



2015

JANUARY 14 - 25

*Performances that will*  
**ASTONISH & DELIGHT**



@ChiPuppetFest



ChicagoPuppetFest.org

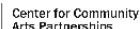
## FESTIVAL SPONSORS

The inaugural festival is supported in part by the National Endowment for the Arts, the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, the Richard H. Driehaus Foundation, the Reva & David Logan Foundation, the Jentes Family Foundation, and the Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events, with additional in-kind support from the League of Chicago Theatres.



## FESTIVAL PRESENTERS

The new Chicago International Puppet Theater Festival is intended to be a biennial event to establish Chicago as a prominent center for the art of puppetry practices by artists in the world today. The festival builds on the city's hunger for high quality international theater work, at the same time harnessing the spirit of collaboration with established local presenters:



# WELCOME!

I am pleased to welcome you to the inaugural Chicago International Puppet Theater Festival! Today, puppetry is a living and thriving art; this Festival is a celebration of its many forms. More than a dozen Chicago presenting organizations have joined together to ignite the spirit of this citywide event, which spans 10 days and features artists from abroad and across the nation, as well as unique work born here in Chicago—fresh from the soil!

The Festival features public performance across the city and a symposium organized by the University of Chicago and held at the Museum of Contemporary Art.

For those of you whose imaginations are curious and whose hearts are young, I hope you can join us. And for those of you who have yet to see a contemporary puppet show, I can guarantee it will be like nothing you have ever seen before.



Photo: Andy Wickstrom

—Blair Thomas  
Festival Founder & Artistic Director

**1 THE NEO-FUTURISTS**  
5153 N. Ashland Ave.

**2 LINKS HALL**  
3111 N. Western Ave.

**3 FREE STREET THEATER**  
1419 W. Blackhawk St.

**4 Chicago Humanities Festival**  
**Adventure Stage Chicago**  
**VITTUM THEATER**  
1012 N. Noble St.

**5 Chicago Children's Theater**  
**RUTH PAGE CENTER FOR THE ARTS**  
1016 N. Dearborn St.

**6 MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART**  
220 E. Chicago Ave.

**7 CHICAGO SHAKESPEARE THEATER**  
800 E. Grand Ave.

**8 Chicago Dept of Cultural Affairs & Special Events**  
**STOREFRONT THEATER**  
66 E. Randolph St.

**9 ART INSTITUTE OF CHICAGO**  
159 E. Monroe St.

**10 THE FIELD MUSEUM**  
1400 S. Lake Shore Dr.

**11 The Center for Community Arts Partnerships**  
**THE DANCE CENTER OF COLUMBIA COLLEGE CHICAGO**  
1306 S. Michigan Ave.

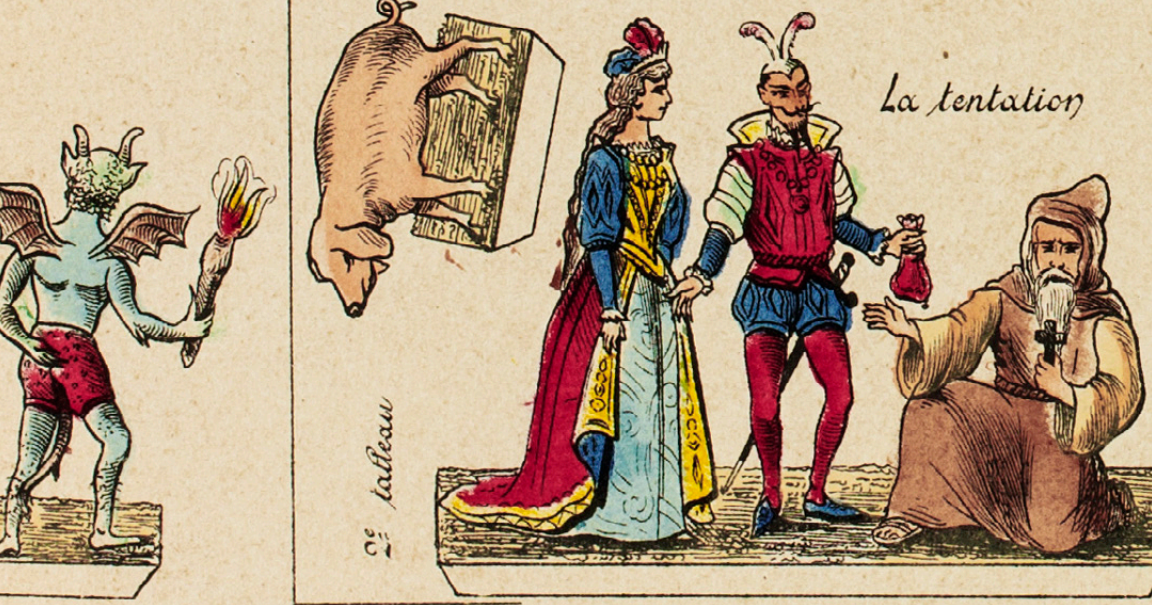
**12 Reva and David Logan Center for the Arts**  
**THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO**  
915 E. 60th St.



