THE CHICAGO INTERNATIONAL PUPPET THEATER FESTIVAL is the preeminent event dedicated to the artform in the U.S. In the heart of winter, the Festival spans 12 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

Welcome to our 5th Edition!

We are thrilled to return to presenting international productions along with national artists as the darkest part of the pandemic forest recedes behind us. This is our biggest to date and the first time turning around a new Festival within one year as we move to an annual model. We are filled with the energy of making it all happen!

This Festival you will find many gems such as cultural monsters taking the stage in visually stunning adaptations of *Moby Dick* by Plexus Polaire and also of *Frankenstein* by Chicago’s celebrated Manual Cinema. Harnessing a new innovation, American hero Frederick Douglass uses the power of photography in slavery-era *Grand Panorama* and the people of Brazil wrestle over their national hero in *Macunaíma Gourmet*. With a stunning marionette made entirely of ice, Oedipus travels with his daughter Antigone on his final journey, melting in front of our eyes in *Anywhere*. A rare visual spectacle of magical Japanese theater technique continuously unfolds using sliding screens in *Dogugaeshi*. What’s more, this year notably features 4 heartwarming charmers for all ages presented appropriately at the Chicago Children’s Theatre.

Also, for the first time ever we have created a Puppet Hub featuring four separate puppet exhibitions along with a Spoke & Bird Pop-Up Café, open throughout the 12 days of the Festival in partnership with Chicago’s Historic Fine Arts Building.

Come join us! Follow your curiosity! Explore the possibilities! There is much to Astonish and Delight you!

Blair Thomas, Artistic Director & Founder

Photo: Saverio Truglia
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<th>Opening Night</th>
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**Opening Night:**

- **Prelude Reception:** 5-7pm
- **Moby Dick**
  - Thursday, January 19: 7:30pm
  - Friday, January 20: 7:30pm
  - Saturday, January 21: 5pm

**Post-Show Party:**

- Friday, January 20: 8:45 - 10:45pm

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**More Shows:**

- **AKUTAGAWA**
  - by The Koryū Nishikawa Troupe: [p. 14]
  - Thursday, January 19: 7pm
  - Friday, January 20: 7pm
  - Saturday, January 21: 7pm
  - Sunday, January 22: 7pm
  - Monday, January 23: 7pm
  - Tuesday, January 24: 7pm
  - Wednesday, January 25: 7pm
  - Thursday, January 26: 7pm
  - Friday, January 27: 7pm
  - Saturday, January 28: 7pm
  - Sunday, January 29: 7pm

- **ANYWHERE**
  - by Théâtre de L’Entrouvert: [p. 16]
  - Thursday, January 19: 7:30pm
  - Friday, January 20: 7:30pm
  - Saturday, January 21: 7:30pm
  - Sunday, January 22: 4pm

- **AS THOUGH YOUR BODY WERE RIGHT**
  - by Khecari: [p. 18]
  - Thursday, January 19: 7pm
  - Friday, January 20: 7pm
  - Saturday, January 21: 7pm
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  - Sunday, January 29: 7pm

- **CHOO. CHOO. WHISTLE. WOOF!**
  - by Naive Theatre: [p. 20]
  - Thursday, January 19: 11:30am
  - Friday, January 20: 4pm
  - Saturday, January 21: 11:30am
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- **DOCUGAESHI**
  - by Basil Twist: [p. 22]
  - Thursday, January 19: 3pm
  - Friday, January 20: 8pm
  - Saturday, January 21: 11am
  - Sunday, January 22: 4pm
  - Monday, January 23: 9pm
  - Tuesday, January 24: 1pm
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  - Thursday, January 26: 9pm
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  - Sunday, January 29: 9pm

- **FRANKENSTEIN**
  - Thursday, January 19: 7:30pm
  - Friday, January 20: 3pm
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  - Sunday, January 29: 3pm

- **GO HOME TINY MONSTER**
  - by The Gottabees: [p. 26]
  - Thursday, January 19: 1pm
  - Friday, January 20: 1pm
  - Saturday, January 21: 1pm
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  - Monday, January 23: 1pm
  - Tuesday, January 24: 1pm
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### Puppet Hub
**Food, Drink & Exhibitions**

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#### SPOKE & BIRD POP-UP CAFE
- [p. 53](#)
- Suite 433
- [p. 53](#)

#### MOTEL (art installation)
- [p. 53](#)
- by Dan Hurlin

#### AMERICAN PUPPET THEATER TODAY (photo exhibition)
- [p. 54](#)
- Suite 403

#### THE ART OF BASIL TWIST
- [p. 55](#)
- Suite 404

#### VANCOUVER (set)
- [p. 55](#)

#### AS THOUGH YOUR BODY WERE RIGHT (set)
- [p. 18](#)

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### Workshops and so much more!

