



NOVEMBER 2018

**LA MAMA
PUPPET
FESTIVAL**

**NOVEMBER
1 - 25, 2018**

WEEK 1

THURS, NOV 1
7pm | *Wunderkammer*

FRI, NOV 2
7pm | *Wunderkammer*

SAT, NOV 3
3 & 7pm | *Wunderkammer*
8:30pm | *Tian Wen*

SUN, NOV 4
3pm | *Tian Wen*

MON, NOV 5
7pm | *Tian Wen*
8:30pm | *Puppet Slam*

WEEK 2

THURS, NOV 8
7pm | *Blind*
8:30pm | *Everything Starts
From A Dot*

FRI, NOV 9
7pm | *Blind*
8:30pm | *Everything Starts
From A Dot*

SAT, NOV 10
Noon | *Don Quixote
Takes New York*
3pm | *Coffeehouse
Chronicles*
7pm | *Everything Starts
From A Dot*
8:30pm | *Blind*

SUN, NOV 11
Noon & 2pm | *Don Quixote
Takes New York*
3pm | *Blind*

WEEK 3

THURS, NOV 15
7pm | *Exodus*
8:30pm | *Food For The Gods*

FRI, NOV 16
7pm | *Food For The Gods*
8:30pm | *Exodus*

SAT, NOV 17
2pm | *Chicken Soup Chicken
Soup*
7pm | *Exodus*
8:30pm | *Food For The Gods*

SUN, NOV 18
Noon | *Chicken Soup
Chicken Soup*
3pm | *Exodus*
5pm | *Food For The Gods*

WEEK 4

FRI, NOV 23
8pm | *Jump Start*

SAT, NOV 24
8pm | *Jump Start*

SUN, NOV 25
5pm | *Jump Start*

**LA MAMA
PUPPET
FESTIVAL**

This year's festival highlights interdisciplinary works from female artists who explore many contemporary issues such as cultural identity, Black Lives Matter, the refugee crisis, and the disability experience. Puppet Festival curator Denise Greber explained, "The majority of creatives in this festival, whether a director, conceptualist, designer, or performer, are women. It's essential to elevate the female perspective."

La MaMa Puppet Festival showcases new contemporary puppet theatre by American and international artists. Puppetry has been an integral part of La MaMa's programming since 1962, when Ellen Stewart invited Pagoon Kang Wouk and his puppet artists from Korea to perform their production of *Head Hunting*. La MaMa Puppet Festival reflects La MaMa's dedication to promoting and presenting innovative puppet theatre.

Denise Greber

Director and Curator of La MaMa Puppet Series

Federico Restrepo

Producing Director of La MaMa Puppet Series

*Cover photo of Blind
Concept by Duda Paiva & Nancy Black
Photo by Patrick Argirakis*



NOVEMBER 1 - 3, 2018

WUNDERKAMMER: CABINET OF CURIOSITIES

*Created & Performed by Alice Therese Gottschalk, Raphael Mürle
and Frank Soehnle (Germany)*

Step into the alluring cabinet of marionettes and allow them to transport you to a place of pure wonder. This cabinet of curiosities illuminates the universal connection between all things, illustrating a world of oneness between art, history, nature and science.

Puppeteers Alice Therese Gottschalk, Raphael Mürle, and Frank Soehnle, all disciples of the internationally-renowned master puppeteer Albrecht Roser, convene as a trio to challenge and intensify their puppeteering skills.

Supported in part by The Jim Henson Foundation Allelu Award, Kulturamt der Stadt Stuttgart, Sparkassenfonds der Stadt Pforzheim.