	WEDNESDAY JANUARY 14	THURSDAY JANUARY 15	FRIDAY JANUARY 16	SATURDAY JANUARY 17	SUNDAY JANUARY 18	MONDAY JANUARY 19	TUESDAY JANUARY 20	WEDNESDAY JANUARY 21	THURSDAY JANUARY 22	FRIDAY JANUARY 23	SATURDAY JANUARY 24	SUNDAY JANUARY 25
<b>ART INSTITUTE OF CHICAGO</b> Family Festival: Puppets! [p.11]	9			10:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.								
<b>BLAIR THOMAS &amp; CO.</b> The Selfish Giant [p.13]	5									6:30 p.m.	11:00 a.m. 1:00 p.m.	11:00 a.m. 1:00 p.m.
<b>BLIND SUMMIT</b> The Table [p.15]	7 8:00 p.m.	8:00 p.m.	8:00 p.m.	3:00 p.m. 8:00 pm	3:00 p.m.		8:00 p.m.	8:00 p.m.	8:00 p.m.	8:00 p.m.	3:00 p.m. 8:00 pm	3:00 p.m.
<b>BULLOONEY PUPPETWORKS</b> Rikki Tikki Tavi [p.17]	9			11:30 a.m. 1:00 p.m.								
<b>CHINESE THEATRE WORKS</b> Rich In Tradition [p.19]	10			3:00 p.m.								
<b>DANIEL BARROW</b> The Thief of Mirrors [p.21]	8								7:30 p.m.	7:30 p.m.		
<b>DAVE HERZOG'S MARIONETTES</b> Stars on Strings [p.23]	2				1:00 p.m.							
<b>DAVID COMMANDER</b> In Flight [p.25]	1								7:30 p.m.	7:30 p.m.	7:30 p.m.	
<b>FIELD MUSEUM</b> Dozin' with the Dinos [p.27]	10		5:30 p.m. - 9:00 a.m.									
<b>FLIPFLAP PRODUCTIONS</b> The Temp [p.29]	12									7:30 p.m.	7:30 p.m.	
<b>IN THE HEART OF THE BEAST</b> Cartoon [p.31]	12									9:00 p.m.	2:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	
<b>IN THE HEART OF THE BEAST</b> Mortal City [p.33]	12									7:00 p.m.	9:00 p.m.	



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<b>JABBERWOCKY MARIONETTES</b> Open Mic Puppetry [p. 35]	10			11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.								
<b>JOSHUA HOLDEN</b> The Joshua Show [p. 37]	2										1:00 p.m.	
<b>LAURENT BIGOT</b> Le Petit Cirque [p. 39]	4			2:00 p.m. 5:00p.m.	2:00 p.m. 5:00 p.m.							
<b>LOGAN CENTER FOR THE ARTS</b> Family Saturday Festival [p. 41]	12										12:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.	
<b>MANUEL CINEMA</b> Mementos Mori [p. 43]	6	7:30 p.m.	7:30 p.m.	7:30 p.m.								
<b>MICHAEL MONTENEGRO</b> Drunken Half-Angel [p. 45]	2						7:30 p.m.			7:30 p.m.		
<b>NASTY BRUSTIH AND SHORT</b> A Puppet Cabaret [p. 47-49]	2				7:30 p.m.	7:30 p.m.		7:30 p.m.	7:30 p.m.		10:30 p.m.	
<b>NICK STEUR</b> Freeze! [p. 51]	7	6:30 p.m.	6:30 p.m.	1:30 p.m. 6:30 p.m. 9:30 p.m.	1:30 p.m.		6:30 p.m.	6:30 p.m.	6:30 p.m.	6:30 p.m.	1:30 p.m. 6:30 p.m. 9:30 p.m.	1:30 p.m.
<b>NOAH GINEX PUPPET CO.</b> SNORF! [p. 53]	2			1:00 p.m.								
<b>SANDGLASS THEATER</b> D-Generation [p. 55]	11		7:00 p.m.	7:00 p.m.								
<b>STAN'S CAFE</b> The Cardinals [p. 57]	6								7:30 p.m.	7:30 p.m.	7:30 p.m.	
<b>STEPHANIE DIAZ AND CO.</b> Mariaposa Nocturna [p. 59]	3	6:00 p.m.	6:00 p.m.									



