

CHICAGO INTERNATIONAL PUPPET THEATER FESTIVAL

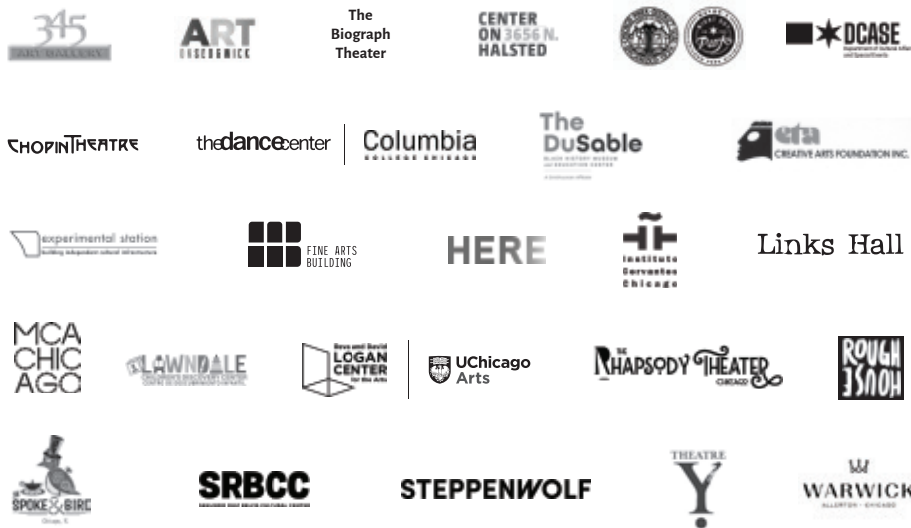
JANUARY 15-26, 2025



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 ~19,000 guests. Since its launch in 2015, the Festival has highlighted artists from nations such as Chile, Indonesia, Iran, Japan, Korea, and South Africa, and 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 numerous Chicago cultural institutions and is made possible by generous philanthropic support from organizations and individuals.

FESTIVAL PARTNERS



Cover: *Iniskim - Return of the Buffalo* Film (see p. 35)

Welcome to our 7TH EDITION!



Photo: Saverio Truglia

Blowing in like Chicago's winter, the Chicago Puppet Festival brings a flurry — of puppets!

With hundreds of artists and civic leaders working around the globe and here in Chicago to make it happen, we aim to fan a fire in you that inspires your vigor and heats your soul. We offer a unique and broad range of work from around our planet. You'll find the puppet particularly adept at embodying the supernatural with such tales as *Dracula* or *The Cabinet*. Likewise the puppet holds the gravity of powerful dramas such as *J.M. Coetzee's Life & Times of Michael K* and *The House by the Lake*. And equally capturing a comic world in *I Killed The Monster*. Revel with us in the return of Chicago's jewel: The Chicago International Puppet Theater Festival!

Blair Thomas

Artistic Director & Founder

1 THE RHAPSODY THEATER
1328 W. Morse Ave.

2 LINKS HALL
3111 N. Western Ave.

3 THE BIOGRAPH
Richard Christiansen Theater
Začec McVay Theater
2433 N. Lincoln Ave.

4 STEPPENWOLF'S GARAGE THEATRE
1650 N. Halsted Ave.

5 CHOPIN THEATRE mainstage
1543 W. Division St.

6 MCA CHICAGO
Edlis Neeson Theater
220 E. Chicago Ave.

7 WARWICK ALLERTON HOTEL
701 N. Michigan Ave.

8 INSTITUTO CERVANTES OF CHICAGO
31 W. Ohio St.

9 CHICAGO CULTURAL CENTER
Michigan Ave. Galleries
78 E. Washington St.

10 STUDEBAKER THEATER AT THE FINE ARTS BUILDING
410 S. Michigan Ave.

11 FESTIVAL HEADQUARTERS + PUPPET HUB
Studio 433 (4th fl) Little Studio (7th fl) + Curtiss Hall (10th fl)
Fine Arts Building, 410 S. Michigan Ave.

12 DANCE CENTER COLUMBIA COLLEGE CHICAGO
1306 S. Michigan Ave.

13 THE DUSABLE BLACK HISTORY MUSEUM AND EDUCATION CENTER
740 E. 56th Pl.

14 REVA & DAVID LOGAN CENTER FOR THE ARTS
Theater East
915 E. 60th St.



FREE NEIGHBORHOOD TOUR

A BERGER PARK CULTURAL CENTER - COACHHOUSE
6205 N. Sheridan Rd. *Edgewater*

B CENTER ON HALSTED
3656 N Halsted St. *Lakeview*

C SEGUNDO RUIZ BELVIS CULTURAL CENTER
4048 W. Armitage *Hermosa*

D MARSHALL FIELD GARDEN APARTMENTS / ART ON SEDGWICK
1408 N. Sedgwick St. *Old Town*

E 345 GALLERY
345 N. Kedzie Ave. *Garfield Park*

F CHICAGO CULTURAL CENTER
78 E. Washington St. *The Loop*

G AUSTIN TOWN HALL CULTURAL CENTER
5610 W. Lake St. *Austin*

H THEATREY
3611 W. Cermak Rd. *North Lawndale*

I REVA AND DAVID LOGAN CENTER FOR THE ARTS, Performance Hall
915 E. 60th St. *Hyde Park*

J EXPERIMENTAL STATION
6100 S. Blackstone Av. *Hyde Park*

K SOUTH SHORE CULTURAL CENTER PAUL ROBESON THEATRE
7059 S. South Shore Dr. *South Shore*

L ETA CREATIVE ARTS FOUNDATION
7558 S. South Chicago Ave. *Grand Crossing*

OPENING + CLOSING

Shows and Events

















	WEDNESDAY JANUARY 15	THURSDAY JANUARY 16	FRIDAY JANUARY 17	SATURDAY JANUARY 18	SUNDAY JANUARY 19	MONDAY JANUARY 20	TUESDAY JANUARY 21	WEDNESDAY JANUARY 22	THURSDAY JANUARY 23	FRIDAY JANUARY 24	SATURDAY JANUARY 25	SUNDAY JANUARY 26
OPENING NIGHT PRELUDE RECEPTION [p. 12]  <small>3rd Fl Balcony</small>	5:15 - 6:45 pm											
DRACULA: LUCY'S DREAM <i>by Plexus Polaire</i> [p. 15] 	7 pm		7:30 pm	2 pm 7 pm	2 pm							
OPENING NIGHT POST-SHOW PARTY [p. 12]  <small>10th Floor</small>	8:15 - 10:15 pm											
CLOSING PARTY with NARCISSISTER LIVE! [p. 13] 												6 pm

