLEGE CHICAGO presents:

PLEXUS POLAIRE

## CHAMBRE NOIRE

FRIDAY, JANUARY 18 - SATURDAY, JANUARY 19

Plexus Polaire, a favorite of the 2017 Chicago Puppet Fest, returns to present *Chambre noire*, a wild hallucination told from the deathbed of Valerie Jean Solanas. Writer, radical feminist, creator of the *SCUM Manifesto*, and Andy Warhol's would-be assassin, Solanas is a complex, outrageous, and absolutely human character. Blending humor and melancholy, puppeteer Yngvild Aspeli and percussionist Ane Marthe Sørlien Holen stage Solanas's tortured life using life-sized puppets, video projection, and broken songs.

THE DANCE CENTER OF  
COLUMBIA COLLEGE CHICAGO

1306 S. Michigan Ave.

\$30; \$24 seniors; \$10 student

Friday, January 18: 7:30 pm

Saturday, January 19: 2 pm +  
7:30 pm

65 minutes

For ages 16 and up

the dance center

Columbia  
COLLEGE CHICAGO

Performances at the Dance Center funded in  
part by the Richard H. Driehaus Foundation



chicagopuppetfest.org





US/OHIO

Photo: Jesse Mooney-Bullock

CHICAGO PUPPET FEST *and* CHICAGO PARK DISTRICT *present:*

JESSE MOONEY-BULLOCK  
MOONBULL STUDIO

## HOW TO BUILD A FLYING MACHINE



WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 23

An exhilarating tale of trial and error, *How to Build a Flying Machine* follows the Wright brothers as they realize the once-impossible fantasy of human flight. MoonBull Studio moves wooden objects to soar and breathes life into handmade machines, tracing the process of invention from elation to despair and back. Tapping into Orville and Wilbur's fabled ingenuity, *How to Build a Flying Machine* indulges dreams, inspires creativity, and revels in discovery.

### THEATER ON THE LAKE

2401 N. Lake Shore Dr.

\$20; \$15 students

Wednesday, January 23: **5 pm +  
7 pm**

70 minutes

*For ages 5 and up*



[chicagopuppetfest.org](http://chicagopuppetfest.org)





US/CHICAGO

Photo: Evan Barr

LINKS HALL, ROUGH HOUSE and CHICAGO PUPPET FEST present:

# IMMACULATE, POIGNANT & MEDIUM LENGTH

MONDAY, JANUARY 21 - WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 23

A companion to the raucous puppet cabaret *Nasty, Brutish & Short*, *Immaculate, Poignant & Medium-Length* invites a few Chicago artists to share works in prime time. The event unfolds in a casual, conversational environment meant to get artists and audiences mingling. Featuring Myra Su and Tatsu Aoki, Forte Chicago, Tom Lee and Rika Lin, and also featuring *Behold Where Stands the Usurper's Cursed Head* performed and originated by Samuel Taylor, written by Mickle Maher, and presented by Cabinet of Curiosity.

## LINKS HALL

Studio B  
3111 N. Western Ave.

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\$20; \$15 students

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Monday, January 21: **7 pm**  
Tuesday, January 22: **7 pm**  
Wednesday, January 23: **7 pm**

90 minutes  
*For ages 12 and up*

Links Hall



[chicagopuppetfest.org](http://chicagopuppetfest.org)





US / NEW YORK

CHICAGO PUPPET FEST *and* INSTITUTO CERVANTES OF CHICAGO  
present:

ROBIN FROHARDT

## THE PIGEONING



FRIDAY, JANUARY 18 - SATURDAY, JANUARY 19

*The Pigeoning* is a bunraku-style puppetry show performed by five puppeteers and original score which can be performed live by one musician. Obsessed with cleanliness and order, Frank is also plagued by pigeons. Convinced the pigeons are plotting against him, Frank sets out on an adventure to solve a problem that perhaps isn't really there? *The Pigeoning* is a comedic yet heartfelt story that spins articulate puppetry, original music, and lo-fi special effects into an epic tale about the illusion of safety and control in the context of the end of the world.

