LaMaMa

presents

As part of the La MaMa Puppet Festival

Mirrored Pool

Created and Performed by
Tom Lee, Matthew Duvall, Lisa Kaplan



The Downstairs
66 East 4th Street, NYC, 10003
November 27-29, 2026

Mirrored Pool

Created and Performed by
Tom Lee
Matthew Duvall
Lisa Kaplan

Puppeteer: Tom Lee
Music by Matthew Duvall and Lisa Kaplan
Puppet and Mask Designer: Jaerin Son
Lighting Designer: Seojung Jang
Puppetry Director: Justin Otaki Perkins
Associate Puppet Designer/Stage Manager: Averly Sheltraw
Associate Puppet Director: Josh Rice
Water machine: Kentaro Okuda
Spot Operator: Seojung Jang
Press Rep David Gibbs | DARR Publicity

Eighth Blackbird Music Credits
Mirrored Pool Lullaby (2025) – Lisa Kaplan
Suite for Toy Piano (1948) – John Cage

The rest of the music for The *Mirrored Pool* is inspired by Carl Sagan's curated Golden Record, which is on the Voyager spacecraft- the furthest human-made object from Earth.

We acknowledge the following works and composers:

The Rite of Spring – Igor Stravinsky

Prelude I. from the Well-Tempered Clavier Book II – Johann Sebastian Bach

Tsuru No Sugomori (Crane's Nest) – Goro Yamaguchi

Johnny B. Goode – Chuck Berry

Melancholy Blues – Louis Armstrong

Created with the support of:

Chicago International Puppet Theater Festival

Yara Arts Group, Virlana Tkacz, Artistic Director

Caitlin McLeod

Rowena Liu

Riley Lynch

Olenka Tsyhankova

Ayla Gibbons-Whatley

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Ethan Cowburn

Henry DeLuca

Jacky Kelsey

an Eighth Blackbird production in association with Yara Arts Group with support from the MAP fund

On Wednesday, Nov 18, 2026 at an approximately 5:18am Eastern Time, NASA's Voyager 1 space probe became the first human-made object to travel 1 light day, 16.1 billion miles, since its launch almost 50 years ago.

Tom Lee is a teacher, puppet artist, designer and director. He began his career at La MaMa Experimental Theatre in New York with the encouragement of Ellen Stewart. Tom's work often explores manipulated objects, miniatures and figures in dialogue with animations and projections. Mr. Lee grew up in Hawai'i and is a student of Japanese puppeteer Koryū Nishikawa V, master of the kuruma ningyō cart puppet tradition which inspires the puppetry in *Mirrored Pool.* Tom's original work includes ensemble and solo puppet theater pieces including *Shank's Mare, Hoplite Diary, Sounding the Resonant Path*, and *Tomte* that have toured the U.S., Japan, France, Bulgaria and Indonesia. Mr. Lee was a puppeteer in *War Horse* (Broadway), *Florencia en el Amazonas* (Met Opera), *The Queen of Spades* (Lyric Opera), *Le Grand Macabre* (NY Philharmonic), *Disfarmer* (St. Ann's Warehouse), *La Divina Caricatura* (La MaMa). He has been a principal puppeteer with the Metropolitan Opera production of *Madama Butterfly* for 20 years. Recently, he performed *The Magic of Light (магія світла)* with Yara Arts Group in Kharkiv, Ukraine, opened the Pesta Boneka Puppetry Festival in Yogyakarta, Indonesia, and co-created the puppet theater adaptation of Ursula K. LeGuin's *The Left Hand of Darkness* at the Chicago International Puppet Theater Festival. Tom teaches puppetry nationally and internationally and is co-director of the Chicago Puppet Studio and Chicago Puppet Lab. Mr Lee is the 2025-2027 Astere E. Claeyssens Artist in Residence at the School of Communication at Northwestern University. www.tomleeprojects.com

What kind of a connection develops after more than two decades of shared imagination, inspiration, and the work of creating art? Symbiotic experience. Anticipated actions. Unspoken conversations. The result is an extraordinary leadership team. **Lisa Kaplan** and **Matthew Duvall** met and began making music together in curriculum ensembles at Oberlin College in 1992, driven by a compatible fascination with rigorous challenges and unexpected outcomes. Together with their ensemble mates, they created Eighth Blackbird, a four-time Grammy Award-winning sextet that commissions and champions the creation of new works, mentors emerging artists through the Blackbird Creative Lab and extensive residencies, and expands the boundaries of the concert experience focusing on the principles of collaboration and inclusivity. In addition to their world-traveling artistic exploits, Lisa and Matthew have ascended to the summit of Mt. Kilimanjaro and descended into the basin of Tanzania's Ngorongoro crater, discovering that stage fright is nothing compared to being stared down by an elephant. And by the way, they were born in the same Motown hospital (but not on the same day). The universe has a sense of humor. eighthblackbird.org

David Gibbs (Press Representative) (he/him) is the founder of DARR Publicity, a boutique entertainment press agency specializing in theater, comedy, dance, film, music and unique theatrical events. His clients have won Drama Desk, Lucille Lortel, Obie and Off Broadway Alliance Awards, and have been nominated for Bessie and Chita Rivera Awards. www.DarrPublicity.com

La MaMa

Puppet Festival

Week 1

Wednesday, Nov 11
8:30 PM: Endless Forms

Thursday, Nov 12
7 PM: Endless Forms
8:30 PM: Tiresias...
9:30 PM: Endless Forms

Friday, Nov 13
7 PM: Endless Forms
8:30 PM: Tiresias...