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#### ELLEN VAN VOLKENBURG PUPPETRY SYMPOSIUM
- [p. 56-57](#)

#### PUPPETRY WORKSHOPS (various locations)
- [p. 58](#)
- 1-4pm
- Plexus Polaire
- Manual Cinema
- Linda Wingerter
- Theodora Skipitares
- Janni Young
- Pigmalião Escultura que Mexe

#### CATAPULT ARTIST INTENSIVE
- Professional Development Weekends
- [p. 59](#)
- Session 1 led by Samuel J. Lewis II
- Session 2 led by Grace Needlman
Herman Melville’s magnificent monster work of literature is also a monster in puppetry. Experience *Moby Dick* like never before at this Chicago premiere, direct from France and Norway, created by the masters that brought *Chicago Ashes* and *Chambre Noire*. Seven actors, 50 puppets, video projections on smoke, an octobass, and a whale-sized whale all play a part in this simple story of a sea voyage, turning it into a dizzying dive into the inexplicable mysteries of life, through Melville’s irresistible narrative and the incredible artistry of Plexus Polaire.

**PLEXUS POLAIRE**

**Moby Dick**

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 18 - SATURDAY, JANUARY 21**

**STUDEBAKER THEATER**

410 S. Michigan Ave.

$45; $35 students & seniors

Wednesday, January 18 at 7:30pm
Friday, January 20 at 7:30pm
Saturday, January 21 at 5pm

85 minutes

For ages 14 and up

See pages 52-55 & 60 for Opening Night events and Puppet Hub info

Get Tickets at: chicagopuppetfest.org
World Premiere

The Koryū Nishikawa Troupe, creators of *Shank’s Mare*, brings a collaborative puppet performance by Chicago-based puppet artist Tom Lee and Japanese traditional puppeteer Koryū Nishikawa V. This beautifully detailed production combines traditional kuruma ningyo puppetry with contemporary staging to share a Western perspective on the life of Ryunosuke Akutagawa, the father of the Japanese short story form.

**CHOPIN THEATRE**
(mainstage)
1543 W. Division St.

$40; $30 students & seniors

**Saturday, January 28** at 2pm and 6pm

**Sunday, January 29** at 2pm and 6pm

80 minutes

*For ages 9 and up*
US Premiere
A marionette made of ice will melt your heart in *Anywhere*, an exquisite, landmark string-marionette work created by the French company Théâtre de l’Entrouvert. Freely inspired by Henry Bauchau’s novel “Oedipus on the Road,” *Anywhere* evokes the long wandering of Oedipus accompanied by his daughter Antigone. The fallen Oedipus appears in the form of an ice puppet that gradually melts, then appears as mist and finally disappears in the forest, the place of clairvoyance. *Anywhere* traces with gentleness and strength a poetic journey, in black and white, of fire and ice, which speaks to us about our bodies, our environment, our fragilities, and our wanderings in the infinite circle of renewal.

**The Chopin Theatre**
(mainstage)
1543 W. Division St.

$40; $30 students & seniors

Thursday, January 19 at 7:30pm
Friday, January 20 at 7:30pm
Saturday, January 21 at 7:30pm
Sunday, January 22 at 4pm

50 minutes
For ages 12 and up

With special support from: Ford Foundation/Julie Moller, Jentes Family Foundation, Justine Jentes & Dan Karuna, and the Manaaki Foundation

Get Tickets at: [chicagopuppetfest.org](http://chicagopuppetfest.org)
An audience of seven in a room within a room. A micro-theater. A puppet theater. The performer’s body as landscape. Watching the cells of the body murmur like starlings. A creature that would live on such a landscape. Crawling over it, flying over it. Calling it home. 