### INSTITUTO CERVANTES OF CHICAGO

31 W. Ohio St.

\$20; \$15 students/Cervantes members

Friday, January 18: 5 pm

Saturday, January 19: 11 am + 3 pm

55 minutes

*For ages 4 and up*



[chicagopuppetfest.org](http://chicagopuppetfest.org)



AC/E  
ACCIÓN CULTURAL  
ESPAÑOLA



US / NORTH CAROLINA

Photo: Robin B. Pipkins

CHICAGO PUPPET FEST *and* LINKS HALL *present:*

JEGHETTO

## JUST ANOTHER LYNCHING

SATURDAY, JANUARY 19 - SUNDAY, JANUARY 20

*Just Another Lynching* features puppets built by Jeghetto, who created this fictional story about a black man being lynched in the South in 1921. This story addresses the racial injustices that built this country. Due to its content, there is an open dialogue between the cast and audience after each performance. Opening for Jeghetto, Chicago puppeteer Sam Lewis with a piece featuring Jus Hambone: unjust stereotype from the past turned contemporary lens. This short work is a collaboration with artist Marvin Tate and tap dancer Time Brickey.

### LINKS HALL

Studio B  
3111 N. Western Ave.

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\$20; \$15 students

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Saturday, January 19: **4 pm + 7 pm**  
Sunday, January 20: **7 pm**

45 minutes  
*For ages 12 and up*

Links Hall



[chicagopuppetfest.org](http://chicagopuppetfest.org)



Presented as part of The Festivals Exchange (see pgs. 10-11)

FRANCE

Photo: Jean-Luc Beaujault

CHICAGO SHAKESPEARE THEATER *and* CHICAGO PUPPET FEST *present:*

COMPAGNIE  
NON NOVA

# L'APRÈS-MIDI D'UN FOEHN

(Afternoon of a Föhn)

VERSION 1



WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 23 - SUNDAY, JANUARY 27

Prepare to be blown away! France's Compagnie Non Nova takes an ordinary object—a flimsy plastic shopping bag—and transforms it into something magical. Anthropomorphized plastic figures take flight buffeted on invisible waves as a performer manipulates them with precise, complex choreography, creating an intoxicating visual ballet out of the everyday.

## THE YARD AT CHICAGO SHAKESPEARE

Navy Pier, 800 E. Grand Ave.

\$25

Wednesday, January 23: 6:30 pm

Thursday, January 24: 6:30 pm

Friday, January 25: 6:30 pm

Saturday, January 26: 1 pm, 3:30 pm  
+ 6:30 pm

Sunday, January 27: 1 pm + 3:30 pm



[chicagopuppetfest.org](http://chicagopuppetfest.org)

chicago  
shakespeare  
on navy pier theater

30 minutes  
For all ages



Photo: Sham Sthankiya

REVA AND DAVID LOGAN CENTER FOR THE ARTS *and*  
CHICAGO PUPPET FEST *present:*

PEDRO REYES/  
THE TANK

## MANUFACTURING MISCHIEF

FRIDAY, JANUARY 18 - SUNDAY, JANUARY 20

Noam Chomsky, Steve Jobs, Ayn Rand, Karl Marx, Elon Musk, and President Trump are among the figures represented in Pedro Reyes's satirical puppet play, *Manufacturing Mischief*. Tackling ideas around the ethics of artificial intelligence, the use of technology to solve humanity's problems, Randian philosophy, and the current political climate in the U.S., Reyes blends dark humor with sharp cutting commentary on morality, freedom, inequality, and techno-enthusiasm. Also: Karl Marx raps.

**REVA & DAVID LOGAN  
CENTER FOR THE ARTS**

Theater East  
915 E 60th St.

\$20; \$10 students

Friday, January 18: **8 pm**  
(with post-performance talk)

Saturday, January 19: **8 pm**  
Sunday, January 20: **3 pm**

55 minutes  
For ages 13 and up



[chicagopuppetfest.org](http://chicagopuppetfest.org)



**UCHICAGOArts**

With support from  
Theater and  
Performance Studies



US/CHICAGO

Photo: Evan Barr

LINKS HALL, ROUGH HOUSE *and* CHICAGO PUPPET FEST *present:*

## NASTY, BRUTISH & SHORT: A PUPPET CABARET

FRIDAY, JANUARY 18 - SATURDAY, JANUARY 26

Make it a double! Take in an early evening show, then enjoy a special edition of the quarterly cabaret curated by Rough House, ***Nasty, Brutish & Short***, a home for raucous, raunchy, dark, sassy, sad, and hilarious puppet theater. On the occasion of the Festival, the series highlights national and international acts alongside local legends in an intimate after-hours slam. Unwind alongside the artists in the Links Hall lounge afterward.