THE ART INSTITUTE OF CHICAGO presents:

FAMILY FESTIVAL

PUPPETS

ALL  
AGES

SATURDAY, JANUARY 17

Explore the world of puppets at the drop-in festival for all ages. Catch Bullooney Puppetworks' adaptation of Rudyard Kipling's classic short story *Rikki Tikki Tavi*, told using hand puppets, rod puppets, and masks within a lush landscape of leaves, trees, and original music (see pages 16-17). Then visit *Puppets!*, an interactive installation where you can create a story and act it out with handmade puppets inspired by artwork in the museum's collection and special exhibit *Temptation: The Demons of James Ensor*.

**ART INSTITUTE OF CHICAGO,  
RYAN EDUCATION CENTER**

159 E. Monroe St.  
Box Office: 312-443-3600

Free

Saturday 10:30 a.m. – 3 p.m.  
Interactive family gallery tours at  
12:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m.\*

\*Proof of admission or member card is  
required for adults and children 14+



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

ART  
INSTITUTE  
CHICAGO





Photo: Brave Lux

CHICAGO CHILDREN'S THEATRE *presents:*

BLAIR THOMAS & CO.

# THE SELFISH GIANT

ALL  
AGES

FRIDAY, JANUARY 23-SUNDAY, JANUARY 25

*The Selfish Giant* features puppets by Blair Thomas and original music performed live by Chicago folk legend Michael Smith. Enormously imaginative and gigantically whimsical, this all-ages spectacle is based on Oscar Wilde's classic story about a grumpy giant who forbids children from playing in his garden. After the children are locked out, however, the garden plunges into an eternal winter. Then one morning, the children sneak back in, bringing with them the joyous rebirth of spring.

**CHICAGO CHILDREN'S  
THEATRE AT THE RUTH PAGE  
CENTER FOR THE ARTS**

1016 N. Dearborn St.  
Box Office: 872-222-9555

\$28 Children; \$38 Adults; \$5 off  
with promo code PUPPET

Friday 6:30 p.m.; Saturday and  
Sunday 11 a.m. and 1 p.m.

50 minutes



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

 **CHICAGO  
CHILDREN'S  
THEATRE**



Photo: Lorna Palmer

CHICAGO SHAKESPEARE THEATER *presents:*

BLIND SUMMIT

## THE TABLE

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14 - SUNDAY, JANUARY 25

Meet Moses—a cantankerous puppet with a cardboard head immersed in an existential crisis on a table. Intended to be a theatrical interpretation of the biblical story of Moses, *The Table* is performed by a grizzled, crotchety old man who strays far from the planned storyline. Hilarious, beautiful, and occasionally profound, London-based theatrical innovators Blind Summit have created puppetry for Anthony Minghella, Complicité, and Danny Boyle's Olympic Opening Ceremony.

**UPSTAIRS AT CHICAGO  
SHAKESPEARE  
THEATER ON NAVY PIER**

800 E. Grand Ave.  
Box Office: 312-595-5600

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\$20-\$35

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Tuesday-Friday 8 p.m.; Saturday  
3 p.m. and 8 p.m.; Sunday 3 p.m.

1 hour 10 minutes



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

chicago  
shakespeare theater  
on navy pier





THE ART INSTITUTE OF CHICAGO presents:

BULLOONEY PUPPETWORKS

RIKKI TIKKI TAVI

ALL  
AGES

SATURDAY, JANUARY 17

Explore the world of puppets at the drop-in festival for all ages. Catch Bullooney Puppetworks' adaptation of Rudyard Kipling's classic short story *Rikki Tikki Tavi*, told using hand puppets, rod puppets, and masks within a lush landscape of leaves, trees, and original music. Then visit *Puppets!*, an interactive installation where you can create a story and act it out with handmade puppets inspired by artwork in the museum's collection and special exhibit *Temptation: The Demons of James Ensor*.

**ART INSTITUTE OF CHICAGO,  
RYAN EDUCATION CENTER**

159 E. Monroe St.  
Box Office: 312-443-3600

Free, space limited\*

Saturday 11:30 a.m. and 1 p.m.

*\*Free tickets will be distributed in the Ryan Education Center an hour prior to each performance.*



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





THE FIELD MUSEUM *presents:*

CHINESE THEATRE  
WORKS

RICH IN TRADITION-SHADOW PUPPETS

ALL  
AGES

SATURDAY, JANUARY 17

Street theaters and festivals in China featuring shadow puppets can be traced back for hundreds of years. The stories within these traditional performances have become legendary. Don't miss a unique opportunity to see this beautiful tradition come to life in a shadow puppetry performance by renowned New York-based Chinese Theatre Works (CTW). Featured works will take inspiration from The Field Museum's own shadow puppet collection and will include famous stories like *Monkey King* and *Journey to the West*.