*as though your body were right* is an invitation to confront the bodiliness of being human – a shared experience of the vulnerability of being a body, and of the power of being a body. When the show is not in process, the set can be viewed as part of the Puppet Hub exhibitions (see pages 52-55).
US Premiere
He spends his days gardening, and just on the other side of the fence, she runs in the yard—until her owner whistles. As it happens, not only in the lives of dogs, the two have become enchanted with each other, perhaps even fallen in love. A charming and ingenious series of events full of garden railings, railway yards, steam locomotives and dogs in cars, **Choo. Choo. Whistle. Woof!** unfolds in continual tabletop puppetry delight as the classic boy meets girl story is playfully retold as dog meets dog, dog loses dog and hopefully, finds her again!
BASIL TWIST

THURSDAY, JANUARY 26 - SUNDAY, JANUARY 29

Basil Twist, the internationally acclaimed master puppeteer and recipient of the Rome Prize, unfolds an intimate, abstract, contemporary journey of images and emotions. A feast for the eyes, heart and soul, this Chicago premiere is influenced by “Dogugaeshi,” a rarefied tradition of Japanese sliding screen stage technique, and Twist’s own encounters with the remaining rural caretakers of this once popular art form. Winner of the 2005 Bessie Award and an UNIMA Award for Excellence in Puppetry, Dogugaeshi features original shamisen compositions created and performed live by authorized master musicians Yumiko Tanaka and Yoko Reikano Kimura.

Get Tickets at: chicagopuppetfest.org
Love, loss, and creation merge in unexpected ways when Manual Cinema presents its thrilling version of the classic Gothic tale, "Frankenstein." This Chicago-based performance collective imaginatively combines shadow puppetry, cinematic techniques, sound effects, and live music in haunting shows like nothing else you’ve ever seen. With *Frankenstein*, Manual Cinema stitches together the original gothic novel with the biography of its author, Mary Shelley, creating an unexpected story magically created right before your eyes.

**STUDEBAKER THEATER**
410 S. Michigan Ave.

$45; $35 students & seniors

Friday, January 27 at 7:30pm
Saturday, January 28 at 7:30pm
Sunday, January 29 at 3pm

66 minutes
*For ages 12 and up*

Get Tickets at: chicagopuppetfest.org
What happens when a girl and her family of homespun creatures suddenly find themselves in need of a new home? They look for help and, luckily, they find it. Featuring The Gottabees’ trademark mix of puppetry, joyously absurd silliness, physical theater, live music and surprising poignancy. Presented in “daily rep” with Squirrel Stole My Underpants (see page 47). See one or both!
Frederick Douglass is widely recognized as the most photographed person in the 19th century. In *Grand Panorama*, his obsession with photography takes center stage illuminating the power of image to “tell the truth” about humanity and the African-American experience during slavery. Directed and designed by Greek artist, Theodora Skipitares, using her trademark larger-than-life size puppets and featuring music by Mazz Swift, artforms blend with panorama, magic lantern, shadow theater and crankies to articulate Douglass’s belief that “Rightly viewed, the whole soul of man is a sort of picture gallery, a grand panorama.” Music performed by Brittany Harris. Puppetry direction by Jane Catherine Shaw.

HAROLD WASHINGTON LIBRARY and CHICAGO PUPPET FEST presents:

**THEODORA SKIPITARES**

**GRAND PANORAMA**

SUNDAY, JANUARY 22 - TUESDAY, JANUARY 24

Get Tickets at: chicagopuppetfest.org

photo: Richard Termine

HAROLD WASHINGTON CINDY PRITZKER AUDITORIUM
400 South State Street (Entrance on Plymouth Ct)

$30: $20 seniors, CPS students free, limited availability

Sunday, January 22 at 2pm
Monday, January 23 at 5pm
Tuesday, January 24 at 6pm

52 minutes

For ages 9 and up

With special support from Cheryl Henson and the Paul M. Angell Family Foundation
US Premiere
Humans and puppet creatures coil, tangle, knot and mesh together in celebrated South African artist Janni Younge’s new adaptation of Shakespeare’s Hamlet. Told through beautifully crafted life-size puppets, this captivating production explores the complex psychological facets of humanity facing an onslaught of challenges.
Invisible Lands

LIVSMEDLET THEATER

THURSDAY, JANUARY 19 - SUNDAY, JANUARY 22

US Premiere
Across the desert, behind our back. Up the mountain, down our spine. Over the sea, just under our nose. On the day the war broke out, we left home. Finnish visual theater duo Livsmedlet brings a unique meeting of puppetry and choreography to Chicago, to explore empathic approaches to refugee travels. Geography and politics extend and transform to create organic performance platforms – bodies. Take a closer look at what presence, connection and endurance are really all about in this mix of performance, projection and puppetry.