### LINKS HALL

Studio B  
3111 N. Western Ave.

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\$10; \$8 students

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Friday, January 18: **11pm**

Saturday, January 19: **11 pm**

Friday, January 25: **11pm**

Saturday, January 26: **11 pm**

85 minutes

*For ages 16 and up*

Links Hall



[chicagopuppetfest.org](http://chicagopuppetfest.org)

ROUGH  
HOUSE





ISRAEL

Photo: Boaz Zippor

CHICAGO PUPPET FEST *presents:*

Yael Rasooly

## PAPER CUT

FRIDAY, JANUARY 18 - SUNDAY, JANUARY 20

A lonely secretary remains in the office after everyone else has gone home. From her little corner, using photos from old film magazines, she escapes into a world of daydreams. There she is a glamorous movie star from the 1940s and finds her ideal love at last. But as the story unravels and her imagination collides with reality, the romantic fantasy becomes a Hitchcockian nightmare. Obsessive and playful in equal measure, this one-woman show reveals danger in flirtation.

### CHOPIN THEATRE

1543 W. Division St.

\$25; \$20 students

Friday, January 18: **9 pm**

Saturday, January 19: **9 pm**

Sunday, January 20: **4 pm**

60 minutes

**For ages 16 and up**



### GLAMOUR IN THE DARK

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 19**

11 pm (\$10 / 60 min)

On January 19, Rasooly will be joined by accordionist *Iliya Magalnyk* for a cabaret show that takes audiences on a journey back in time.



CHILE

Photo: Nathaly Arancibia

CHICAGO PUPPET FEST *and* INSTITUTO CERVANTES OF CHICAGO  
*present:*

SILENCIO BLANCO

*PESCADOR* (Fisherman)

FRIDAY, JANUARY 25 - SATURDAY, JANUARY 26

Silencio Blanco returns to the Chicago Puppet Fest to present *Pescador*, a series of quiet portraits of people at sea. Engrossed in their solitary work, fishermen absorb nature's overwhelming immensity. A collection of delicate scenes reveals the strangeness in their routine, rote gestures—standing at the boat, resting a hand on the net. Silence pervades the show, revealing a deep connection between the craftsman and the trade.

**INSTITUTO CERVANTES OF CHICAGO**

31 W. Ohio St.

\$25; \$20 students

Friday, January 25: **5 pm**

Saturday, January 26: **2 pm + 5 pm**

50 minutes

*For ages 10 and up*



[chicagopuppetfest.org](http://chicagopuppetfest.org)







US/TENNESSEE

BEVERLY ARTS CENTER and CHICAGO PUPPET FEST present:



THE HUBER  
MARIONETTES

# SUSPENDED ANIMATION

FRIDAY, JANUARY 25 - SUNDAY, JANUARY 27

Emmy award-winning master and the puppeteer behind *Being John Malkovich*, Phillip Huber, brings a stunning range of marionettes in this sophisticated performance praised as “a marvel” by the L.A. Times. The Huber Marionette's incredible, complex puppets and manipulations are famed around the world. Sure to delight all audiences and to surprise even the most knowledgeable puppet fans.

## BEVERLY ARTS CENTER

2407 W. 111th St.

\$20; \$15 students/Instituto members

Friday, January 25: **7 pm**

Saturday, January 26: **11 am**

Sunday, January 27: **2 pm**

45 minutes

*For ages 5 and up*



[chicagopuppetfest.org](http://chicagopuppetfest.org)



US / NEW YORK

Photo: Andy Gaukel

CHICAGO PUPPET FEST *presents:*

ANDY GAUKEL

# SCHWEINEHUND

FRIDAY, JANUARY 25 - SUNDAY, JANUARY 27

*Schweinehund* is inspired by the true story of Pierre Seel, a Frenchman deported to a concentration camp on suspicion of homosexuality in 1941. Performed on a wooden table, skeletal puppets interact with projected video-animations evoking powerful snapshots of the atrocities Seel endured juxtaposed with wistful memories of yesteryears. The haunting soundscape and absence of text make *Schweinehund* a powerfully moving story of love, loss and the resilience of the human spirit.