THE DOWNSTAIRS

Thur and Fri at 7pm

Sat at 3pm & 7pm

Tickets: \$25/\$20 Students & Seniors

Photo by Winfried Reinhardt



NOVEMBER 3 - 5, 2018

TIAN WEN: HEAVENLY QUESTIONS FOR MODERN TIMES

By Visual Expressions

Directed by Hua Hua Zhang (USA/China)

Inspired by a classic Chinese poem, *Tian Wen* is an experimental puppetry performance that uses living sculpture, stylized movement, and live music to depict universal human experiences that Hua Hua Zhang has observed since journeying to America in 1996. In the individual segments--or dreams--of the performance, Zhang explores themes of loneliness, competition, compassion and self-reflection, as well as the balance between love of self and love of other.

Founded in 2002, Visual Expressions is committed to using Asian and Western puppet art to explore universal themes through visual cross-cultural expression in theatrical performances and educational programs. Hua Hua Zhang graduated from the Beijing Art Academy in China, where she studied as a rod puppet performer. In 2000, she received her MFA degree in Puppet Art from the School of Fine Arts Department at the University of Connecticut.

ELLEN STEWART THEATRE

Sat at 8:30pm, Sun at 3pm

Mon at 7pm

Tickets: \$25/\$20 Students & Seniors

Photo by Richard Termine



NOVEMBER 8 - 11, 2018

BLIND

Concept by Duda Paiva Company and Black Hole Theatre

Direction by Nancy Black (Australian/USA)

Choreography and Puppets by Duda Paiva (Dutch-Brazilian)

Duda Paiva suffered an illness that blistered his body and left him temporarily blind. His surreal path to healing involved both shamanic and western medicine. *Blind* transforms this experience into a metaphor about disability, rejection, and resolution. Using puppetry, dance, and referencing music and shamanic rituals from the Yoruba, a unique Afro-Brazilian subculture, *Blind* weaves a rich, theatrical tapestry. It is funny as well as moving. Often engaging the audience as representatives of the wider world, it subtly seeks and finds the political through intimacy.

Duda Paiva Company and Black Hole Theatre create physical and visual performances at the crossroads of dance, puppetry and multimedia. Duda Paiva creates unique, elusive, magical, sometimes painful worlds, always touched by a sense of humor. They present productions in theatres at festivals all over the world for audiences of all ages.

Originally co-produced by Duda Paiva Company [NL], Black Hole Theatre [AUS], Nordland Visual Theatre [NO], and Festival Mondial des Théâtres de Marionnettes [FR], the project was made possible through financial support from the Performing Arts Fund NL.