MORE SHOWS

	THURSDAY JANUARY 16	FRIDAY JANUARY 17	SATURDAY JANUARY 18	SUNDAY JANUARY 19	MONDAY JANUARY 20	TUESDAY JANUARY 21	WEDNESDAY JANUARY 22	THURSDAY JANUARY 23	FRIDAY JANUARY 24	SATURDAY JANUARY 25	SUNDAY JANUARY 26
 AANIKA'S ELEPHANTS <i>by Feisty Elephant, Pam Arciero Productions & Little Shadow Productions</i> [p. 17] 		7 pm	1pm 3pm								
ANYWHERE <i>by Théâtre de L'Entrovert & Chicago Puppet Fest</i> [p. 19] 	7:30 pm	7:30 pm	7:30 pm	4 pm							
ARCTIC TALL TALES <i>by La ruée vers l'or</i> [p. 21] 						8 pm	5 pm 8 pm				
 BIRDHEART <i>by Julian Crouch & Saskia Lane</i> [p. 23] 									5 pm 7 pm	11 am 7 pm	6 pm
THE CABINET <i>by Cabinet of Curiosity</i> [p. 25] 	7 pm	9 pm	9 pm	3 pm							
CONCERNED OTHERS <i>by Tortoise in a Nutshell</i> [p. 27] 		5 pm* 8 pm	3 pm 8 pm	4 pm 7 pm							

DRACULA: LUCY'S DREAM (see above) [p. 15]

*This show will be followed by a short break after which the artist(s) will be present for a talkback.

	THURSDAY JANUARY 16	FRIDAY JANUARY 17	SATURDAY JANUARY 18	SUNDAY JANUARY 19	MONDAY JANUARY 20	TUESDAY JANUARY 21	WEDNESDAY JANUARY 22	THURSDAY JANUARY 23	FRIDAY JANUARY 24	SATURDAY JANUARY 25	SUNDAY JANUARY 26
EDITH AND ME <i>by</i> Yael Rasooly [p. 29] 								7:30 pm*	7:30 pm*	8 pm*	
THE HOUSE BY THE LAKE <i>by</i> Yael Rasooly [p. 31] 		7:30 pm	8 pm	1 pm							
I KILLED THE MONSTER <i>by</i> RoiZIZO théâtre [p. 33] 	6 pm	9 pm*	7 pm	3 pm 7 pm							
 INISKIM - RETURN OF THE BUFFALO (Film) [p. 35] 		3 pm*									
J.M. COETZEE'S LIFE AND TIMES OF MICHAEL K <i>by</i> Baxter Theatre & Handspring Puppet Co. [p. 37] 							7 pm		3 pm 7:30 pm	3 pm 7:30 pm	3 pm
 KAYFABE <i>by</i> Josh Rice Projects [p. 39] 								5 pm	7:30 pm	1 pm* 8 pm	
LOOK! LOOK! A Work in Development <i>by</i> Vanessa Valliere [p. 62]  7th Floor								5:30 pm	5:30 pm 8 pm	6 pm	
MAATI KATHA <i>by</i> Tram Arts Trust [p. 41] 						6 pm	5 pm 8 pm				
MADE IN MACAU <i>by</i> Rolling Puppet Alternative Theatre [p. 43] 	5 pm	4 pm 8 pm	5 pm*	5 pm							
 THE MIDNIGHT SHOW <i>by</i> Poncili Creación [p. 45] 										12 Midnight	
NASTY, BRUTISH & SHORT: Puppet Cabaret [p. 45]	10 pm		10:30 pm					10 pm		10:30 pm	
 ORGANISMO <i>by</i> Maraña [p. 47] 								7:30 pm	1 pm 7:30 pm** Crochet Par-Tay	4 pm** Crochet Par-Tay	
THE SCARECROW <i>by</i> Anthony Michael Stokes [p. 49] 									7 pm	5 pm	2 pm

*This show will be followed by a short break after which the artist(s) will be present for a talkback.

**Crochet Par-Tay: After the show, join fellow crochet-ers to share your work and talk about the performance. There will be cookies!

SHOWS *cont.*



All My Relations Collective:
SKELETON CANOE [p. 51]



	THURSDAY JANUARY 16	FRIDAY JANUARY 17	SATURDAY JANUARY 18	SUNDAY JANUARY 19	MONDAY JANUARY 20	TUESDAY JANUARY 21	WEDNESDAY JANUARY 22	THURSDAY JANUARY 23	FRIDAY JANUARY 24	SATURDAY JANUARY 25	SUNDAY JANUARY 26
								6 pm Free birch bark workshop: 4 pm	6 pm Free birch bark workshop: 4 pm	2 pm Free birch bark workshop: 12 pm	4 pm Free birch bark workshop: 2 pm
									5 pm	1 pm	1 pm
FREE!							6 pm North Lawndale H	10:30 am 7 pm Hyde Park I	4:30 pm Hermosa C	12 pm 2 pm The Loop F	
	4:30 pm Austin G	4:30 pm Old Town D		2 pm Garfield Park E			6 pm Lakeview B	7 pm Grand Crossing L	5 pm Hyde Park J	10 am 2 pm Edgewater A	2 pm South Shore K

PUPPET HUB + EXHIBITIONS

FREE!

THE SPOKE & BIRD POP-UP CAFE and EXHIBITIONS
by MYRA SU and CHICAGO PUPPET STUDIO [p. 58-59]



	THURSDAY JANUARY 16	FRIDAY JANUARY 17	SATURDAY JANUARY 18	SUNDAY JANUARY 19	MONDAY JANUARY 20	TUESDAY JANUARY 21	WEDNESDAY JANUARY 22	THURSDAY JANUARY 23	FRIDAY JANUARY 24	SATURDAY JANUARY 25	SUNDAY JANUARY 26
	9 am - 7:30 pm Cafe Closed	9 am - 7:30 pm Cafe Open 10 am - 7:30 pm	9 am - 7:30 pm Cafe Open 10 am - 7:30 pm	10 am - 5 pm Cafe Open 10 am - 4 pm	Hub + Cafe Closed	9 am - 7:30 pm Cafe Closed	9 am - 7:30 pm Cafe Open 10 am - 7 pm	9 am - 7:30 pm Cafe Open 10 am - 7 pm	9 am - 7:30 pm Cafe Open 10 am - 7:30 pm	9 am - 7:30 pm Cafe Open 10 am - 7:30 pm	10 am - 5 pm Cafe Open 10 am - 4 pm
	10 am - 4:45 pm	10 am - 4:45 pm	10 am - 4:45 pm	10 am - 4:45 pm	10 am - 4:45 pm	10 am - 4:45 pm	10 am - 4:45 pm	10 am - 4:45 pm	10 am - 4:45 pm	10 am - 4:45 pm	10 am - 4:45 pm

POTENTIAL ENERGY: CHICAGO PUPPETS UP CLOSE
Exhibition at the Chicago Cultural Center [p. 59]



SYMPOSIUM + WORKSHOPS

FREE!