## CHOPIN THEATRE

1543 W. Division St.

\$25; \$20 students

Friday, January 25: **9 pm**

Saturday, January 26: **9 pm**

Sunday, January 27: **4 pm**

45 minutes

*For ages 16 and up*



[chicagopuppetfest.org](http://chicagopuppetfest.org)



JAPAN / US

Photo: Ayumi Sakamoto

THE ART INSTITUTE OF CHICAGO and CHICAGO PUPPET FEST present:

TOM LEE and  
KORYU NISHIKAWA V

## SHANK'S MARE

THURSDAY, JANUARY 17 - SATURDAY, JANUARY 19

Presented on the occasion of the exhibition *Painting the Floating World: Ukiyo-e Masterpieces from the Weston Collection*, *Shank's Mare* is a collaborative puppet performance by American puppet artist Tom Lee and Japanese traditional puppeteer Koryu Nishikawa V. This beautifully detailed production combines traditional *kuruma ningyo* puppetry, live video projection of miniature sets and a haunting score on hammered dulcimer, Japanese shamisen, and flute to tell the story of two wandering travelers whose paths intersect in time and space.

### ART INSTITUTE OF CHICAGO

Stock Exchange Trading Room  
230 S. Columbus Dr.

\$35; \$30 students/Art Institute members

Thursday, January 17: **7 pm**

Friday, January 18: **7 pm**

Saturday, January 19: **11 am + 6:30 pm**

The 11 am performance is followed by a workshop for audience members.



80 minutes

For ages 8 and up

Supported by a grant from the Illinois Art Council  
Artstour Program



[chicagopuppetfest.org](http://chicagopuppetfest.org)





US / CHICAGO

Photo: Evan Barr

ADVENTURE STAGE CHICAGO and CHICAGO PUPPET FEST present:

ROUGH HOUSE

# THE STRANGER AND THE SHADOW



FRIDAY, JANUARY 18 - SUNDAY, JANUARY 27

An outsider enters a community that is guarded by a shadowy breathing barrier which feeds on the fear of its citizens. Rejected for her differences, she teams up with local misfits to bring to life a new creature powerful enough to fight the monstrous entity. *The Stranger and The Shadow* uses human actors and life-size puppets to physicalize social forces, drawing inspiration from youth activists who seek to alter cultures of intolerance through empathy and inclusivity.

## ADVENTURE STAGE CHICAGO

1012 N. Noble St.

\$17; \$12 students

Friday, January 18: 7 pm

Saturday, January 19: 4 pm

Sunday, January 20: 3 pm

Friday, January 25: 7 pm

Saturday, January 26: 4 pm

Sunday, January 27: 3 pm

90 minutes

For ages 8 and up



[chicagopuppetfest.org](http://chicagopuppetfest.org)







US / CHICAGO

Photo: Dexter Ellis

CHICAGO PUPPET FEST *and* LINKS HALL *present:*

CABINET OF CURIOSITY

## TABLETOP TRAGEDIES

THURSDAY, JANUARY 24 - SATURDAY, JANUARY 26

*Tabletop Tragedies* is a triptych of works by Chicago's Frank Maugeri with longtime collaborator Seth Bockley: *The Last Matador*, *The Death and Life of Billy The Kid*, and *A Simple Soul*. These irreverent, imaginative, and affecting works, scored by Liz Chidester, tell true stories of fate and redemption using an astonishing range of techniques including hand-carved wooden puppets, beastly masks, haunting music, and an epic Wild West chase scene performed on paper scrolls.

### LINKS HALL

Studio B  
3111 N. Western Ave.

\$20; \$15 students

Thursday, January 24: 7 pm

Friday, January 25: 7 pm

Saturday, January 26: 7 pm

85 minutes

*For ages 12 and up*

## Links Hall

*Supported by a grant from the Illinois Art Council  
Artstour Program*



[chicagopuppetfest.org](http://chicagopuppetfest.org)



US/CHICAGO

Photo: Brian Cagle

CHICAGO PUPPET FEST, THE NEO-FUTURISTS, MOCREP and  
THEATER OOBLECK *present:*

THE NEO-FUTURISTS  
with MOCREP and  
THEATER OOBLECK

## TEDIUM AND OTHER SENSATIONS

THURSDAY, JANUARY 17 - SATURDAY, JANUARY 26

The Neo-Futurists explore the absurd text of Theater Oobleck's Mickle Maher with a barrage of puppet forms at a small tabletop in *Tedium*, and Mocrep responds in a newly created companion piece, *Other Sensations*. In a multi-disciplinary journey through déjà vu, meta-theatrical successes and time-bending sonic experiments, a small ensemble of puppeteers and performers soothe the worries and sorrows of the world away.