CHOPIN THEATRE
(downstairs)
1543 W. Division St.

$40; $30 students & seniors

Thursday, January 19 at 5:30pm
Friday, January 20 at 9pm
Saturday January 21 at 4pm
Sunday, January 22 at 2pm and 6pm

50 minutes
For ages 12 and up

Get Tickets at: chicagopuppetfest.org

With special support from: American-Scandinavian Foundation and Finnish Cultural Foundation
In a bizarre and irrational world, a man is condemned to death for an absurd crime and sent to a surreal prison to await his execution. But the prison may not be what it seems… Alternately disorienting, absurd, hysterical, and hopeful, this great novel by one of the 20th century’s masters is brought to the stage by Michael Brown and Rough House, with their signature combination of playfulness and strangeness. Full of surprising twists and turns, the novel comes to life through a combination of puppetry, masks, and imaginative storytelling.
Performed entirely without words, Macbeth Muet completely deconstructs this Shakespeare Tragedy into a fast paced, visceral theater experience, using the body, objects as imagery, and a ton of fake blood. Entire scenes are reduced to a single look, as Shakespeare’s complex and beautiful poetry is rendered mute, and searing.
Met by standing ovations at its 2019 premiere, this reinterpretation of the popular Brazilian novel “Macunaíma” by Mário de Andrade is full of spectacle, outrageousness and political perspective that demanded expression through puppetry and object. This adaptation, Macunaíma Gourmet, transports the modernist novel to the present day. In its new guise, the piece discusses the storm that Brazilian and global society faces in its socioeconomic and cultural structures with distinctive raucous imagery, unforgettable Brazilian style, and the urgency with which puppets can make political points.

**Us Premiere**

**MCA CHICAGO**

205 E. Pearson St.

$45; $35 students & seniors

Thursday, January 26 at 7:30pm
Friday, January 27 at 7:30pm
Saturday, January 28 at 7:30pm

80 minutes

For ages 14 and up

Get Tickets at: chicagopuppetfest.org

**CHICAGO PUPPET FEST presents:**

**PIGMALIÃO ESCULTURA QUE MEXE**

**MACUNAÍMA GOURMET**

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 26 - SATURDAY, JANUARY 28**
Extend your festival experience by hitting Chicago’s favorite late-night puppet cabaret, Nasty, Brutish & Short. This special festival edition, featuring the charming and furry host, Jameson, is home to raucous, raunchy, dark, sassy, sad and mostly hilarious puppet theater, highlighting more experimental work by out of towners as well as local favorites in four different nights of puppet revelry.

**JANUARY 20 - 21 and JANUARY 27 - 28**

**Nasty, Brutish & Short: A Puppet Cabaret**

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

$18, $15 students & seniors

**Friday, January 20** at 10:30pm
**Saturday, January 21** at 10:30pm
**Friday, January 27** at 10:30pm
**Saturday, January 28** at 10:30pm

85 minutes

*For ages 16 and up*

Check website for livestream details.

Get Tickets at: chicagopuppetfest.org

Photo: Noah Ginex by Evan Barr

CHICAGO/INTERNATIONAL
US Premiere
A child puts on a pair of new shoes and goes to the river for a snack. Along the way he discovers the world that surrounds him: streets, houses, landscapes, people, and animals. His shoes accumulate experiences as he grows, little by little. Internationally recognized Tian Gombau creates large experiences from very little. In this one-man show, a local event at a Mediterranean town takes you on a universal journey, speaking with simplicity and poetry about the fact of growing up. People of all ages can venture into the child's world in the gentle flow of popular songs, nature, and the sands of time.

CHICAGO PUPPET FEST presents:

TIAN GOMBAU

NEW SHOES

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 25 - SUNDAY, JANUARY 29

CHICAGO CHILDREN’S THEATRE
100 S. Racine Ave.