**THE FIELD MUSEUM**

1400 S. Lake Shore Dr.  
Box Office: 312-922-9410

Free with Basic admission ticket  
(\$13-\$18)

Saturday 3 p.m.

50 minutes



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

The Field  
Museum





**CHICAGO DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS AND SPECIAL EVENTS**, as part of the *OnEdge* performance series, presents:

**DANIEL BARROW**

## THE THIEF OF MIRRORS

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 22 - FRIDAY, JANUARY 23**

Montreal-based artist Daniel Barrow returns to Chicago with a world premiere story of a jewel thief who wears the mask of a sad clown. His deep, emotive eyes charge the mask with supernatural powers—so captivating is his expression that his gaze can permanently inscribe his visage in the glass. Exploring forgotten sexual mores and kitschy characters, Barrow uses his signature style of manual animation to walk the razor edge of irony, challenging systems of class and control in our culture.

### **STOREFRONT THEATER**

66 E. Randolph St.

Box Office: 312-744-3315

Free, no reservations required

Thursday-Friday 7:30 p.m.

1 hour



City of Chicago  
Mayor Rahm Emanuel

CHICAGO DEPARTMENT OF  
**DCASE**  
CULTURAL AFFAIRS & SPECIAL EVENTS



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





LINKS HALL *presents:*

**DAVE HERZOG'S MARIONETTES/  
THE DUNWORTH PUPPETS**

**STARS ON STRINGS**

ALL  
AGES

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 18**

This show features beautifully handcrafted trick marionettes that roller skate, perform on the tight rope and trapeze, transform, juggle, and much more in the traditional cabaret style with the puppeteers in full view of the audience. Dave Herzog has been a puppet artist for more than 40 years and is Great Lakes Regional Director of the Puppeteers of America. Marc Dunworth grew up with a father as a magician, created his own degree in puppetry at Columbia College Chicago, and formed The Dunworth Puppets in 2014.

**LINKS HALL**

3111 N. Western Ave.

Box Office: 773-281-0824

\$10-\$15 or \$30 NASTYPASS

Sunday 1 p.m.

45 minutes



**Links Hall**



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





Photo: Larry Lamb

THE NEO-FUTURISTS *present:*

# MODERN TOY THEATRE OF DAVID COMMANDER

THURSDAY, JANUARY 22 - SATURDAY, JANUARY 24

The first piece by this New York-based artist, *In Flight*, mocks the market of mis-focusing information and our potential for mass apathy. Join the passengers of a crashing airplane as their crew tries to distract them from their fiery fates. Next, Commander moves to the miniature sets of *Sacramento Burger*, which explores our need to ritualize the act of eating and how this ceremony is performed within restaurant culture. He focuses on our disconnection from the function and value of food and how that contributes to waste.

## THE NEO-FUTURISTS

5153 N Ashland Ave.

Box Office: 773-878-4557

\$10

Thursday-Saturday 7:30 p.m.

60 minutes



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



Photo: The Jabberwocky Marionettes

THE FIELD MUSEUM *presents:*

## DOZIN' WITH THE DINOS

FRIDAY, JANUARY 16 - SATURDAY, JANUARY 17

ALL  
AGES

Spend the night at The Field Museum—Sue the T. rex is having a special puppetry-filled sleepover! Enjoy puppet shows, activities and self-guided tours, then spread your sleeping bag amidst some of the most popular exhibitions. Bring your family and friends for a night of puppetry and fun you'll never forget at Chicago's Field Museum, one of the largest natural history museums in the world. **Pre-registration required.**

### THE FIELD MUSEUM

1400 S. Lake Shore Dr  
Box Office: 312-922-9410

\$55-\$88

Friday 5:30 p.m. to Saturday,  
9 a.m. (overnight)

*For families with children 6-12*



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

The Field  
Museum



Photo: Andrew Nelles

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO'S THEATER AND PERFORMANCE  
STUDIES PROGRAM *presents:*

FLIPFLAP PRODUCTIONS

THE TEMP

FRIDAY, JANUARY 23 - SATURDAY, JANUARY 24

Chicago-based FlipFlap Productions' *The Temp* is a darkly comic tale exploring the life of an over-age temp who wants to be anything else. Told with music, puppets, and video, *The Temp* confronts demons, strangers, and the eternal search for the bathroom. Stretching the boundaries of what makes a comedy show, FlipFlap explores people and places that aren't normally seen on stage in a weirdly natural, weirdly believable, weirdly weird way.

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

Performance Lab (501)  
915 E. 60th St.  
Box Office: 773-702-2787

\$5-\$15

Friday-Saturday 7:30 p.m.