**ELLEN VAN VOLKENBURG PUPPETRY
SYMPOSIUM: Artist Panels** [p. 60-61]



	THURSDAY JANUARY 16	FRIDAY JANUARY 17	SATURDAY JANUARY 18	SUNDAY JANUARY 19	MONDAY JANUARY 20	TUESDAY JANUARY 21	WEDNESDAY JANUARY 22	THURSDAY JANUARY 23	FRIDAY JANUARY 24	SATURDAY JANUARY 25	SUNDAY JANUARY 26
			10 am - 12 pm Panel 1	10 am - 12 pm Panel 2						10 am - 12 pm Panel 3	10 am - 12 pm Panel 4
	10 am - 1 pm Plexus Polaire	10 am - 1 pm Gildwen Peronno	10 am - 1 pm Alex Bird	10 am - 1 pm Rolling Puppet Alternative Theater	10 am - 1 pm Yael Rasooly	10 am - 1 pm La ruée vers l'or	10 am - 1 pm Tram Arts Trust	10 am - 1 pm Craig Leo	10 am - 1 pm Josh Rice	10 am - 1 pm Maraña	10 am - 1 pm Poncili Creación
				1 pm Catapult Alumni Meetup						6 pm Catapult Alumni Meetup	
		Session 1: Led by Grace Needlman							Session 1: Led by Samuel J. Lewis II		

PUPPETRY MASTERCLASSES with
Festival Artists [p. 63]



**CATAPULT ARTIST INTENSIVE: Professional
Development Weekends and Alumni Meetups** [p. 62]

JOIN US FOR THESE SPECIAL OPENING & CLOSING NIGHT FUNDRAISING EVENTS!

PRELUDE RECEPTION

Co-Hosted by Julie Moller & Sue Wait

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15

5:15 - 6:45 pm

**FINE ARTS BUILDING
STUDEBAKER THEATER**

410 S. Michigan Ave. 3rd Floor Balcony

\$125/\$250 benefactor

Show tickets sold separately

POST-SHOW PARTY

Co-Hosted by Alicia Bird, Jin Ivacic, & John Supera

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15

8:15 pm - 10:15 pm

FINE ARTS BUILDING, CURTISS HALL

410 S. Michigan Ave. 10th Floor

\$75



reception featuring drinks, hors d'oeuvres, early access to claim your opening night seating in person and to visit the exhibitions before they open to the public. Prelude reception is immediately followed by the opening night performance of *Plexus Polaire's Dracula: Lucy's Dream* (show tickets sold separately).



Photo: Richard Termine

Join top supporters, festival leadership, staff and the Artistic Directors from the shows being presented this year in the Festival. Together we will toast the opening of the 7th edition of the festival at this exclusive, pre-show

Celebrate opening night with the artists who have come to town to share their astonishing and delightful acts with you for the next 12 days of the festival. Enjoy drinks, dessert, live puppetry performance, and DJ.

Get Tickets at: chicagopuppetfest.org

Learn about ways to
**GET INVOLVED
& DONATE:**
ChicagoPuppetFest.org/Support

CLOSING PARTY: NARCISSISTER LIVE!

Co-hosted by Kristy & Brandon Moran and Deb & Andy Wolkstein

SUNDAY, JANUARY 26

6 pm - 7 pm

THE RHAPSODY THEATER

1328 W. Morse Ave.

TICKET LEVELS:

\$35 Basic ticket: Regular unreserved seating, includes 1 drink ticket

\$50 Regular ticket: Regular seating, includes 2 drink tickets

\$75 Booster ticket: Regular seating and donor listing \$50 level, includes 2 drink tickets

\$150 Donor ticket: Reserved seats & donor listing at \$125 level, includes 2 drink tickets

\$250 Benefactor ticket: Reserved seats, donor listing at \$225 level, includes 2 drink tickets

\$500 Superdonor ticket: Preferred, reserved seating, donor listing at \$475 level, includes 2 drink tickets

\$1,000 Superstar ticket: Optimal, reserved seating, donor listing at \$975 level, includes 2 drink tickets

\$2,000 Underwriter ticket: Prime time, optimal reserved seating, t-shirt & tote bag, donor listing at \$1,975 level, includes 2 drink tickets



Narcissister employs a truly unforgettable, spectacle rich approach to explorations of gender, racial identity and burlesque. Humor, pop songs, elaborate costumes, contemporary dance and her trademark mask work collide in this thought-provoking and wildly entertaining performance. The show will be emceed by Chicago's own, **Kasey Foster** featuring live music. A not-to-be-missed closing show and fundraiser in support of the Festival!



FRANCE/NORWAY

Photo: Christophe Raynaud de Lage

CHICAGO PUPPET FEST *presents:*

PLEXUS POLAIRE

DRACULA: LUCY'S DREAM

OPENING
NIGHT!

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15 - SUNDAY, JANUARY 19

In her visual adaptation of the famous myth of Dracula, Yngvild Aspeli freely draws inspiration from Bram Stoker's story to tell the story of Lucy. As the character fights against her inner "Dracula-esque" demon she surfaces and reveals an inclination toward domination, dependence, addiction and destructive force. A metaphor of control, both forced and desired, seductive and deceptive. From the makers of *Moby Dick* and *Chambre Noire*, Plexus Polaire returns flaunting its mastery of the form and serving up large-scale spectacle, human size bunraku puppets, hypnotic video projection and their signature style of imbuing the puppet with storytelling power.

**STUDEBAKER THEATER AT
THE FINE ARTS BUILDING**

410 S. Michigan Ave.

\$48; \$40 students & seniors

Wednesday, January 15 at 7 pm

Friday, January 17 at 7:30 pm

Saturday, January 18 at 2 pm + 7 pm

Sunday, January 19 at 2 pm

65 minutes

For ages 14 and up

TAKE A
WORKSHOP
with the artists!
See p. 63

With special support from the Norwegian Ministry
of Foreign Affairs, France Chicago Center at the
University of Chicago, & Villa Albertine

Get Tickets at: chicagopuppetfest.org



CONNECTICUT/NY

Photo: Zack Hyman

CHICAGO PUPPET FEST *presents:*

FEISTY ELEPHANT,
PAM ARCIERO PRODUCTIONS &
LITTLE SHADOW PRODUCTIONS

AANIKA'S ELEPHANTS



FRIDAY, JANUARY 17- SATURDAY, JANUARY 18

From Sesame Street staff writer and children's book author Annie Evans, comes a delightful story of compassion and courage. Aanika, a young African girl meets Little, an orphaned baby elephant living at the sanctuary where her father works. The two grow up together surviving some of the pitfalls of humanity, the loss of family and the threat of poachers. Charming and innovative visuals illustrate perfectly the real possibility of adopting new family and finding beautiful peace in the most unexpected of ways.

**THE DUSABLE BLACK
HISTORY MUSEUM AND
EDUCATION CENTER**

740 E. 56th Pl.

\$35; \$25 students & seniors

Friday, January 17 at 7 pm

Saturday, January 18 at 1 pm + 3 pm

60 minutes

For all ages



UNIMA Citation of
Excellence Recipient

Get Tickets at: chicagopuppetfest.org



FRANCE/CHICAGO

Photo: Richard Termine

CHICAGO PUPPET FEST *presents:*

ALLEY
AWARD
WINNER!