$25; $20 students & seniors

Wednesday, January 25
Thursday, January 26
Friday, January 27
Saturday, January 28
Sunday, January 29
10am and 1pm all days

30 minutes
For ages 3 and up

Get Tickets at: chicagopuppetfest.org
US Premiere

In a spectacular blending of magic, puppetry, gesture and manipulation, R.A.G.E. presents the outlandish story of a literary imposter who, to escape censorship, invents a new identity and plots one of the most beautiful deceptions of the 20th century. This politically epic and scathing story teeters on the porous border between reality and fiction. Join miles of threads, dozens of puppets, a trumpeter, a singer and a man as they weave a plot of resistance with maternal love in a desperate attempt to re-enchant the world. Performance with English subtitles

Get Tickets at: chicagopuppetfest.org
In this poignantly silly adventure tale for families, Sylvie is sent to the backyard to hang up the laundry. The moment her back is turned, a mischievous squirrel steals her favorite piece of clothing and runs off. When Sylvie gives chase, an entire world emerges from her laundry basket, and curious characters show her the way through mysterious lands. Presented in “daily rep” with Go Home Tiny Monster (see page 27). See one or both!

CHICAGO CHILDREN’S THEATRE
100 S. Racine Ave.

$25; $20 students & seniors

Thursday, January 19
Friday, January 20
Saturday, January 21
Sunday, January 22

10am all days

40 minutes
For ages 3 and up

Winner of the UNIMA Citation of Excellence
In 1998, puppeteer Basil Twist debuted his boundary-breaking response to Berlioz’s 1830 “Symphonie Fantastique” to universal acclaim. In the two decades since, Twist became an internationally recognized artist in opera, ballet, and on Broadway, winning countless awards including the illustrious MacArthur Fellowship. This film was created in 2018 when Twist revisited his legendary masterpiece in its original home, the HERE Arts Center in NYC with live accompaniment by the virtuosic Christopher O’Riley playing the exquisite Liszt transcription for concert piano and in a significantly larger aquarium. A riveting behind-the-scenes art film.
The Free Neighborhood Tour fosters an appreciation for puppetry throughout the city by bringing free, family-friendly performances to locations outside of Chicago’s theaters. The tour offers a range of high-quality puppetry styles in order to create moments of community enjoyment while expanding the base of puppet enthusiasts. This year, Little Uprising’s *My Night in the Planetarium* will tour to four locations around the city.

**SEE NEXT PAGE FOR LOCATIONS AND SHOW DETAILS**

**FREE** first come, first serve

- **Thursday, January 19** at 4:30pm
- **Friday, January 20** at 4:30 pm
- **Saturday, January 21** at 12pm + 2pm
- **Sunday, January 22** at 11 am

45 minutes  
For all ages

With special support from The Marshall Frankel Foundation and Cheryl Henson

**LITTLE UPRISINGS**  
**MY NIGHT IN THE PLANETARIUM**

Based on the award-winning book by Innosanto Nagara, a graphic artist and acclaimed author/illustrator of *A Is for Activist* and *Counting on Community*. Nagara tells his own story facing dictatorship and oppression—a true story from his childhood in Indonesia. It is a child’s view of a particular place and time—but it is also an introduction to Indonesia, a story about colonialism, and a message about the power of creativity.
Our new Pop-Up Puppet Hub is bursting with activities. The perfect place to relax between shows, meet up with friends and make some new ones! Enjoy the Spoke & Bird Pop-Up Cafe (Suite 433) serving coffee, tea, winter soups and baked treats in a cozy, puppet-inspired setting. Check into Motel, a puppet show exhibition that doesn't move, created by Dan Hurlin (Suite 403). The Puppet Hub is also the host site for two photo exhibitions, "American Puppet Theater Today: The Photography of Richard Termine" (Suite 410) and "The Art of Basil Twist" (Suite 404). Next door to the cafe, explore Vancouver, showcasing the made-for-film puppet theater collaboration with Ma-Yi Theater Company (Suite 433). And, if you didn't get a ticket to see as though your body were right, you can pop in and check out the remarkable set designed for only seven audience members at a time (Suite 402).

THE FINE ARTS BUILDING
4th Floor
410 S. Michigan Ave.