### THE NEO-FUTURIST THEATER

5153 N Ashland Ave.

\$25; \$15 students

Thursday, January 17: 7:30 pm

Friday, January 18: 7:30 pm

Saturday, January 19: 7:30 pm

Thursday, January 24: 7:30 pm

Friday, January 25: 7:30 pm

Saturday, January 26: 7:30 pm



80 minutes

For ages 14 and up



[chicagopuppetfest.org](http://chicagopuppetfest.org)

*Other Sensations* is supported by a grant from  
the Illinois Art Council Artstour Program



Presented as part of *The Festivals Exchange* (see pgs. 10-11)

FRANCE

Photo: Tomas Vimmr

CHICAGO PUPPET FEST *presents:*

COMPAGNIE LA PENDUE

TRIA FATA

MONDAY, JANUARY 21 - WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 23

She is a puppeteer. He is a musician. Life and death are playing in their cabaret. The big imaginary machinery they are activating together strangely looks like the one which presides over our destinies: the Ancients believed this weaving loom belongs to the three Parcae—*Tria Fata*—where the threads of our lives are weaving, uncoilin, and breaking.

**CHOPIN THEATRE**

1543 W. Division St.

\$25; \$20 students

Monday, January 21: **7 pm**

Tuesday, January 22: **7 pm**

Wednesday, January 23: **7 pm**

55 minutes

*For ages 10 and up*



[chicagopuppetfest.org](http://chicagopuppetfest.org)



Presented in partnership with Navy Pier and the Chicago Park District's Night Out in the Parks series:

# FESTIVAL NEIGHBORHOOD TOUR

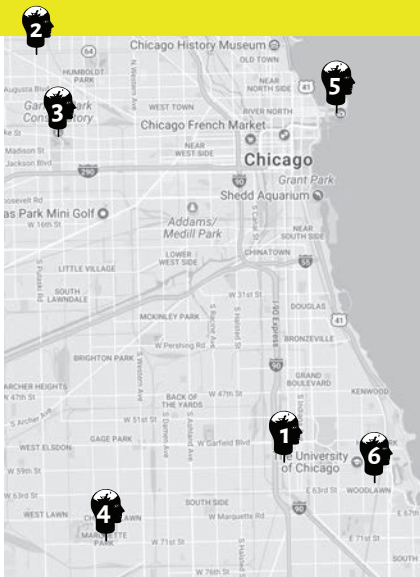


## 12 PERFORMANCES IN 6 LOCATIONS!

The Festival Neighborhood Tour fosters an appreciation of puppetry in every corner of the city by presenting two Festival artists in six neighborhood locations, for a total of 12 performances.

**FREE** and open to the public  
Reserve online at [chicagopuppetfest.org](http://chicagopuppetfest.org)  
or first-come, first-served at the door

The Festival Neighborhood Tour is supported by  
The Chicago Community Trust, Chicago Park  
District, and The Marshall Frankel Foundation.



This year the Chicago Puppet Festival's Festival Neighborhood Tour is all international, with free performances in every corner of the city by amazing puppeteers from Italy and Puerto Rico. See next page for details.

### 1. SWEET WATER FOUNDATION

in Englewood/Washington Park  
5749 S. Perry Ave.