THÉÂTRE DE L'ENTROVERT &
CHICAGO PUPPET FEST

ANYWHERE

THURSDAY, JANUARY 16 - SUNDAY, JANUARY 19

In this exquisite, landmark string-marionette work created by the French company Théâtre de l'Entrouvert, a marionette made of ice takes center stage. 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. *See p. 46 for NYC Tour info.*

Get Tickets at: chicagopuppetfest.org

CHOPIN THEATRE mainstage

1543 W. Division St.

\$43; \$35 students & seniors

Thursday, January 16 at 7:30 pm

Friday, January 17 at 7:30 pm

Saturday, January 18 at 7:30 pm

Sunday, January 19 at 4 pm

50 minutes

For ages 10 and up

*With special support from Ferdi Foundation,
The Marshall Frankel Foundation, Scott Moller,
Jordan Shields & Sarah Donovan, and Andy &
Deb Wolkstein*



CANADA

Photo: Louis-Martin LeBlanc

CHICAGO PUPPET FEST *presents:*

LA RUÉE VERS L'OR

ARCTIC TALL TALES

TUESDAY, JANUARY 21 - WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 22

In the mid-1900s only a handful of intrepid hunters and adventurers remain scattered across Greenland's northeast coast. Inspired by writings from Jørn Riel's scientific expedition in the 1950s and 1960s and the subsequent, celebrated graphic novels created 2009-2018 by Frenchman Hervé Tanquerelle, *Arctic Tall Tales* brings tales of adventure, independence, isolation and nature. It's not easy to keep a cool head in the harsh conditions, and yet, the vast wilderness, the majestic snow-covered expanse and the unlikely fates of trusty comrades leave us asking: are they truths, lies or myths? Regardless, together they are larger than life, with puppetry, storytelling, and a live Foley artist generating sound effects in real time. The effect is a universe both uproarious and poetic.

Get Tickets at: chicagopuppetfest.org

**THE BIOGRAPH'S
ZAČEK MCVAY THEATER**

2433 N. Lincoln Ave.

\$43; \$35 students & seniors

Tuesday, January 21 at 8 pm
Wednesday, January 22 at 5 pm
+ 8 pm

85 minutes
For ages 10 and up

TAKE A
WORKSHOP
with the artists!
See p. 63



NYC

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

JULIAN CROUCH &
SASKIA LANE

BIRDHEART



FRIDAY, JANUARY 24 - SUNDAY, JANUARY 26

Brown paper and a box of sand transform into an intimately, stunning chamber piece of animated theater. A show about transformation, loneliness, and the urge to fly, it holds a hand-mirror up to humanity and offers it a chair. Through a series of fragile images built in front of the audiences' eyes, here is something achingly beautiful from the humblest of beginnings. Half puppet show and half live music it features a set of bird-themed songs led by extraordinary musician, Philip Roebuck.

INSTITUTO CERVANTES OF CHICAGO

31 W. Ohio St.

\$33; \$25 students & seniors

Friday, January 24 at 5 pm + 7 pm
Saturday, January 25 at 11 am + 7 pm
Sunday, January 26 at 6 pm

80 minutes
For all ages

With special support from Cheryl Henson

Get Tickets at: chicagopuppetfest.org



CHICAGO

CHICAGO PUPPET FEST *presents:*

CABINET OF CURIOSITY

THE CABINET

THURSDAY, JANUARY 16 - SUNDAY, JANUARY 19

It has been 15 years since Chicago audiences last saw critically-acclaimed, *The Cabinet*. This story of the murderous Dr. Caligari and his somnambulist slave Cesare is set in an off-kilter world of puppetry and intricate machinery. Evoking the 1919 German Expressionist silent film *The Cabinet of Dr. Caligari*, and created by Frank Maugeri, it was Redmoon Theater's longest running show, now reinvented for the larger stage. Cabinet of Curiosity revives it with another distinctive "cabinet of curiosities" in which puppeteers manipulate the characters and objects, just as Caligari controlled Cesare's plight.

**THE BIOGRAPH'S
ZAČEK MCVAY THEATER**

2433 N. Lincoln Ave.

\$43; \$35 students & seniors

Thursday, January 16 at 7 pm

Friday, January 17 at 9 pm

Saturday, January 18 at 9 pm

Sunday, January 19 at 3 pm

60 minutes

For ages 14 and up

Get Tickets at: chicagopuppetfest.org



SCOTLAND

Photo: Mihaela Bodlovic

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

TORTOISE IN A
NUTSHELL

CONCERNED OTHERS

FRIDAY, JANUARY 17 - SUNDAY, JANUARY 19

Half way between dream and cold reality, intricate miniature worlds with detailed figurines, shoe box style installations, turntables, micro-projection and immersive soundscapes share first-hand accounts, hopes and reflections about the impact of alcoholism. It is a poignant look at the weight carried by the community surrounding a person living with addiction. From its 2023 premiere at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival comes this intimate piece confronting the deadly culture of shame, ignorance and misunderstanding surrounding substance dependence.

INSTITUTO CERVANTES
OF CHICAGO

31 W. Ohio St.

\$33; \$25 students & seniors

Friday, January 17 at 5 pm* + 8 pm

Saturday, January 18 at 3 pm + 8 pm

Sunday, January 19 at 4 pm + 7 pm

**This show will be followed by short break and then a talkback with the artist(s)*

43 minutes

For ages 14 and up

TAKE A
WORKSHOP
with the artist!
See p. 63

Get Tickets at: chicagopuppetfest.org



ISRAEL

Photo: Kristin Aafloy Opdan

CHICAGO PUPPET FEST *presents:*

Yael Rasooly

EDITH AND ME

THURSDAY, JANUARY 23 - SATURDAY, JANUARY 25

Based on a true story, Yael Rasooly bring her virtuosic vocals and puppetry to share the struggle of a singer nearly silenced at the hands of political leaders, immobilized, and perhaps never to perform again. Yet she is not alone – the famous singer icon Edith Piaf is there to drag her out of bed and pull her back into life. *Edith and Me* is a one woman show doubling the power of French cabaret.

THE BIOGRAPH'S ZAČEK MCVAY THEATER

2433 N. Lincoln Ave.

\$43; \$35 students & seniors

Thursday, January 23 at 7:30 pm*

Friday, January 24 at 7:30 pm*

Saturday, January 25 at 8 pm*

**This show will be followed by short break and then a talkback with the artist(s)*

60 minutes

For ages 15 and up

TAKE A
WORKSHOP
with the artist!
See p. 63

Get Tickets at: chicagopuppetfest.org



ISRAEL

Photo: Nir Shaani

CHICAGO PUPPET FEST *presents:*

Yael Rasooly

THE HOUSE BY THE LAKE

FRIDAY, JANUARY 17 - SUNDAY, JANUARY 19

Awaiting their mother's return, three sisters in World War II distract themselves as they hide in a tiny, cold room working to preserve a semblance of the life they once knew. While reality is falling apart, their bodies come together from pieces of broken dolls — and memories. A fantastically, absurd world full of humor, but not skirting the seriousness of the situation, *The House by the Lake* swings expertly between musical cabaret and contemporary puppetry.