1 hour

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

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO  
**Theater**  
Performance Studies



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





THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO'S THEATER AND PERFORMANCE  
STUDIES PROGRAM *and the* LOGAN CENTER FOR THE ARTS *presents:*

IN THE HEART OF THE BEAST  
PUPPET AND MASK THEATRE

CARTOON

FRIDAY, JANUARY 23 - SATURDAY, JANUARY 24

A live-action three-dimensional cartoon performed by a cast of fifteen, *Cartoon* was created by Steve Ackerman and directed by Ackerman and Ellen Conn. Jerry-rigged puppet effects, a pit "orchestra," a mad conductor, and a narrator who's in on the joke work in perfect harmony to bring this Tex Avery-tweaking masterpiece to life. You'll be glued to your seat from the first chainsaw-wielding chase scene to the anvil-dropping finale in this show that includes people running into brick walls, falling pianos, and an entire scene of dynamite.

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

915 E. 60th St., Theater East  
Box Office: 773-702-2787

\$5-\$15

Friday 9 p.m.; Saturday 7 p.m.  
All-ages show: Saturday 2 p.m.\*

*\*Part of the Logan Center Family Festival,  
(see p. 41). Sponsored by the Logan Center  
and Theater & Performance Studies.*

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

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO  
**Theater**  
Performance Studies



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





THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO'S THEATER AND PERFORMANCE  
STUDIES PROGRAM *and the* LOGAN CENTER FOR THE ARTS *presents:*

IN THE HEART OF THE BEAST  
PUPPET AND MASK THEATRE

MORTAL CITY

FRIDAY, JANUARY 23 - SATURDAY, JANUARY 24

Inspired by singer-songwriter Dar William's song of the same title, *Mortal City* uses music and visual imagery to puppeteer a poem of a city. Set during an ice storm at night, *Mortal City* explores creating and finding the warm pulse of the city in its layered soundscape, fragile infrastructure, simple light, and periwinkle winter skies. In the Heart of the Beast Theatre, based in Minneapolis, has been at the vanguard of theater melding performance with the rich history of puppetry.

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

Theater West  
915 E. 60th St.  
Box Office: 773-702-2787

\$5-\$15

Friday 7 p.m.; Saturday 9 p.m.

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

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO  
**Theater**  
Performance Studies



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



Photo: The Jabberwocky Marionettes

THE FIELD MUSEUM *presents:*

## OPEN MIC PUPPETS

HOSTED BY JABBERWOCKY  
MARIONETTES

ALL  
AGES

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 17**

Chicago's Jabberwocky Marionettes hosts a startling array of area puppeteers—young and old, professional and amateur, solo and ensemble—who perform family-focused puppet shows throughout the day on one of two stages at The Field Museum. Performers include: Sea Beast Puppet Company, Clothespin Puppets, Matteson Public Library Puppet Pals, Adventure Sandwich, Puppetfolk Productions!, and Mother Goose and her Ventriloquist Puppets.

### THE FIELD MUSEUM

1400 S. Lake Shore Dr.  
Box Office: 312-922-9410

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Free with Basic admission ticket  
(\$13-\$18)

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Saturday 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.



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

The **Field**  
Museum





LINKS HALL *presents:*

JOSHUA HOLDEN

## THE JOSHUA SHOW

ALL  
AGES

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 24**

When Mr. Nicholas, the sock puppet, makes an unnerving self-discovery that causes him to spiral down a path of loneliness and despair, his soul mate Joshua teaches him to celebrate his differences in this show full of songs, comedy, whimsy, abundant joy, and just a smattering of tap dancing. Don't miss this chance to see the show awarded "Best Performance" and "Audience Favorite" at the 2013 Puppeteers of America's National Festival. Joshua Holden is an award-winning puppeteer actor and joy-maker based in NYC.

### LINKS HALL

3111 N. Western Ave.

Box Office: 773-281-0824

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\$10-\$15 or \$30 NASTYPASS

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Saturday 1 p.m.

50 minutes



**Links Hall**



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



CHICAGO HUMANITIES FESTIVAL *and* ADVENTURE STAGE CHICAGO

co-present:

LAURENT BIGOT

## LE PETIT CIRQUE (THE LITTLE CIRCUS)

SATURDAY, JANUARY 17 - SUNDAY, JANUARY 18

Within a circus-like, table-top installation, French electroacoustic musician Laurent Bigot sets various objects in motion. A “circus of sound” and a theater of objects, *Le Petit Cirque* is made from odds and ends, salvaged material, and cheap gadgets. Action nourishes sound and sound gives new meaning to action, via improvisation and the chance of mechanics. The spectator skips from one point of view to another, engaging ears, eyes, skin, imagination, and thought associations.