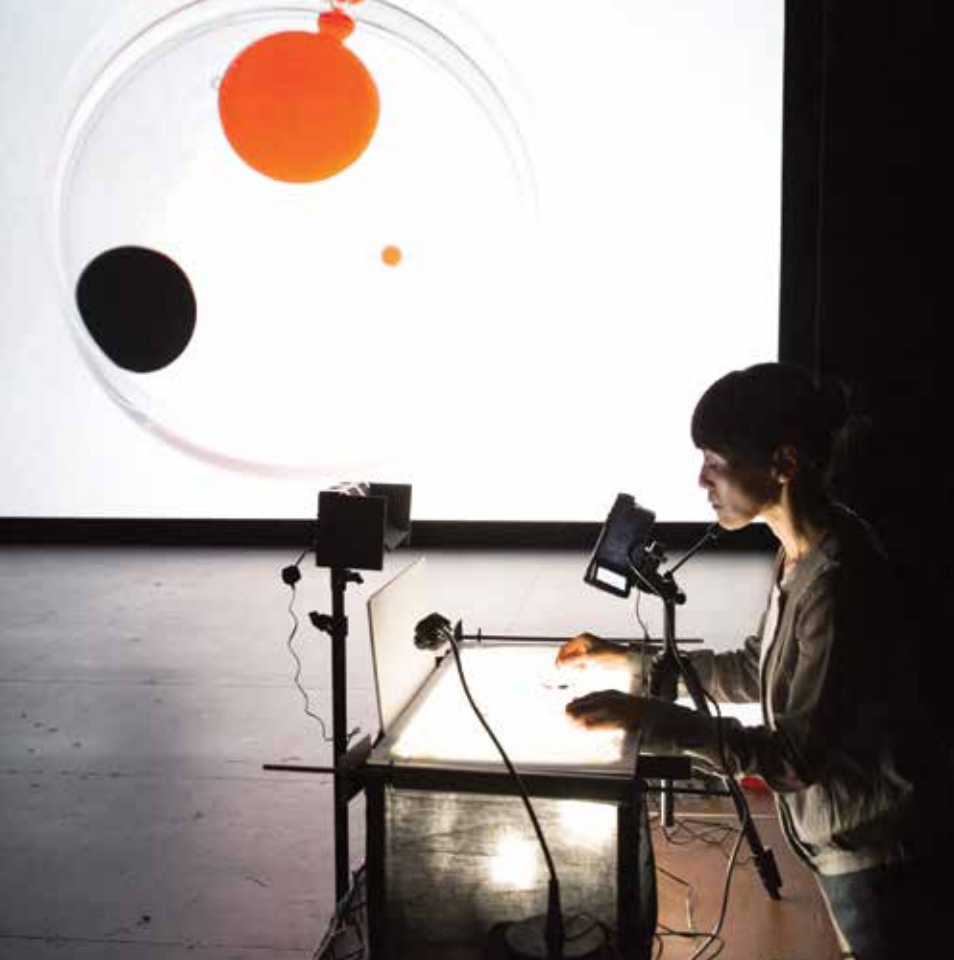
ELLEN STEWART THEATRE

Thurs and Fri at 7pm

Sat at 8:30pm, Sun at 3pm

Tickets: \$25/\$20 Students & Seniors

Photo by Patrick Argirakis



NOVEMBER 8 - 10, 2018

EVERYTHING STARTS FROM A DOT

*Concept, Sound Design & Visual Design by
Nekaa Lab/Sachiyo Takahashi (Japan/USA)*

Inspired by abstract visual artists, notably Wassily Kandinsky, Alexander Calder, and Otto Piene, *Everything Starts from a Dot* is an abstract journey of a humble dot presented through Microscopic Live Cinema-Theatre, combining video projection and the presence of moving objects on stage. The story unfolds solely with abstract characters — shapes, lines, color, light/shadow and sound. An inhabitant of two dimensions, the dot escapes from its familiar environment. Through various encounters and metamorphoses, the dot explores microscopic yet cosmic territories in itself and beyond. The performance is accompanied with electro-acoustic soundtrack, without spoken words.

Sachiyo Takahashi is an artist and composer whose work centers around storytelling. Compositing sensory elements in a minimalist manner, she generates fables for the subconscious.

Supported in part by The Jim Henson Foundation Workshop Grant 2017 and Production Grant 2018. Preliminarily developed as a part of Puppet Lab at St. Ann's Warehouse 2015-2016. Special thanks to: FiveMyles.

THE DOWNSTAIRS

Thur and Fri at 8:30pm

Sat at 7pm

Tickets: \$25/\$20 Students & Seniors

Photo by Richard Termine



NOVEMBER 15 - 18, 2018

EXODUS

Théâtre d'Un Jour (Belgium)

Directed by Patrick Masset

Written as an allegory, *Exodus* is a multi-disciplinary performance that questions large migration waves. Four artists from different backgrounds tell the tragic story of a migrant's deafening silence. They share their dreams of freedom, washed up on the shores of a "free" country. A moment of fragile beauty changes our perception of reality, revealing the delicate nature of the balance and evanescence of life. Told through music, theatre, video, puppet and circus, it is a disturbing symbol of the current situation of refugees facing the "European fortress."

Théâtre d'Un Jour is a Belgian company created by Patrick Masset. The work is a cross-disciplinary mix of circus, music, theatre, and puppet, with a persistent willingness to question what is real.