**MCA CHICAGO
EDLIS NEESON THEATER**

220 E. Chicago Ave.

\$48; \$40 students & seniors

Friday, January 17 at 7:30 pm

Saturday, January 18 at 8 pm

Sunday, January 19 at 1 pm

60 minutes

For ages 15 and up

**TAKE A
WORKSHOP**
with the artist!
See p. 63

Get Tickets at: chicagopuppetfest.org



FRANCE

Photo: Patrick Argirakis

CHICAGO PUPPET FEST *presents:*

ROIZIZO THÉÂTRE

I KILLED THE MONSTER

THURSDAY, JANUARY 16 - SUNDAY, JANUARY 19

In a small village in France's Ardennes Forest, peace reigns, and yet, Daniel is a little agitated. Now that he has a new medicine though, some blue pills made by an American pharmaceutical laboratory, everything should be fine...right? A pitch perfect show packed with humor and farcical discoveries, on a simple table using everyday objects. Small-scale grandiose art in a clever, tabletop fable dedicated to the right to be different.

STEPPENWOLF'S GARAGE THEATRE

1650 N. Halsted Ave.

\$43; \$35 students & seniors

Thursday, January 16 at 6 pm

Friday, January 17 at 9 pm*

Saturday, January 18 at 7 pm

Sunday, January 19 at 3 pm + 7 pm

**This show will be followed by short break and then a talkback with the artist(s)*

40 minutes

For ages 9 and up

TAKE A
WORKSHOP
with the artist!
See p. 63

With support from Spectacle Vivant en Bretagne

Get Tickets at: chicagopuppetfest.org



CANADA

CHICAGO PUPPET FEST *presents:*

INISKIM - RETURN OF THE BUFFALO FILM



FRIDAY, JANUARY 17

Iniskim - Return of the Buffalo is an intercultural artistic response to the return of the buffalo, as wild animals, to North America. Directed by Leanne Allison and Pete Balkwill, the film is an opportunity to learn about Indigenous ways of knowing. We watch as a group of puppeteers are transformed by their experience of 'being buffalo' at night under the stars, guided by the stories of the Blackfoot Elders.

Producers: Amethyst First Rider and Leanne Allison

Organizations: Canadian Academy of Mask and Puppetry and Necessary Journeys and International Buffalo Relations

STUDEBAKER THEATER AT THE FINE ARTS BUILDING

410 S. Michigan Ave.

\$20; \$15 students & seniors

Friday, January 17 at 3 pm*

**The film will be followed by a conversation between the film creators and Artistic Director & Festival Founder, Blair Thomas*

40 minutes

For all ages

With special support from Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council

Get Tickets at: chicagopuppetfest.org



SOUTH AFRICA

Photo: Fiona MacPherson

CHICAGO PUPPET FEST *presents:*

ALLEY
AWARD
WINNER!

BAXTER THEATRE
& HANDSPRING
PUPPET CO.

J.M. COETZEE'S LIFE AND TIMES OF MICHAEL K

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 22 - SUNDAY, JANUARY 26

In this stunning transformation of Nobel Laureate J.M. Coetzee's Booker Prize-winning novel by the same name, a humble man finds solace in nature as he takes an epic journey through a mythical, war-torn landscape. In search of his mother's ancestral home, he finds strength in his own humanity and a profound connection to the earth. With puppets by Handspring Puppet Company, known for building the *War Horse* and *Little Amal*, Cape Town's Baxter Theatre brings us a new level of exquisite bunraku-style puppet theater.

STUDEBAKER THEATER AT THE FINE ARTS BUILDING

410 S. Michigan Ave.

\$48; \$40 students & seniors

Wednesday, January 22 at 7 pm
Friday, January 24 at 3 pm + 7:30 pm
Saturday, January 25 at 3 pm + 7:30 pm
Sunday, January 26 at 3 pm

115 minutes
(no intermission)
For ages 12 and up

TAKE A
WORKSHOP
with the artist!
See p. 63

Get Tickets at: chicagopuppetfest.org



NYC

Photo: Kat Kuo

CHICAGO PUPPET FEST *presents:*

JOSH RICE PROJECTS

KAYFABE



THURSDAY, JANUARY 23 - SATURDAY, JANUARY 25

Jump in the ring for this puppet wrestling entertainment spectacular! Puppetry meets pro wrestling, meets rock show; high art meets low art meets Samuel Beckett! A frenetic frenzy slash absurdist love letter combines Bunraku-style table-top puppetry, cart puppetry, live-feed projection (instant replay) & object performance, as well as the wrestling tropes of matches, monologues, and music & video.

CHOPIN THEATRE mainstage

1543 W. Division St.

\$43; \$35 students & seniors

Thursday, January 23 at 5 pm

Friday, January 24 at 7:30 pm

Saturday, January 25 at 1 pm* + 8 pm

**This show will be followed by short break and then a talkback with the artist(s)*

70 minutes

For all ages

TAKE A
WORKSHOP
with the artist!
See p. 63

Get Tickets at: chicagopuppetfest.org



INDIA

Photo: Abhisar Bose

LINKS HALL & CHICAGO PUPPET FEST *present:*

TRAM ARTS TRUST

MAATI KATHA

TUESDAY, JANUARY 21 - WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 22

In the dangerous and magical land of Sunderbans – the vast forested delta area in West Bengal (Eastern India) and Bangladesh – great rivers combine and split before merging into the Bay of Bengal. Here, living is a fragile balance between land and water, forest and field, domestic and wild, calm and storm and, of course, people. The legend and philosophy of "Bonbibi" looms large in popular imagination, "You are all connected: the crocodile, the tiger, water, forest, land, all human beings...All!" Real-time sculpting meets traditional storytelling as shape shifting 'maati' (clay, mud, soil, earth, land) shines in the Land of 18 Tides.

LINKS HALL

3111 N. Western Ave.

\$20; \$15 students & seniors

Tuesday, January 21 at 6 pm

Wednesday, January 22 at 5 pm
+ 8 pm

65 minutes

For ages 12 and up

TAKE A
WORKSHOP
with the artists!
See p. 63

Get Tickets at: chicagopuppetfest.org



CHINA

Photo: Adriano Ma

LINKS HALL & CHICAGO PUPPET FEST *present:*

ROLLING PUPPET
ALTERNATIVE THEATRE

MADE IN MACAU

TUESDAY, JANUARY 21 - WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 22

Made in Macau 2.0 tells a personal history of the island city Macau. A territory of Portugal for four centuries until it was handed over to China in 1999, it is now a Special Administrative Region and one of the most populated places on earth. Intimate family memories confront present day realities along side the changing identity of island city's unique, hybrid culture. Local ideologies resound as serious and comic scenes use contemporary staging with traditional puppets and everyday household objects.