**ADVENTURE STAGE CHICAGO,  
VITTUM THEATER**

1012 N. Noble St.

Box Office: 773-342-4141

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\$20

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Saturday-Sunday 2 p.m. and  
5 p.m.

45 minutes



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

**25** CHICAGO  
HUMANITIES  
FESTIVAL







THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO'S THEATER AND PERFORMANCE  
STUDIES PROGRAM *and the* LOGAN CENTER FOR THE ARTS *presents:*

LOGAN FAMILY SATURDAY FESTIVAL

PUPPETS!

ALL  
AGES

SATURDAY, JANUARY 24

The Logan Center's monthly family series draws inspiration from the world's puppet and mask traditions with a family-friendly performance of Heart of the Beast's *Cartoon* at 2 p.m. (see pages 30-31), plus drop-in activities, a photo booth, a "Make and Take" puppet workshop, and a "Puppet Zoo" with House Theatre, FlipFlap Productions, Heart of the Beast, Adventure Stage and more.

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

915 E. 60th St.

Box Office: 773-702-2787

\$5; \$20 for families of 5 or more

Saturday 12 p.m. - 5 p.m.



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

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

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO  
**Theater**  
Performance Studies



MCA STAGE presents:

MANUAL CINEMA

## MEMENTOS MORI

THURSDAY, JANUARY 15 - SUNDAY, JANUARY 18

Manual Cinema, the endlessly inventive group of Chicago artists, uses disarmingly simple tools — live music, paper puppets, overhead projectors — to tell transformative stories that unsettle the boundaries between cinema and theater. With *Mementos Mori*, Manual Cinema offers a beguiling meditation on how digital culture is changing our relationship to death and dying. Shadow puppets interact with live actors in silhouette, while a chamber ensemble and video complete the immersive multimedia experience.

**MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY  
ART, EDLIS NEELSON THEATER**

220 E. Chicago Ave.

Box Office: 312-280-2660

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\$28; \$22 museum members;  
\$10 students

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Thursday-Saturday 7:30 p.m.;  
Sunday 3 p.m.

80 minutes



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

**Museum of  
Contemporary Art  
Chicago**





LINKS HALL and BLAIR THOMAS & COMPANY presents:

MICHAEL MONTENEGRO

## DRUNKEN HALF-ANGEL

TUESDAY, JANUARY 20 AND FRIDAY, JANUARY 23

*Drunken Half-Angel* is a presentation of several new puppet theatre pieces accompanied by live music from Jude Mathews and Noah Silver-Mathews. A man carries his burden without end... two aspects of the same individual at war with each other... a dream of the inevitability of departure... lamentation of one who is rebuked... the struggle between Little and Big... a Medieval Ballad... *Drunken Half-Angel* is part of *Nasty, Brutish & Short Presents...*, curated by Links Hall Artistic Associates Mike Oleon and Taylor Bibat.

### LINKS HALL

3111 N. Western Ave.

Box Office: 773-281-0824

\$10-\$15 or \$30 NASTYPASS

Tuesday and Friday 7:30 p.m.

100 minutes



Links Hall



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



Vornorthal Puppets

Jessica Simon

Photo: Richard Termine

Hearts and Brains

Sea Beast Puppet Company

LINKS HALL presents:

## NASTY, BRUTISH & SHORT-PROGRAM A

SUNDAY, JANUARY 18 - MONDAY, JANUARY 19

A Puppet Cabaret showcases Chicago's rich puppet scene through short- and medium-length works of puppet and object theater. Program A features: **VONNORTHAL PUPPETS'** interpretation of the classic short story *A White Heron* by Sarah Orne Jewett; a buffet of short works by **SEA BEAST PUPPET COMPANY**; a mead-soaked, toy theater exploration of the classic epic poem *Beowulf* by **HEARTS AND BRAINS**; and a Ray Charles-inspired glimpse into the lives of two people falling in and out of love in *Ruby and Charlie* by **JESSICA SIMON**.

### LINKS HALL

3111 N. Western Ave.

Box Office: 773-281-0824

\$10–\$15 or \$30 NASTYPASS

Sunday-Monday 7:30 p.m.

100 minutes



Links Hall



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





Meredith Miller  
Photo: Brave Lux

Joe Mazza

Rough House  
Photo: Gillian Fry

Vanessa Valliere  
Photo: CB Lindsey

LINKS HALL presents:

## NASTY, BRUTISH & SHORT-PROGRAM B

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 22 - THURSDAY, JANUARY 23

A *Puppet Cabaret* showcases Chicago's rich puppet scene through short- and medium-length works of puppet and object theater. Program B features: *The Hubrist*, a grandiloquent farce of tiny proportion by **JOE MAZZA**; *Cabaret Interludes*, three short tales of love, seduction, and heartbreak by **MEREDITH MILLER**; *And Dream of Teeth*, a dive into the psyche of the Dreamer using glue, paper, fabric, and flashlights by **ROUGH HOUSE**; and some aspirational clowning by **VANESSA VALLIERE** in *Nice Try and Your Best Self*.