FREE, for all ages

Opening Night
Wednesday, January 18 8-9:30pm
January 19-29
Tuesday-Friday: 10am-9:30pm
Saturday: 9am-9:30pm
Sunday: 12-6pm

Presented in partnership with The Spoke & Bird and Fine Arts Building

Motel by Dan Hurlin

“A world-class contemporary art installation... so magical and odd...The entire experience is mesmerizing and tantalizing.” - Art Spiel

A curious, half-scale motel awaits you with appropriately diminutive accouterments like packaged soap and plastic wrapped cups. A woman sits listening to a varying soundscape of crickets, dogs, trucks rumbling by against a backdrop of the droning sound of Nixon testifying in front of a grand jury during Watergate, or the January 6th congressional hearings, depending on the day of your visit. Puppeteer and sculptor Dan Hurlin explains “a motel is a liminal space, situated inconclusively between a departure and an arrival. It is a way station between what happened before, and what happens next. Far less brutal than Trump’s vision for our Southern border, a motel is a temporary detention center of sorts (albeit a voluntary one), where the inhabitants hold up and wait with eager anticipation for the future, or a fearful dread of it.”

With special support from Cheryl Henson
American Puppet Theater Today: The Photography of Richard Termine

New York-based photographer Richard Termine has documented American puppet theater for over 30 years. Termine’s work captures the animated gesture of the puppet in still images. Images and objects in this exhibition, including photographs of Jim Henson at work, illustrate the dynamic range of puppet theater being created by a vibrant community of artists in the New York City area, as well as some of the excellent work presented at national puppet festivals across the United States. A special section, “Puppetry During the Pandemic,” celebrates resilient puppet artists who continued to create and perform new work over the past two years.

With special support from Cheryl Henson and The Jim Henson Foundation
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.

Puppetry is an absorbent and persistent art form, leaping categories and classifications such as the religious and secular, political and personal, ribald and regal, just to name a few. In Van Volkenburg’s honor, as we seek to expand the field of our art, we host our Symposium to bring to the forefront the ideas and inspiration behind why the puppet.

THE ELLEN VAN VOLKENBURG PUPPETRY SYMPOSIUM

SATURDAY, JANUARY 21 and SATURDAY, JANUARY 28

FREE and open to the public

STUDEBAKER THEATER
410 S. Michigan Ave.
Check website for livestream details.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 21
10am - 12pm
Boundless Bodies
Moderator: Dr. Paulette Richards
Panelists: Ishmael Falke (Invisible Lands), Elise Vigneron (Anywhere), and Camille Trouvé (R.A.C.E.)

1pm - 3pm
Grand Narratives and Petits Récits
Moderator: Dr. Paulette Richards
Panelists: Michael Brown (Invitation to a Beheading), Sarah Fornace (Frankenstein), and Theodora Skipitares (Grand Panorama)

SATURDAY, JANUARY 28
10am - 12pm
Maya: The Uses of Illusion
Moderator: Dr. Paulette Richards
Panelists: Eduardo Felix (Macunaíma Gourmet), Michaela Homolová (Choo. Choo. Whistle…), Jonathan Meyer (as though your body were right), and Janni Younge (Hamlet)

1pm - 3pm
Building New Worlds: Emerging Voices
Moderator: Dr. Dassia N. Posner
Panelists: Felicia Cooper (University of Connecticut), Camille Casemier (School of the Art Institute of Chicago), Claudia Kinahan (Northwestern University), and Yiwen Wu (University of Chicago)
THE CATAPULT ARTIST INTENSIVE

The Catapult Artist Intensive returns with two unique professional weekends to inspire and inform practicing artists of all disciplines. Over each three-day period, participants take a deep dive into puppetry with a curated, guided experience of the Festival programming. Join an intimate cohort, escorted by a professional leader, for discussions, backstage access and more. The Catapult is designed to advance the form and provide artists the opportunity to expand their understanding of the field of puppetry. Each weekend includes 8 performances in 3 days, with 2 panel discussions, some meals, and local transportation. No application required. Hotel is not included in the price, but hotel discount is available. Cost: $590

SESSION 1: JANUARY 20-22
Led by Samuel J. Lewis II
Shows include:
Anywhere, Moby Dick, R.A.G.E., Squirrel Stole My Underpants, Grand Panorama, Invisible Lands, Nasty, Brutish & Short (2), and symposiums.