LINKS HALL

3111 N. Western Ave.

\$20; \$15 students & seniors

Thursday, January 16 at 5 pm

Friday, January 17 at 4 pm + 8 pm

Saturday, January 18 at 5 pm*

Sunday, January 19 at 5 pm

**This show will be followed by short break and then a talkback with the artist(s)*

60 minutes

For ages 6 and up

TAKE A
WORKSHOP
with the artists!
See p. 63

Get Tickets at: chicagopuppetfest.org



CHICAGO/INTERNATIONAL

Photo: Alex U Griffin

LINKS HALL, ROUGH HOUSE THEATER CO. &
CHICAGO PUPPET FEST *present:*

NASTY, BRUTISH & SHORT

A PUPPET CABARET

THURSDAYS *and* SATURDAYS, JANUARY 17 - 18 *and* JANUARY 24 - 25

Don't let the evening end! Come join the fun at this fan-favorite late show where eyebrows meet lowbrows. Enjoy Chicago's long-standing puppet cabaret with your hirsute host Jameson and somewhat furry friends for a naughty night of raucous, dark, sassy, sad and highly unusual puppet theater. Out-of-towner puppeteers are invited to join local legends for friendly unwinding. *All shows are at Links Hall this year.*

LINKS HALL

3111 N. Western Ave.

Thursday, January 16 at 10 pm

Saturday, January 18 at 10:30 pm

Thursday, January 23 at 10 pm

Saturday, January 25 at 10:30 pm

60 minutes

For ages 18 and up

MORE
LATE-NIGHT
PUPPETRY!

THE MIDNIGHT SHOW

by Poncili Creación

Saturday, January 25 at 12 midnight

45 minutes

Adults only

Puerto Rican punk-DIY performers Pablo and Efrain Del Hierro let loose and challenge institutional and theatrical norms.

Get Tickets at: chicagopuppetfest.org

\$20; \$15 students & seniors
(each show)



CHILE/GERMANY

Photo: Jens Wazell

DANCE CENTER OF COLUMBIA COLLEGE CHICAGO &
CHICAGO PUPPET FEST *present:*

MARAÑA

ORGANISMO



THURSDAY, JANUARY 23 - SATURDAY, JANUARY 25

Berlin's cutting-edge collective brings this celebrated kaleidoscope aerial arts piece, combining art installation, contemporary circus, object theater, textile arts, live music — and lots and lots of wool. A trust-filled performance of connectedness and obsessive organic magic, where the division between object and body become indistinguishable, teems in a massive, hand-knit visual feast.

CROCHET
PAR-TAY!

***Come join the Crochet Par-Tay!** Immediately following the Friday night and Saturday shows: a gathering for crochet enthusiasts to share their most recent work, talk about the show and meet fellow crochet-ers. There will be cookies!

**DANCE CENTER
COLUMBIA COLLEGE CHICAGO**

1306 S. Michigan Ave.

\$35; \$30 students & seniors;
\$15 Columbia College students

Thursday, January 23 at 7:30 pm
Friday, January 24 at 1 pm + 7:30 pm*
Saturday, January 25 at 4 pm*

60 minutes
For all ages

**TAKE A
WORKSHOP**
with the artists!
See p. 63

Get Tickets at: chicagopuppetfest.org



TEXAS

Photo: Richard Termine

CHICAGO PUPPET FEST *presents:*

ANTHONY MICHAEL STOKES

THE SCARECROW

FRIDAY, JANUARY 24 - SUNDAY, JANUARY 26

In a fabulous mash-up of musical, puppets, and the story of OZ, the newly appointed “Majesty the Scarecrow” is tasked to save the citizens of Winkie country from an ever-increasing horde of crows. Fascinated by how he came to be hanging in a field in the first place, his Majesty follows a journey back home learning who he was and discovering who he must be. Joined by new companions; the Wogglebug, Sawhorse, the Patchwork girl and a perpetually puckish crow, his journey lead to discoveries and connections between Oz and the African-American experience in the United States in the early 1900’s.

**THE DUSABLE BLACK
HISTORY MUSEUM AND
EDUCATION CENTER**

740 E. 56th Pl.

\$35; \$25 students & seniors

Friday, January 24 at 7 pm
Saturday, January 25 at 5 pm
Sunday, January 26 at 2 pm

50 minutes

For ages 14 and up

With special support from Cheryl Henson

Get Tickets at: chicagopuppetfest.org



NYC

CHICAGO PUPPET FEST *presents:*

ALL MY RELATIONS
COLLECTIVE

SKELTON CANOE



THURSDAY, JANUARY 23 - SUNDAY, JANUARY 26

Young Nawbin leaves home and sets out on a rite of passage. They journey along the water to discover their truth and find a way back to reconnect to themselves and ancestral knowledge. Along the way they discover unexpected friends, weather storms, and gain a canoe! Through the use of puppetry, traditional Anishinaabe lifeways, and multimedia design, *Skeleton Canoe* makes known what is just below the water's surface. *Written and performed by Ty Defoe.*



*Join us **Thursday and Friday at 4 pm, Saturday at 12 pm, and Sunday at 2pm** (prior each show) for **free birch bark carving workshops** provided by The Great Lakes Lifeways Institute.

Get Tickets at: chicagopuppetfest.org

THE BIOGRAPH'S RICHARD CHRISTIENSEN THEATER

2433 N. Lincoln Ave.

\$33; \$25 students & seniors

Thursday, January 23 at 6 pm*
Friday, January 24 at 6 pm*
Saturday, January 25 at 2 pm*
Sunday, January 26 at 4 pm*

50 minutes

For all ages

Funded in part by the New England Foundation for the Arts' National Theater Project with lead funding from The Mellon Foundation and support from the Doris Duke Foundation.



ITALY

Photo: Elisa Vettori

REVA AND DAVID LOGAN CENTER FOR THE ARTS AT THE
UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO & CHICAGO PUPPET FEST *present:*

UNTERWASSER

UNTOLD

FRIDAY, JANUARY 24 - SUNDAY, JANUARY 26

What cannot be said, cannot be explored nor elaborated upon, so neither can it be resolved. *Untold* shares a meticulous melding of shadow puppetry, original soundtrack, and illusion to reveal artifice and clues. Images demand the limelight and messages push to the surface in this striking piece of poetic reflection with remarkable technical detail counterpointing the solitude of interior life against a metropolis bustling with crowds and chaos.

**REVA & DAVID LOGAN CENTER
FOR THE ARTS, THEATER EAST**

915 E. 60th St.

\$43; \$35 students & seniors

Friday, January 24 at 5 pm
Saturday, January 25 at 1 pm
Sunday, January 26 at 1 pm

50 minutes
For ages 16 and up



Get Tickets at: chicagopuppetfest.org

Chicago Puppet Fest and Chicago Park District's Night Out in the Parks present:

FREE NEIGHBORHOOD TOUR



JANUARY 16 - 26: TWO SHOWS, 15 PERFORMANCES!