### LINKS HALL

3111 N. Western Ave.  
Box Office: 773-281-0824

\$10–\$15 or \$30 NASTYPASS

Sunday-Monday 7:30 p.m.

100 minutes



Links Hall



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



Photo: Greg Macvean

CHICAGO SHAKESPEARE THEATER *and* RICHARD JORDAN  
PRODUCTIONS *present:*

NICK STEUR **FREEZE!**

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14 - SUNDAY, JANUARY 25

Creator and performer Nick Steur welcomes audiences as he artfully balances stones without glue or other manipulations. Chicago Shakespeare Theater presents the U.S. premiere of this one-of-a-kind live performance event from The Netherlands. Winner of the Edinburgh Fringe First award in 2013, *Freeze!* blurs the line between performer and audience as all collectively experience the unexplainable harmony that comes from balance and focus.

**CHICAGO SHAKESPEARE  
THEATER ON NAVY PIER**

800 E. Grand Ave.  
Box Office: 312-595-5600

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\$10-15

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Tuesday-Friday 6:30 p.m.;  
Saturday 1:30 p.m., 6:30 p.m., and  
9:30 p.m.; Sunday 1:30 p.m.

30 minutes



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

chicago  
shakespeare theater  
on navy pier





LINKS HALL *presents:*

NOAH GINEX PUPPET COMPANY

SNORF!

ALL  
AGES

SATURDAY, JANUARY 17

Come see a special Chicago International Puppet Theater Festival presentation of *SNORF!* (The Saturday Afternoon Monster and Piggie/Comedy Variety Show), a monthly variety show appropriate for all ages. Featuring puppets from the Jeff Award-nominated Noah Ginex Puppet Company, *SNORF!* has sketches, improvised scenes, songs, and a special guest!

**LINKS HALL**

3111 N. Western Ave.

Box Office: 773-281-0824

\$10-\$15 or \$30 NASTYPASS

Saturday 1 p.m.

50 minutes



Links Hall



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



Photo: Laura Bliss

THE CENTER FOR COMMUNITY ARTS PARTNERSHIPS AT  
COLUMBIA COLLEGE CHICAGO *presents:*

SANDGLASS  
THEATER

## D-GENERATION: AN EXALTATION OF LARKS

FRIDAY, JANUARY 16 - SATURDAY, JANUARY 17

A full-length theater piece performed by Vermont's Sandglass Theater, *D-Generation* is based on stories written collaboratively by people with late-stage dementia. Three puppeteers (the caregivers) and five puppets (the residents of a care facility) create a complex world of people living with the disease—from playful story circles to dark private terror, from lyrical inner visions to demanding confrontations, from the reflections of caregivers to the fragmented memories of residents of care facilities.

### THE DANCE CENTER OF COLUMBIA COLLEGE

1306 S. Michigan Ave.  
Box Office: 312-369-8330

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\$20

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Friday-Saturday 7 p.m.

70 minutes

Columbia  
COLLEGE CHICAGO

Center for Community  
Arts Partnerships



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





Photo: Craeme Braidwood

MCA STAGE presents:

STAN'S CAFE

## THE CARDINALS

THURSDAY, JANUARY 22 - SATURDAY, JANUARY 24

In this thought-provoking, witty, and hugely entertaining show from Britain's Stan's Cafe, three cardinals are touring a puppet show to broaden knowledge of the Bible. Undeterred by the loss of their puppets, they take to the miniature stage themselves amid the two-dimensional scenery and act their roles with touching deadpan sincerity. Witty and almost wordless, *The Cardinals* draws humor from its engaging performances and ingenious staging, which expose frenetic backstage efforts to create beautiful onstage action.

**MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY  
ART, EDLIS NEELSON THEATER**

220 E. Chicago Ave.

Box Office: 312-280-2660

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\$28; \$22 museum members;  
\$10 students

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Thursday-Saturday 7:30 p.m.