With support from la Fédération Wallonie-Bruxelles (B), Wallonie-Bruxellex International, la Région Wallonne (B), Le 140 (B), la Chaufferie-Acte 1 (B), ESACT - Ecole Supérieure d'Acteurs de Liège (B), le Centre Culturel de Namur/ les Abattoirs of Bomel (B), le Zomer Van Antwerpen (B), le Festival Mondial des Théâtres de Marionnettes de Charleville-Mézières (F), l'Espace Catastrophe - Centre International de Création des Arts du Cirque (B), l'Abbaye de Leffe (B), l'Allumette (B).

ELLEN STEWART THEATRE

Thur at 7pm, Fri at 8:30pm

Sat at 7pm, Sun at 3pm

Tickets: \$25/\$20 Students & Seniors

Photo By Philippe Van Bossche



NOVEMBER 15 - 18, 2018

FOOD FOR THE GODS

By Khunum Productions

Written and Directed by Nehprie Amenii

Food for the Gods is a multimedia performance installation about human value, a three-part expression of rage, indifference, and celestial knowing. Inspired by the killings of Black men, this work uses object and puppet performance to explore dehumanization, light, invisibility, and, well...the magical-less-ness of it all.

Khunum Productions is a platform for Creative Anthropology that produces highly visual narrative-based productions, that combines the personal, the social, and the magical to create experiences that transform the human heart, and thus our society. Nehprie Amenii is a writer, director, puppeteer, and the artistic director of Khunum Productions.

Made possible in part by public funds from Creative Engagement / Creative Learning, supported by the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council, administered by Lower Manhattan Cultural Council, and through the generous support of the Puffin Foundation.

THE DOWNSTAIRS

Thur at 8:30pm, Fri at 7pm

Sat at 8:30pm, Sun at 5pm

Tickets: \$25/\$20 Students & Seniors

Photo by Jenny Sharp



NOVEMBER 23 - 25, 2018

JUMP START -A PRESENTATION OF WORKS-IN-PROGRESS

Puppeteer and theatre artists get a chance to showcase their works-in-progress.

FEATURED WORKS:

FRI, NOV 23 AT 8PM

Tom Lee and Lisa Gonzales - *Place No Place*
Loco7 Dance Puppet Theatre - *The Final Lesson*
Maiko Kikuchi - *Daydream Tutorial*
Concrete Temple Theatre - *Packrat*

SAT, NOV 24 AT 8PM

Torry Bend - *Dreaming*
Loco7 Dance Puppet Theatre - *The Final Lesson*
Maiko Kikuchi - *Daydream Tutorial*
Sova Theater - *While You Are Out*

SUN, NOV 25 AT 5PM

Torry Bend - *Dreaming*
Loco7 Dance Puppet Theatre - *The Final Lesson*
Concrete Temple Theatre - *Packrat*
Sova Theater - *While You Are Out*

Stage Manager Hjordis Linn-Blanford

THE DOWNSTAIRS

Tickets: \$20/\$15 Students & Seniors

Photo @Tom Lee & Lisa Gonzales



FAMILY EVENTS

NOVEMBER 10 - 11, 2018

DON QUIXOTE TAKES NEW YORK

*By Loco7 Dance Puppet Theatre
Re-Imagined & Co-Directed By
Federico Restrepo & Denise Greber*

Don Quixote and his friend Sancho Panza travel the five boroughs of New York City on a quest to save the world from evil forces and protect Lady Liberty. Come follow Don Quixote on his quest for love, honor, liberty and justice for all. Ages 4 and up — fun for the whole family!

Loco7 Theatre productions utilize original music, dancers, body puppets and larger-than-life marionettes. Restrepo's intense love and passion for the history of the Americas and his journeys in New York have been a constant inspiration for all his work.