**Friday, January 18**

**1:30 pm**

### 2. SEGUNDO RUIZ BELVIS

**CULTURAL CENTER**

4048 W. Armitage Ave.

**Saturday, January 19**

**2 pm**

### 3. GARFIELD PARK CONSERVATORY

300 N. Central Park Ave.

**Wednesday, January 23**

**4:30 pm**

### 4. MARQUETTE PARK

6743 S. Kedzie Ave.

**Friday, January 25**

**5 pm**

### 5. NAVY PIER

in the Crystal Garden

600 E. Grand Ave.

**Saturday, January 26**

**12 pm + 2 pm**

### 6. EXPERIMENTAL STATION

in Woodlawn

6100 S. Blackstone Ave.

**Sunday, January 27**

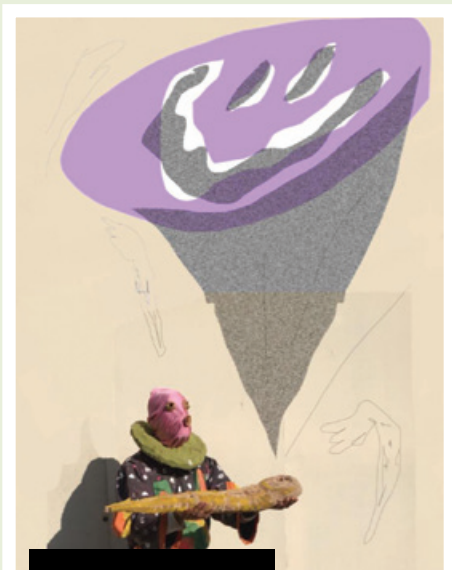
**11 am**

Doors open at 10:30 am

See previous page for performance  
times and locations.



Presented in partnership with  
**ISTITUTO ITALIANO DI  
CULTURA CHICAGO**



**PUERTO RICO**

**PONCILI CREACIÓN**

## THE BEGINNING OF NOTHING

In this fantastical journey audiences witness the clash of two worlds unknown yet familiar, one luscious and beautiful, the other gloomy and scary. All actions in these worlds seem to have strong repercussions on the other. How can both worlds survive this terrible codependency? At times a metaphor for our current society or even for survival itself, *The Beginning of Nothing* is a visually stunning journey that makes its way down an impossible path with a breeze of hope, told in a dazzling spiral of color and dance.



**ITALY**

**GASPARE NASUTO**

## PULCINELLA

From the traditional Italian Commedia dell'Arte comes the very original of the form, hand puppet trickster *Pulcinella*, who upon migration to England became known to English speakers as Punch. Impeccable timing and hysterical predicaments performed in a classic puppet booth, Pulcinella encounters a host of characters from Scaramouche to the crocodile.



## ATALANTA

LESLIE DANZIG and  
JESSICA THEBUS

*Atalanta* is a work-in-progress original adaptation of the myth of Atalanta, using puppetry, circus arts and physical theater. Atalanta tells the story of a young woman who holds onto her well-earned independence as a powerhouse athlete while opening herself to the vulnerability of loving someone. Atalanta finds inspiration in Looney Tunes escapades, the transcendent resonance of myth and the graceful ferocity of strong girls.

Created & directed by Leslie Buxbaum Danzig & Jessica Thebus in collaboration with performers Amanda Crockett, Michel Rodriguez Cintra, and Sean Garratt, and Puppet Designer K.T. Shivak and composers/musicians Ava Kaplan and Livia Reiner.

THURSDAY JANUARY 24 -  
SUNDAY, JANUARY 27

REVA AND DAVID LOGAN  
CENTER FOR THE ARTS

Room 701  
915 E. 60th St.

FREE and open to the public, no  
reservations required, space limited

Thursday, January 24: 7 pm  
Saturday, January 26: 4 pm  
Sunday, January 27: 4 pm

45-60 minutes

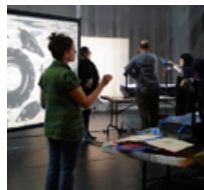
For ages 5 and up

Discussion follows each performance



UCHICAGOArts

*Atalanta is supported in  
part by UChicago Arts,  
Chicago Performance Lab,  
and the Committee on  
Theater and Performance  
Studies, The University of  
Chicago*



## THE CATAPULT

For practicing artists, the Chicago International Puppet Theater Festival is offering The Catapult, a multi-day

professional training workshop focusing on the dynamic relationship and shared language of puppetry and other artforms. Led by guest experts from related disciplines, participants will explore the traditions of puppet theater and contemporary intersections with the featured forms. Participants will explore image making in the dialects of puppetry through workshops, creation and design from experts in the field.

### SESSION 1:

JANUARY 16-19

*Inside the Festival Opening*

*Weekend:* a combination  
of viewing performances,  
workshops, and behind-  
the-scenes access to  
festival artists.

Led by Roxanna Myhrum

### SESSION 2:

JANUARY 20-23

*Workshop Intensive:*

a focus on hands-on  
workshops and the  
development of small  
works.

### SESSION 3:

JANUARY 24-27

*Inside the Festival Closing*

*Weekend:* a combination  
of viewing performances,  
workshops, and behind-  
the-scenes access to  
festival artists.