105 minutes

**Museum of  
Contemporary Art  
Chicago**



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



Photo: Brave Lux

FREE STREET THEATRE *presents:*

STEPHANIE DIAZ  
AND COMPANY

## MARIPOSA NOCTURNA: A PUPPET TRIPTYCH

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14 - THURSDAY, JANUARY 15

A child's wish to a Guatemalan folk saint for her dying grandmother to have a "happy sleep" results in a bawdy, Japanese shadow-dream. Two bird-headed spinsters suddenly find themselves custodians of a large, glowing egg. A lonely toy carriage embarks upon a jaunty odyssey in search of buried dreams. Employing handcrafted tabletop and shadow puppets, original music, and stop-motion film, *Mariposa Nocturna* explores loss, longing, and rebirth in this gently humorous, darkly beautiful, and emotionally resonant new work.

**FREE STREET THEATRE**  
**PULASKI PARK FIELDHOUSE**

1419 W. Blackhawk St., 3rd Floor  
Box Office: 773-772-7248

\$5-\$20

Wednesday-Thursday 6 p.m.

40 minutes

*Audiences are encouraged to bring a memento of a loved one to contribute to the show's community altar.*



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

**FREE STREET**  
THEATER EST. 1989



# VOLKENBURG PUPPETRY SYMPOSIUM

Presented by the Richard and Mary L. Gray Center for Arts and Inquiry at the University of Chicago in partnership with the Chicago International Puppet Theater Festival and the Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago.

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 24**

**MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY  
ART CHICAGO**

220 E Chicago Ave.

Free and open to the public  
RSVP recommended  
[graycenter.uchicago.edu](http://graycenter.uchicago.edu)

10 a.m - 4 p.m.

**graycenter**  
FOR ARTS AND INQUIRY

This international symposium brings together artists from Manual Cinema, Blind Summit, Stan's Cafe, and others with invited scholars from diverse fields to investigate the meaning, vitality, and relevance of contemporary puppetry. At once cutting to the heart of puppetry and seeking its broadest significance, participants will address questions such as: *How do we attach identity to a face? How do we perceive realness and fakeness? Where do we find meaning in materiality?*

Conceived and organized by Blair Thomas (Artistic Director, Chicago International Puppet Theater Festival), Leslie Danzig (Curator, Gray Center for Arts and Inquiry), and Sarah Fornace (Co-Artistic Director, Manual Cinema), this day-long event will be of interest to artists and thinkers from any discipline with an interest in the creative pursuit of inquiry and the tension between ideas and practice.



**ELLEN VAN VOLKENBURG**

*Before 1912, the term "Puppeteer" did not exist in the English language. Ellen van Volkenburg, a director with the Chicago Little Theatre, needed a program credit for the actors she had trained to manipulate marionettes while speaking the text of "A Midsummer's Nights Dream". Van Volkenburg coined this word at the dawn of the movement in puppetry that has brought us to the rich art form that is practiced today.*

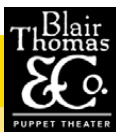
*The Chicago International Puppet Theater Festival is a project conceived by*

## BLAIR THOMAS & COMPANY.

*This is the inaugural Festival.*

Blair Thomas founded his company in 2002. Since that time, the company has created and toured more than a dozen original puppet theater productions drawing from literary and musical sources such as Federico Garcia Lorca, Arnold Schoenberg, Wallace Stevens, and Modest Mussorgsky. In the winter of 2016, they will premiere their new adaptation of *Moby Dick*.

Blair Thomas & Company acknowledges support from: Alphawood Foundation, Arts Work Fund, Department of Cultural Affairs & Special Events of the City of Chicago, Gaylord & Dorothy Donnelly Foundation, Richard H. Dreihaus Foundation, Jentes Family Foundation, Illinois Arts Council—a state agency, Henson Foundation, and MacArthur Foundation



*Coming Up Next for the Chicago International Puppet Theater Festival*

### **WORLD PUPPETRY DAY CELEBRATIONS—SATURDAY, MARCH 21**

10 a.m. - 1 p.m. Puppet Making Workshop at Intuit: The Center for Intuitive & Outsider Art  
7:30 p.m. Puppet Performances at Links Hall

## FESTIVAL STAFF

### **BLAIR THOMAS**

Founder and Artistic Director

### **CLAIRE GEALL SUTTON**

Managing Director

### **JAY KELLY**

Public Relations Manager  
*L.C. Williams & Associates*

### **DEIDRE HUCKABAY**

Development Associate

### **LAURA MIRACLE TAMARKIN**

Education Coordinator

### **JESS & ANDY WICKSTROM**

Graphic Design and Website  
*Wickstrom Design*

### **ANDREA BURKE**

Logo Design

### **SARAH BEST**

Social Media Director

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### **BLAIR THOMAS & CO. BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Kathy Butera, Claire Rice, Eva Silverman, Andrea Saenz, Blair Thomas,  
Angel Ysaguirre





Blair Thomas & Company  
917 W. Washington Blvd.  
Suite 120  
Chicago, IL 60607

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