SESSION 2: JANUARY 27-29
Led by Grace Needlman
Shows include:
Macunaima Gourmet, Akutagawa, Invitation to a Beheading, Choo. Choo. Whistle. Woof!, Frankenstein, Dogugaeshi, Nasty, Brutish & Short (2), and symposiums.

With special support from:

WORKSHOPS

JANUARY 20-28
MASTER PUPPETRY CLASSES
with:

Plexus Polaire
Friday, January 20: 1-4pm
Fine Arts Building
410 S. Michigan Ave.

Manual Cinema
Sunday, January 22: 10am-1pm
Manual Cinema Studios
2415 W. 19th St.

Linda Wingerter
Monday, January 23: 1-4pm
Fine Arts Building
410 S. Michigan Ave.

Theodora Skipitares
Tuesday, January 24: 1-4pm
On stage at Harold Washington Cindy Pritzker Auditorium
400 S. State St.

Janni Younge
Friday, January 27: 1-4pm
On stage at DuSable Black History Museum and Education Center
740 E. 56th Pl.

Pigmalião Escultura que Mexe
Saturday, January 28: 1-4pm
On stage at MCA Chicago
205 E. Pearson St.

$60 each, no application required. Learn more and register at chicagopuppetfest.org

3 hours each
For all ages 18 and up

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With special support from:
Join us for these special opening night events

Opening Night Prelude Reception
Co-chaired by Julie Moller & Kim Ohms

Wednesday, January 18
5-7 PM
Studebaker Theater
Starts on 4th floor
Fine Arts Building, 410 S. Michigan Ave.

Tickets: $125/$250 Benefactor
Show tickets sold separately

Opening Night Post-Show Party
Co-chaired by Kristy Moran & Kim Ohms

Wednesday, January 18
8:45-10:45 PM
Studebaker Theater
On 8th Floor
Fine Arts Building, 410 S. Michigan Ave.

Tickets: $75/person

Learn about ways to get involved & donate:
ChicagoPuppetFest.org/Support

Join top supporters, festival artists and staff to toast the opening of the 5th Chicago Puppet Fest at this exclusive, pre-show reception including early access to Opening Night festivities, immediately followed by the opening night production, Moby Dick by Plexus Polaire.

Come back up for air after Moby Dick to toast Plexus Polaire and all of the amazing puppet artists and acts ready to amaze and delight audiences over the next 12 days during the 5th Chicago Puppet Fest.

We gratefully acknowledge the following contributors for their generous support:

- Anonymous
- The MacArthur Fund at Prince Charitable Trusts
- Driehaus Foundation
- Pritzker Pucker Foundation
- The Reva and David Logan Foundation
- Walder Foundation
- Elizabeth Liebman
- Paul M. Angell Family Foundation
- Ginger Farley & Bob Shapiro
- DCASE
- The National Endowment for the Arts
- The Jim Henson Foundation
- Lloyd Perlow & Kate Thomas
- John Supera
- Pat Yuzawa-Rubin & Jack Rubin
- American Scandinavian Foundation
- Alicia Bird
- Howard & Judy Friedman
- Dave Frohardt-Lane & Caroline Randazzo
- Paul Levy
- Kimberly L. Ohms & Joseph Novelli
- WAG Foundation/Christina & Bennett Lasko, Tria Smith & Jim Lasko
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- Illinois Arts Council Agency & Artistour Program
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- Justine Jentes & Dan Karuna
- Kristy & Brandon Moran
- The Revs and David Logan Foundation
- Cheryl Lynn Bruce & Kerry James Marshall
- The MacArthur Fund at Prince Charitable Trusts
- Driehaus Foundation
- Pritzker Pucker Foundation
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- Dave Frohardt-Lane & Caroline Randazzo
- Paul Levy
- Kimberly L. Ohms & Joseph Novelli
- WAG Foundation/Christina & Bennett Lasko, Tria Smith & Jim Lasko
Chicago International Puppet Theater Festival
The Fine Arts Building
410 S. Michigan Ave. #310
Chicago, IL 60605

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It's not too late to help out!
Make a gift and we will include you in the 2023 Festival Report magazine!