THE DOWNSTAIRS

Sat at Noon

Sun at Noon & 2pm

Tickets: \$15

NOVEMBER 17 -18, 2018

CHICKEN SOUP, CHICKEN SOUP

By WonderSpark Puppets

Chicken Soup, Chicken Soup is a puppet show based on the beloved *PJ Library* book by Pamela Mayer. The story revolves around two grandmothers, one Jewish and one Chinese, who come up with elaborate ways to show their granddaughter that their cultural heritage (their chicken soup) is the best.

Founded in 2009 by husband and wife duo Z. Briggs and Chad Williams, WonderSpark Puppets performs for New York City audiences of all ages.

THE DOWNSTAIRS LOUNGE

Sat at 2pm, Sun at Noon

Tickets: \$15

*Photo of Don Quixote Takes New York
Photo by Theo Cote*



SPECIAL EVENTS

NOVEMBER 5, 2018 PUPPET SLAM

*Curated by
Jane Catherine Shaw*

Puppeteer and theatre artist Jane Catherine Shaw will curate a one-night only Puppet Slam featuring contemporary short-form puppet and object theatre from both emerging and veteran puppet artists.

Stage Manager Hjordis Linn-Blanford

THE DOWNSTAIRS

*Mon at 8:30pm
Tickets: \$20/\$15 Students
& Seniors*

NOVEMBER 10, 2018 COFFEEHOUSE CHRONICLES

Curated by Michal Gamily

CELEBRATING RALPH LEE

Renowned puppeteer Ralph Lee is the focus of *Coffeehouse Chronicles*, an ongoing program at La MaMa that explores the history and development of Off-Off Broadway. Part artist portrait, part creative event, part history lesson, part community forum, it is an intimate engagement with art.

THE DOWNSTAIRS

*Sat at 3pm
Tickets: \$10/\$5 Students & Seniors*

*Photo of Ralph Lee
Photo @ 6sqft/Erin Kestenbaum*

LA MAMA

66 East 4th Street | New York, NY 10003

FOR TICKETS visit lamama.org or call 212-352-3101

THE ELLEN STEWART THEATRE

66 East 4th Street, 2nd Floor

THE DOWNSTAIRS

66 East 4th Street, basement level

PUPPET FESTIVAL SUPPORT PROVIDED BY

The 8th La MaMa Puppet Festival Fall 2018 has been made possible with support from Ford Foundation, Howard Gilman Foundation, The Jim Henson Foundation, Puppet Slam Network, The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, The Shubert Foundation, The Harold and Mimi Steinberg Charitable Trust and public support by the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs and New York State Cultural on the Arts. We gratefully acknowledge additional support from an anonymous donor and Cheryl Henson.



Council on
the Arts



LA MAMA PUPPET FESTIVAL

10 @ \$10 TICKETS

10@\$10 Tickets are now on sale! You can see any show at La MaMa for only \$10—that's 5 shows for \$50 or ten shows for only \$100! It's the best deal in town, but you have to act fast because there are only ten \$10 tickets per performance and they sell out quickly!

5 SHOW PACKAGES

August - September 17 - 5 shows for \$65

September 18 - October 31 - 5 shows for \$75

November 1 - November 13 - 5 shows \$90

3 SHOW PACKAGES

August - September 17 - 3 shows for \$40

September 18 - October 31 - 3 shows for \$50

November 1 - November 19 - 3 shows \$60

2 SHOW PACKAGES

August - September 17 - 2 shows for \$30

September 18 - October 31 - 2 shows for \$35

November 1 - November 25 - 2 shows \$40

THE PUPPET LOUNGE

Join us for snacks, drinks, and conversation in The Puppet Lounge! Video installations, Puppet Portraits, Music and Meet Ups with the festival artists.

Saturday, Nov 3 from 8pm to 10pm
Saturday, Nov 10 from 8pm to 11pm
Friday, Nov 17 from 8pm to 11pm

VISIT BETWEEN SHOWS

Thursdays & Saturdays 8pm - 9pm
Sundays 5pm - 6pm
at The Puppet Lounge, located in the lobby of The Downstairs.



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**LAMAMA
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