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. For 2025, the Tour is twice the size of previous years presenting **TWO** free, family-friendly puppet shows from Puerto Rico and Vermont at venues and community spaces all over the city.

VARIOUS LOCATIONS

See the following pages

FREE

45 minutes

For all ages

Special support provided by:

Kristy & Brandon Moran
Pat Yuzawa-Rubin



HUNGRY GARDEN BY PONCILI CREACIÓN



PUERTO RICO

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 22 at 6 pm

Theatre Y

3611 W. Cermak Rd. (*North Lawndale*)

THURSDAY, JANUARY 23 at 10:30 am

+ 7 pm

Reva and David Logan Center for the Arts, The University of Chicago

915 E. 60th St. (*Hyde Park*)

FRIDAY, JANUARY 24 at 4:30 pm

Segundo Ruiz Belvis Cultural Center

4046 W. Armitage Ave. (*Hermosa*)

SATURDAY, JANUARY 25 at 12 pm + 2 pm

Chicago Cultural Center

GAR Hall and Rotunda

78 E. Washington St., 2nd Floor/North
(*The Loop*)

Boundless energy and surrealist puppets unite as brothers Pablo and Efrain Del Hierro share their spontaneous style, infusing inanimate objects with life. Drawing on tribal symbols such as masks and totems, they evoke ancient forms of storytelling. Living up to the ideas that spawned their name, *Hungry Garden* brings creation and chaotic tranquility.

Learn more at: chicagopuppetfest.org

THE AMAZING STORY MACHINE

BY SANDGLASS THEATER CO. *and* DOPPELSKOPE



The Grimm family is on the verge of unveiling The Amazing Story Machine, which runs on steam and dreams, and promises to revolutionize how stories are told. When the contraption malfunctions, they have to invent a way to tell stories on the spot. With help from the audience and a cast of unique puppet characters, fairy tales like “The Hare and the Hedgehog,” “Hansel and Gretel,” and “The Brave Little Tailor” spring to life with a range of charming of puppetry styles and characters, and live, original music.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 16 at 4:30 pm
Austin Town Hall Cultural Center
5610 W. Lake St. (*Austin*)

FRIDAY, JANUARY 17 at 4:30 pm
**Marshall Field Garden Apartments/
Art on Sedgwick**
1408 N. Sedgwick St. (*Old Town*)

SUNDAY, JANUARY 19 at 2 pm
345 Gallery
345 N. Kedzie Ave. (*Garfield Park*)

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 22 at 6 pm
Center on Halsted
3656 N. Halsted St. (*Lakeview*)

THURSDAY, JANUARY 23 at 7 pm
eta Creative Arts Foundation
7558 S. South Chicago Ave. (*Grand Crossing*)

FRIDAY, JANUARY 24 at 5 pm
Experimental Station
6100 S. Blackstone Ave. (*Hyde Park*)

SATURDAY, JANUARY 26 at 10 am +
2 pm
**Berger Park Cultural Center –
Coach House**
6205 N. Sheridan Rd. (*Edgewater*)

SUNDAY, JANUARY 26 at 2 pm
**South Shore Cultural Center Paul
Robeson Theater**
7059 S. South Shore Dr. (*South Shore*)

Learn more at: chicagopuppetfest.org

THE PUPPET HUB

Your Puppetry Destination:
Food, Drink, and Exhibitions



THURSDAY, JANUARY 16 - SUNDAY, JANUARY 26

THE FINE ARTS BUILDING

410 S. Michigan Ave. Studio 433, 4th Floor

Bursting with site-specific activities, the **Puppet Hub** is the perfect place to relax between shows, meet up with friends and make some new ones! Take a break at the **Spoke & Bird Pop-Up Cafe** for coffee, tea, winter soups and baked treats. While you snack, enjoy two special exhibitions: *Lessons in Puppetry* by Myra Su, and *Puppetry Under the Sea*, a display of puppets made by Chicago Puppet Studio for Drury Lane Theatre. You can also venture just a few blocks north to the Chicago Cultural Center for another free exhibition: *Potential Energy: Chicago Puppets Up Close*.

The Hub opens Thursday, Jan 16 with these hours:

9 am - 7:30 pm (closed MLK Day Jan 20)
10 am - 5 pm on Sundays

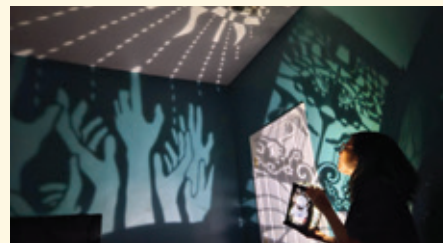
Cafe opens Friday, Jan 17 with these hours:

Friday, January 17: 10 am - 7:30 pm
Saturday, January 18: 10 am - 7:30 pm
Sunday, January 19: 10 am - 4 pm
Closed Jan 20 - 21
Wednesday January 22: 10 am - 7 pm
Thursday, January 23: 10 am - 7 pm
Friday, January 24: 10 am - 7:30 pm
Saturday, January 25: 10 am - 7:30 pm
Sunday, January 26: 10 am - 4 pm

Presented in partnership with
The Spoke & Bird Cafe.



Exhibitions at the PUPPET HUB:



Lessons in Puppetry

In this exhibit, **Myra Su** shares her various puppetry experiments (the good, the bad, and the ugly) and lessons she's learned along the way.



Puppetry Under the Sea

Inspired by coastal parades and spectacles, over 20 puppets, made by the **Chicago Puppet Studio** for Drury Lane Theatre's production of "The Little Mermaid", will be on display.

Exhibition at the CHICAGO CULTURAL CENTER:



Potential Energy: Chicago Puppets Up Close

Chicago Cultural Center, 78 E. Washington Ave.

Michigan Ave. Galleries

Dec 21, 2024 – April 6, 2025. Open daily 10 am - 4:45 pm

Chicago is home to a rich and growing ecology of puppet artists whose work bridges disciplines and communities of makers. This sampling of puppets by local artists challenges expectations about puppetry and inspires the public to tell their own stories. *Co-presented by DCASE and Chicago Puppet Fest. Curated by Grace Needlman + Will Bishop.*

Learn more at: chicagopuppetfest.org

The Chicago International Puppet Theater Festival presents:

THE ELLEN VAN VOLKENBURG

PUPPETRY SYMPOSIUM



SATURDAYS - SUNDAYS: JANUARY 18-19 and 24-25

All panels located at:

**STUDEBAKER THEATER
AT THE FINE ARTS BUILDING**

410 S. Michigan Ave.

Check website for livestream details.

FREE and open to the public

The Ellen Van Volkenburg Puppetry Symposium brings together practicing Festival artists with scholars to consider the intersection of puppetry with other disciplines and ideas.