Led by Paulette Richards

Learn more and apply at: [chicagopuppetfest.org/catapult](http://chicagopuppetfest.org/catapult)



# VOLKENBURG PUPPETRY SYMPOSIUM

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 19 and SATURDAY, JANUARY 26**

## MCA CHICAGO

Edlis Neeson Theatre  
220 E. Chicago Ave.

### Moderated by:

**John Bell** (January 19)

**Paulette Richatds** (January 26)

**FREE** and open to the public,  
no reservations are required



*Presented by  
Chicago Puppet Fest  
and MCA Stage*

Before 1912, the year the Little Theater of Chicago was founded in the historic Fine Arts Building, the term “puppeteer” did not even exist. Little Theater director Ellen van Volkenburg needed a program credit for the actors she had trained to manipulate marionettes while speaking the text of Shakespeare’s *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*, and she coined the word “puppeteer.” That marked the dawn of the movement that has brought us to the rich art form now practiced around the world. In Van Volkenburg’s honor, the Chicago International Puppet Theater Festival presents two discussions featuring festival artists from Chicago, the U.S. and around the world:

### The Puppet’s Role in Contemporary Theater

Saturday, January 19  
10 am - 12 pm

### Puppetry: Staging the Historical and Political

Saturday, January 26  
10 am - 12 pm

**JOIN US FOR THESE SPECIAL OPENING NIGHT EVENTS:**

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 17**

### Upstairs from the Studebaker Theater

Fine Arts Building, 410 S. Michigan Ave  
Curtiss Hall, 10th Floor

**5:30-6:30 PM**

Prior to the 7pm performance

**TICKETS: \$50/person**

*Show tickets sold separately,  
see Ajijaak pg 13*

## PRELUDE RECEPTION

Join Festival Directors, artists and VIPs for a special prelude to the opening night performance of *Ajijaak*. Enjoy hors d’oeuvres and toast the opening of the 3rd Chicago International Puppet Theater Festival.

**8:15 PM**

Following the 7pm performance

**TICKETS: \$25/person**

*Show tickets sold separately,  
see Ajijaak pg 13*

## OPENING NIGHT CELEBRATION

After the performance of *Ajijaak*, allow the elevator operators to escort you to the 10th floor of the historic Fine Arts Building where together we will enjoy a special celebration supporting the opening of the 3rd Festival with a unique cabaret performance by Israeli chanteuse, Yael Rasooly and other surprises.



[chicagopuppetfest.org](http://chicagopuppetfest.org)

## FESTIVAL FUNDERS

Blair Thomas & Co. gratefully acknowledges the following donors for their generous support of the Festival and Blair Thomas & Co.



The Marshall Frankel Foundation  
Jentes Family Foundation  
The Ann Barzel/Patrick Henry Arts Fund



Chicago International Puppet Theater Festival is a selected participant of the Chicago Community Trust 2018–2021 SMART Growth program.

## FESTIVAL SUPPORTERS

### \$15,000+

Cheryl Lynn Bruce &  
Kerry James Marshall  
Kristy Kitzmiller & Brandon Moran  
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Chuck Thurov

### \$5,000 +

Justine Jentes  
Pat Yuzawa-Rubin & Jack Rubin  
Anonymous (2)

### \$1,000 - \$4,999

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Ginger Farley & Bob Shapiro  
Molly & Thomas Fleming  
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Jim Lasko, Tria Smith, &  
Bennett Lasko  
Paul Levy  
Aaron Manheimer  
Nancy Needles & Arne Rode  
Kimberly Ohms & Joseph Novelli  
Jane Nicholl Sahlins  
Steven & Nina Schroeder  
Billy, Johnny, Peter, and Lily  
Schroeder  
Robert Shatkin  
Asheley B. Smith  
Rick Stoneham

### \$500-\$999

Barbara Abel  
Franklin Brehmer & Sara Farr  
Pamela Crutchfield  
John & Lisa Jensen

Alicia Mullen  
Claire Rice  
Charles Rizzo

### \$100 - \$499

Leah Bohannon  
Kathleen Butera  
Christopher Carson  
Anthony Churchill  
Patricia & Leonard Dominguez  
Clifford Einhorn  
Miriam Ex  
Carol Farver  
Nancy Freehafer  
Michael & Donna Lee Gennaro  
Andrea & Richard Ginsburg  
Tom Goodman  
David & Laura Goone  
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Eva Niewiadomski  
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Keith Smith  
Christy Uchida  
Robert Uptain  
Charles Vernon  
Marco Verzocchi  
Lisa von Drehle  
Zach Weinberg  
Lawrence Witry