Saturday, Nov 14
11 AM: The Dandelion's Wish
12 PM: Endless Forms
2 PM: Tiresias...
6 PM: Tiresias...
8 PM: The Undercity

Sunday, Nov 15
12 PM: The Dandelion's Wish
2 PM: Tiresias...
3 PM The Undercity
5PM: Tiresias...
6 PM: The Undercity

Week 2

Monday, Nov 16
7 PM: The Undercity

Thursday, Nov 19
7 PM: Everything that Follows
8:30 PM: Where did you go, Connie?

Friday, Nov 20
7 PM: Everything that Follows
8:30 PM: Where did you go, Connie?

Saturday, Nov 21
10 AM: From Concept to Ask Workshop
2 PM: Everything that Follows
4 PM: Where did you go, Connie?
6 PM: Everything that Follows

Sunday, Nov 22
2 PM: Everything that Follows
4 PM: Where did you go, Connie?

NYC Cultural Affairs
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The Shubert Foundation Inc.
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Cheryl Henson & The Jim Henson Foundation

NOV 11-DEC 6, 2026

DENISE GREBER, DIRECTOR & CURATOR
FEDERICO RESTREPO, PRODUCING DIRECTOR

Puppetry has been an integral part of La MaMa's programming since 1962. By setting objects in motion, puppet artists can penetrate linguistic and cultural barriers to tell stories that are accessible to audiences around the world. In 2004, we introduced the La MaMa Puppet Series, a biannual festival showcasing new contemporary puppet theatre. Since then, La MaMa has produced twelve puppet festivals.

The Downstairs
66 East 4th Street, basement level

The Club
74a East 4th Street, 2nd floor

The Community Arts Space
74a East 4th Street, 3rd floor

For Tickets
visit lamama.org
Box Office: 646-430-5374
Mon - Fri 11am to 5pm

Week 3

Monday, Nov 23
7 PM: Everything that Follows

Friday, Nov 27
7 PM: Mirror Pool
8 PM: Jump Start

Saturday, Nov 28
12 PM - 3 PM: Intuitive Hand Puppets Workshop
2 PM: Mirror Pool
4 PM: Jump Start
6 PM: Mirror Pool

Sunday, Nov 29
2 PM: Mirror Pool
4 PM: Jump Start

Week 4

Thursday, Dec 3
7 PM: En Mer Avec Louise Bourgeois
8 PM: Husks From Iran

Friday, Dec 4
7 PM: En Mer Avec Louise Bourgeois
8 PM: Husks From Iran

Saturday, Dec 5
2 PM: En Mer Avec Louise Bourgeois
3 PM: Husks From Iran

Sunday, Dec 6
2 PM: En Mer Avec Louise Bourgeois
3 PM: Husks From Iran

Weeks 1, 3, & 4

Nov 12-Dec 6
Assortment
A collection of stop-motion and digitally animated films running on loop in the lobby of building 74a E 4th Street.

The 12th La MaMa Puppet Festival Fall 2026 is made possible by the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council, the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of the Office of the Governor and the New York State Legislature, the Howard Gilman Foundation, The Jim Henson Foundation, and The Shubert Foundation. Additional support from Cheryl Henson is gratefully acknowledged.

DAVID GIBBS | DARR PUBLICITY
PRESS REP

A full program with information on this
production can be found on the
La MaMa website page of
Mirrored Pool

In addition you can scan the
QR code Poster located in the theatre lobby
for access to the digital program.

LA MAMA

RESTORE A BUILDING
REMAKE A WORLD



Rendering: 74 East 4th St.

La MaMa's historic, landmark building at 74 East 4th Street underwent an urgently needed complete renovation and restoration to preserve the historic façade, create building-wide ADA accessibility, and provide much needed performance, exhibition and community space for decades to come.

La MaMa, founded by Ellen Stewart in 1961, has been on east 4th Street since 1967. La MaMa embraces every person in its community and is legendary as the place where new artists of all nations, cultures, races, and identities are given opportunities. It is the place where art begins.

To learn more about the renovation, or to make a donation please visit www.lamama.org/remakeaworld

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July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2026

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(Mon - Fri 11am to 5pm)

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Endless Forms
La MaMa Puppet Festival
Nov 11-14, 2026
The Downstairs Theatre

Tiresias' New Weird Future
La MaMa Puppet Festival
Nov 12-15, 2026
The Club

The Undercity
La MaMa Puppet Festival
Nov 14-16, 2026
The Downstairs Theatre

La MaMa Kids
The Dandelion's Wish
La MaMa Puppet Festival
Nov 14-15, 2026
Community Arts Space

Where Did You Go Connie?
La MaMa Puppet Festival
Nov 19-24, 2026
The Downstairs Theatre

COMING SOON

Everything That Follows
La MaMa Puppet Festival
Nov 19-23, 2026
Building 74a E 4th Street

Mirrored Pool
La MaMa Puppet Festival
Nov 27-29, 2026
The Downstairs Theatre

Jump Start Works-in-Progress
La MaMa Puppet Festival
Nov 27-29, 2026
The Club

En Mer Avec Louise Bourgeois
La MaMa Puppet Festival
Dec 3-6, 2026
Community Arts Space

Husks From Iran
La MaMa Puppet Festival
Dec 3-6, 2026
The Club

Special Events
Assortment - Nov 11- Dec 6
One-Day intensive Workshop - Nov 21
Hand Puppet Making Workshop - Nov 28