Puppets Doing and Being

In her 2024 book, Reading the Puppet Stage: Reflections on the Dramaturgy of Performing Objects, Claudia Orenstein notes that puppets enact being alive by doing rather than through written dialogue. The 2025 Ellen Van Volkenburg Puppetry Symposium explores the dramaturgical elements that distinguish puppet theater and actively engage audiences in endowing material with life.

Special thanks:



SATURDAY, JANUARY 18: 10 am - 12 pm

Panel 1 - The Puppet that Brings Us Together: Thoughts on Intercultural Puppetry Arts

This roundtable proposes to explore the challenges, the joys, and the practical and philosophical implications of making intercultural puppetry arts. How do we best engage with people in an intercultural project? What is our relationship to the space where the work is created? How can we engage with objects, materials, and puppets in an intercultural setting?

Panelists: Peter Balkwill (Old Trout Puppet Workshop, Canadian Academy of Masks and Puppetry, University of Calgary, Canada), Ty Defoe (writer, actor, interdisciplinary artist, Ojibwe + Oneida Nations), Teng Teng Lam + Kevin Chio (Rolling Puppet Alternative Theater, Macau) and Dr. Paulette Richards. **Moderated by:** Gabrielle Houle (University of Lethbridge, Canada)

SUNDAY, JANUARY 19: 10 am - 12 pm

Panel 2 – Humans and Objects

The visibility or invisibility of puppeteers manipulating the puppets provokes phenomenological reflection on the nature of human consciousness. What is our relationship to the material world outside of ourselves?

Panelists: Pam Arciero (*Aanika's Elephants*), Julian Crouch (*Birdheart*), Choiti Ghosh (*Maati Katha*), and Gildwen Peronno (*I Killed the Monster*). **Moderated by:** Dr. Paulette Richards

SATURDAY, JANUARY 25: 10 am - 12 pm

Panel 3 – Notes on Sounds and Words

Language, music, and soundscapes are especially important elements in numerous works of puppetry this festival. Artists will discuss how the sounds that arise from manipulation of material, the dialogue, the soundscape, and musical accompaniment complement the puppet as a visual object.

Panelists: Craig Leo (*Life and Times of Michael K*), Yael Rasooly (*The House by the Lake, Edith and Me*), Paula Riquelme (*Organismo*), and Anthony Michael Stokes (*The Scarecrow*). **Moderated by:** Dr. Paulette Richards

SUNDAY, JANUARY 26: 10 am - 12 pm

Panel 2 – The Image Aspect of the Puppet

Claudia Orenstein observes that the puppet must do in order to be. In this panel artists will address the question of how the puppet as kinetic object and the puppet as visual image work together.

Panelists: Alex Bird (*Concerned Others*), Giulia De Canio (*Untold*), Plexus Polaire (*Dracula*), and Josh Rice (*Kayfabe*). **Moderated by:** Dassia N. Posner

WORKS-IN-DEVELOPMENT *and* THE CATAPULT

LOOK! LOOK!

A WORK IN DEVELOPMENT by
VANESSA VALLIERE

Fine Arts Building, Little Studio, 410 S. Michigan Ave., 7th Floor
\$20; \$15 students & seniors | 60 minutes | *For ages 12 and up*
Thursday, January 23 at 5:30 pm; Friday, January 24 at 5:30 pm + 8 pm; and
Saturday, January 25 at 6 pm

A work-in-development told in three vignettes with three women at it's heart.
Created and performed by clown, nerd cheerleader, and Chicago favorite Vanessa
Valliere with support from longtime collaborator Lindsey Noel Whiting.



CATAPULT
ALUMNI MEETUPS!
Join us in the Puppet Hub,
Fine Arts Building, Studio 433:

SUNDAY, JAN 19
1 pm

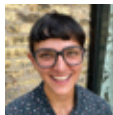
SATURDAY, JAN 25
6 pm

THE CATAPULT

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT
WEEKENDS

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.
Each weekend includes 9 performances in 3 days, with symposium events, some meals, and local transportation.
Cost: \$595. No application required. Hotel is not included in the price, but hotel discount is available (see back cover).

View schedule and register at: ChicagoPuppetFest.org/catapult



SESSION 1: JANUARY 17-19
Led by Grace Needlman



SESSION 2: JANUARY 24-25
Led by Samuel J. Lewis II

WORKSHOPS

MASTER PUPPETRY CLASSES *with Festival Artists*

Fine Arts Building, Little Studio, 410 S. Michigan Ave., 7th Floor
\$60 each | 10 am - 1 pm
Workshops are designed for adult artists working in any discipline. Everyone welcome. No application required.

Plexus Polaire

(Dracula: Lucy's Dream)

Thursday, January 16

Gildwen Peronno

(I Killed the Monster)

Friday, January 17

Alex Bird

(Concerned Others)

Saturday, January 18

Rolling Puppet Alternative Theater

(Made in Macau)

Sunday, January 19

Yael Rasooly

(Edith & Me, House by the Lake)

Monday, January 20

La ruée vers l'or

(Arctic Tall Tales)

Tuesday, January 21

Tram Arts Trust

(Maati Katha)

Wednesday, January 22

Craig Leo

(J.M. Coetzee's Life and Times
of Michael K)

Thursday, January 23

SAVINGS!
Register for two
workshops,
get the third
half off with code
25BUNDLE

Josh Rice

(Kayfabe)

Friday, January 24

Maraña

(Organismo)

Saturday, January 25

Poncili Creación

(Hungry Garden)

Sunday, January 26

Learn more &
REGISTER!
ChicagoPuppetFest.org/Workshops

JOIN US FOR THESE POST FESTIVAL EVENTS...

ANYWHERE

NYC TOUR: HERE ARTS CENTER
FEBRUARY 8 - MARCH 2, 2025

This exquisite, landmark string-marionette work will be touring in New York at the HERE Arts Center.



THE LIVING ROOM TOUR

SPRING 2025: APRIL 24-26

The Living Room Tour events are intimate fundraisers in special settings. Always a wonderful time, each event takes place at a unique, private location.



CHICAGO PUPPET LAB

SHOWCASE: JUNE 2025

The Chicago Puppet Lab is a developmental lab for artists creating new, original puppet theater work. Join us to celebrate their growth and discoveries at this showing of works-in-progress.

PUPPETRY WORKSHOPS

SPRING, SUMMER, FALL 2025

Take a live, online workshop from anywhere in the world, or join us for in-person workshops at the Fine Arts Building in downtown Chicago. Live work sessions, group sharing and personal feedback, combine to make these some of the most enjoyable and productive workshop opportunities available.

Register for classes during Spring, Summer, and Fall sessions in subjects such as Shadow Puppetry, Toy Theater, Hand Puppetry, Crankie, Literature of World Puppetry, and TV Puppetry. Our teachers include Chinese Theatre Works, Tarish "Jeghetto" Pipkins, Dr. Paulette Richards, Roberto Rossi, Myra Su, Blair Thomas, Chad Williams, Linda Wingerter.

Visit **ChicagoPuppetFest.org** for details.



LEAD SPONSORS

It's not too late
to help out!



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It's not too late
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