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William Ayers  
Irena Cajkova  
Kerstin Clouser  
Cindy Wilson Cole  
Debbie Cole  
Patricia Cosgrove  
Cheryl Cott  
Rebekah & Spiro Dousias  
Erika Dudley  
Faith Dusek  
Jane & Mark Epstein  
Michael Ericksen  
Milton Esbitt  
Tressa Ferrella  
Natalie French

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Jessica Goodman  
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Marina Post  
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Maria Fernanda Wetzel  
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Robin Young  
Roberta Zabel  
Jacqueline Zydeck

*This list represents gifts over \$15 received  
Mar. 31, 2017 to Dec. 10, 2018. All gifts and  
any new gifts received after Dec. 10 will be  
featured in the 2019 Festival Final Report.*

## LIVING ROOM TOUR 2018

### HOSTS & CO-HOSTS

Liz Aviles  
Elizabeth Marie Black  
Rance Clouser  
Andrea Cochran  
Koli & Michael Donohue  
Molly & Thomas Fleming  
Aaron Manheimer

Michelle & Chad McClennan  
Molly Morter & Jim Jacoby  
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Eva Niewiadomski  
Kimberly L. Ohms & Joseph Novelli  
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## STAFF + BOARD

### FESTIVAL STAFF

Blair C. Thomas, *Founder & Artistic Director*  
Sandy Smith Gerding, *Managing Director*  
Kelley Dorhauer, *Business Manager*  
Nic Barnum, *Festival Production Manager*  
Sarah Goone, *Administrative Coordinator*  
Taylor Bibat, *Catapult Coordinator*  
Jay Kelly PR, *Publicity*  
Silver Egg Studios, *Graphic Design + Website*

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Cheryl Lynn Bruce  
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Claire Rice  
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Colleen Sims  
Rick Stoneham  
Blair C. Thomas  
Pat Yuzawa-Rubin

## SPECIAL THANKS

Tanguy Accart, Matti Allison, Tom Arvetis, Geoffrey Banks, Amanda Banton, Mary Kate Barley-Higgins, Les Begay, Bill Bein, Blake Biggerstaff, Nicole Birmann Bloom, Seth Bockley, Boom Arts, Michelle Boone, Krysta Bryski Richard, Suellen Burns, Leslie Buxbaum Danzig, Anne-Francoise Cabanas, Yolanda Cesta-Cursach, Ellen Chenoweth, Chicago Puppet Studio interns, Sam Copeland, Covey Law, Sheri Doyel, Zygmunt Dyrkacz, Leigh Fagin, Jyl Fehrenkamp, Marcia Festen, Fine Arts Building Staff, Cate Fox, Liz Frankel, Shellee Frazee, Dave Gerding, Angelique Grandone, Michael Green, Lela Headd Dyrkacz, Criss Henderson, Teresa Hernando Rojo, Kristin Hettich, Felicia Holman, Deidre Huckabay, Saleem Hue Penny, Dan Jacobson, Daris Jasper, Collin Jones, Kendall Karg, Mark Kelly, Dan Kerr-Hobert, Laura Kollar, Kimberly Kwan, Alberta Lai, Tom Lee, Shawn Lent, Jia Lok Pratt, Maddy Low, Jamey Lundblad, Lisa Martain Hoffer, Antonio Martínez Luciano, Frank Maugeri, Mark Messing, Bill Michel, Heather Miller, Grace Needlman, Ydalmi Noriega, Mike Oleon, Laura Paige-Kyber, Ellen Placey Wadey, Emmanuel Platt, Kevin Rechner, John Rich, Daniel Salazar, Doreen Sayegh, Roelle Schmidt, Matthew Searle, Phil Solomonson, Connie Spreen, Brett Swinney, The Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center, Chuck Thurow, Phil Timberman, Omar Torres-Kortright, Anna Trier, Saverio Truglia, Under the Radar Festival, Preeti Veerlapati, Jess & Andy Wickstrom, Julie Wilen, Anthony Williams, Debra Yepa-Pappan, Stephen Young ... *and all the festival volunteers!*





Chicago International Puppet  
Theater Festival in  
The Fine Arts Building  
410 S. Michigan Ave. #501  
Chicago, IL 60605

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