

Unusual theatre for unconventional spaces wordless - grotesque - poetique

The new show by the Québec theater company Les Sages Fous will be on tour in Europe in 2011.

Le Cirque Orphelin will be available for invitations from the months of August through November 2011.



Le Cirque Orphelin

Among the debris of a scrap yard, between used oil cans, rusted sheet metal, and miscellaneous lost objects, Les Sages Fous invite you to a clandestine rendezvous.

Two junk peddlers invent a small circus to tell the cruel tales which inhabit their nightmares and fantasies. With objects collected from the four corners of the city, they create an outlet for dreams, patching together a world where glitter and ash entwine, brewing magic and mystery in their trash cans. In a dark corner, in the blind spot of the multinational entertainment industry, they search for an angel in the rubble...or a small circus wagon gleaming in the night.

In a kaleidoscopic delirium, where the deconstructed stories intertwine, visual tableaux come to life evoking the life of a cabaret troupe of derelicts and misfits: a tail-less mermaid searching for glory, a circus wagon with a mad eye and a sardonic smile, a cannon-ball worm high on barbiturates, an agoraphobic clown, and an old transvestite who disguises as a bird so he can learn how to fly. This wayward troupe is ruled with an iron fist by none other than the elusive, the fictional, the mysterious impresario, Monsieur P. T. Issimo...himself!

This little circus is a haven for orphaned objects and puppets born strange.

Rehabilitation or exploitation? It is for you to judge, Ladies and Gentlemen!

PRESS FOR CIRQUE ORPHELIN

"I have rarely seen people have such a command of their art form. And most of all, to be able to propose something so original with such a distinctive artistic signature. There is nobody else who does what Les Sages Fous do." **RADIO-CANADA**

Anne Boucher, "Chez-nous le matin", April 2010



Les Sages Fous

Les Sages Fous propose a theatre of paradoxes: grotesque and poetic, ritual and mundane, domestic and marvelous.

The company recreates a lost world where the mask, the puppet, the object, and the human coexist. A theatre where images and gestures speak more strongly than words.

A theatre that is as surprising and disturbing as it is wild and undisciplined.

Les Sages Fous have travelled the world with their two previous shows *Parade Issimo* and *Bizzarium*. The company has participated in the official selection of over 145 international theatre festivals in 25 countries: UNIMA World Congress Festival, Rijeka ; Fira de Tàrrega ; Stockton International Riverside Festival ; International Festival of Puppetry Art, Bielsko-Biala ; La Strada, Graz ; Festival Mondial des Théâtres de Marionnettes de Charleville-Mézières ; MIMOS, Périgueux ; Singapore Arts Festival ; FETA, Gdansk ; Macao Arts Festival ; Materinka Festival, Liberec ; Mooi Weer Spelen, Delft ; Ana Desetnica, Ljubljana ; Viathea, Görlitz ; ZadArsnova, Zadar ; Internatjonale Figurteaterfestivalen, Kristiansand ; PIF Festival, Zagreb ; Internationaal Poppentheater Festival, Dordrecht ; Boulevard Festival, 's-Hertogenbosch ; Galway Arts Festival ; Festivalul International de Teatru de la Sibiu.

PRESS FOR PREVIOUS SHOWS

"Parade Issimo, from the company Les Sages Fous; puppets in a creative frenzy, mask and wild puppet theater with carnival undertones - what Les Sages Fous propose is utterly extravagant. This wordless play (...) is quite exceptional..." LA PRESSE Jean Siag, Montréal, Québec, 2009

"... rare in their beauty and their manipulation. The performance marries street theater with the puppet castellet, the cabinet of curiosities, mixing the strange with the everyday, the domestic with the marvelous. ..." LES CAHIERS DU THÉÂTRE FRANÇAIS (NATIONAL ARTS CENTER) Ludovic Fouquet, Ottawa, Ontario, 2006

"consummate clowning and wondrous puppetry..." THE IRISH TIMES Galway, Ireland, 2006 "Wordless, astonishing, inspiring laughter and fear, Sages Fous performances feature the most extravagant creatures of the imagination." LE DEVOIR Isabelle Porter, Montréal, Québec, 2005

"The Canadian troupe Les Sages Fous, (...), successfully combines farce and lyricism in their performance. (...) between prose and poetry, farce and grace." RE, Revue d'arts et de culture Rijecka, Croatia, 2004

"Les Sages Fous bring their puppets to life so successfully that reality and fantasy are easily confused. (...) Not only do Les Sages Fous astound with their mastery of complex puppet manipulation techniques, they are deeply moving as well. " LE JOURNAL DE QUEBEC

Michel Dufour, Québec, 2002









Conseil des Arts Canada Council for the Arts

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