



A THÉÂTRE À L'ENVERS

PRODUCTION

WOLANDA

A THEATRE PLAY FOR
ACTORS, PUPPETS AND
SHADOWS



Promotional kit



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PLAY SUMMARY

What could possibly happen when a frog decides to take up residence in the pipes of a bathroom? A lot of commotion... especially when the frog, Woânda, comes face to face with Laura, the child who lives in the same house!

Laura is a lively and spontaneous little girl whose mother is seriously ill. To numb her sorrow, Laura takes refuge in painting: with her brushes full of colors, she fills canvasses with her emotions. But her world is turned upside down the day she loses her lucky charm, a ring given by her mother, down the plug hole of the bathroom sink.

Laura's search for the ring takes her through a whirlwind of twists and turns that combine dream with reality, laughter with tears, fears with friendship. And, of course, Woanda the frog becomes Laura's invaluable ally.

Puppets, shadows and video projections create Laura and Grandpa's world at home, as well as the mysterious world of pipes, dreams and imagination that Laura explores with Woânda. The unusual friendship she strikes up with the frog helps Laura to deal with the uncertain emotions she experiences. Above all, Laura learns how to overcome her fear of the unknown and to look positively towards the future and all it holds.

A teacher's Guide is available. We also offer shadow theatre workshops, which can be part of preparatory activities for a theatre outing.

Team: 5 people (2 actors, 1 puppeteer, 1 musician, 1 stage manager)

Show time: 47 minutes

Target audience: 4 to 9 years old

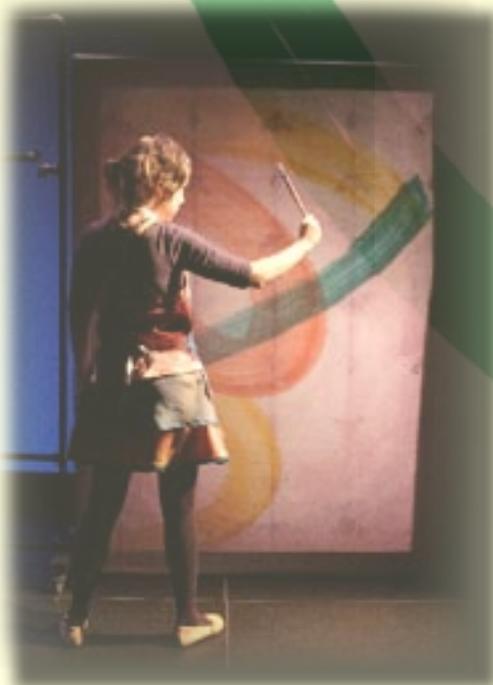


Photo: Michel Pinault



CRÉDITS

WRITTEN & DIRECTED BY

Patricia Bergeron

TRANSLATED BY

Maurice Roy

STAGE MANAGER

Jacinthe Plamondon

SET DESIGN

Fanny Bisailon-Gendron

COSTUME DESIGN

Sophie Brosseau

MAKE-UP

Aurélia Boullen

PUPPET DESIGN

Mélanie Charest

Daniel Auclair

SOUND DESIGN

Maryse Poulin

LIGHTING & SHADOW THEATRE DESIGN

Lynn Katrine Richard

PRODUCTION MANAGER & SHADOW THEATRE DESIGN

Joëlle Tougas

CAST

Patricia Bergeron, puppeteer

Mariève Bibeau, as Laura

Richard Fréchette, as Grandpa

Maryse Poulin, musician



Woânda is based on an original idea by
Joëlle Tougas, Patricia Bergeron & Lynn Katrine Richard



ABOUT WOÂNDA

Woânda, a play with actors, puppets and shadows, is the Théâtre À l'Envers's first production and the result of two years of research and exploration.

We began in the fall of 2005: over a 3-month period, the creators gave regular workshops on drama and shadow theatre to two classes of 4th-6th graders of the Saint-Isaac-Jogues school in Montreal. These workshops enable us to develop a direct relationship with the target audience.

In April 2006, several groups of adults and children (including those mentioned above) attended performances of the work in progress, presented as part of an artistic residency offered by the *Maison de la culture (MDC) Villeray – Saint-Michel – Parc-Extension*.

On January 30, 2007, Patricia Bergeron, Lynn Katrine Richard and Joëlle Tougas founded Théâtre À l'Envers (TAE). In February of the same year, the company won the contest *Mon accès à la scène*, organized by *La Fondation du maire de Montréal pour la jeunesse*, in collaboration with *MDC Villeray Saint-Michel – Parc-Extension* and *Cirque du Soleil*.

In July 2007, Théâtre À l'Envers received its first grant from *Canada Council for the Arts* to support the production of *Woanda*, and was soon joined by co-producer Théâtre Quatre/Corps. A second residency at *MDC Villeray–St-Michel–Parc-Extension* concluded on October 21, 2007 with the premiere of the play.

OUR MISSION

Théâtre À l'Envers wants to create original theatre shows based on a research and experimentation process that focuses on blending different artistic and theatrical forms (puppetry, shadow theatre, mask theatre, video, music, dance).

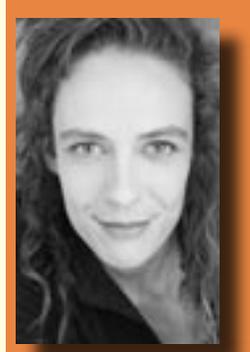
We develop our shows by alternating creative work periods with series of public performances of the project in order to build from the audience's feedback.

Woânda was performed more than twenty times during seasons 2007-2008 and 2008-2009, and selected to participate in *La Relève en tournée*, a *Loto-Québec* tour for young artists supported by *Fondation du maire de Montréal pour la jeunesse*, in collaboration with *Réseau Accès Culture*. In the fall of 2008, *Entrées en scène Loto-Québec 2009*'s jury chose Théâtre À l'Envers to showcase *Woanda* at the *Bourse RIDEAU 2009* event, held in Quebec City in February, 2009. An extract from the show was performed for theater programmers, which resulted in a 60-show tour across Quebec for the 2009-2010 season. This tour was also supported by *Conseil des arts et des lettres du Québec*. In 2013-2014, The *Conseil des arts de Montréal* on tour supported the most recent tour of *Woânda* on Montréal's territory.



MANAGEMENT TEAM

PATRICIA BERGERON Artistic and general director



A stage director, actor, puppeteer and author, Patricia Bergeron completed an acting degree in 1998 at l'École supérieure de théâtre. She has been in over twelve professional stage productions in Canada and abroad, namely with Carbone 14, L'Illusion (puppet theatre), Théâtre de la Dame de Coeur and Théâtre Sans Frontières (in England). She has participated in mask theatre, puppetry and dance workshops, in France, Italy and Canada. Over the last eight years, she has directed many shows, including one that combined classical music with shadow theatre, for pianist Arturo Nieto Dorantes. She has 12 years experience in facilitating workshops on puppetry, mask and shadow theatre for children, and also offers private coaching for actors. Patricia is very involved in cultural mediation and is an artist-mediator at TOHU in Montreal, where she works with multidisciplinary artists from different cultural backgrounds. She is currently doing Masters Program in theatre at Université du Québec à Montréal, which mainly focuses on the combination of dance and puppetry.

LYNN KATRINE RICHARD
Technical director



Lynn Katrine graduated from the École supérieure de théâtre (UQAM) in theatre scenography. Since then, she has specialized in lighting and sound design, as well as technical directing and stage managing, for which she has been hired by many young theatre companies of Quebec (Les Productions l'Être Insecte, Le Vieux Coffre, Théâtre du Grand Cornu, Théâtre Camera Obscura).

Lynn Katrine is fascinated by light and shadow effects, and tries to combine different scenic mediums to broaden her means of expression. She participated in two Teatro Gioco Vita workshops entitled Chercheurs d'ombres during the International Puppet Arts Festival, in 2008 and 2010. Another of Lynn Katrine's passions is teaching, and that is why she also completed a Drama Teaching Degree for elementary, primary and secondary education. She has been trained for cultural mediation as well. She did the lighting and shadow theater design for Woânda. Some years later, she wrote and directed the second production of the company : L'Ezdaï.



OUR PAST SEASONS

2007 - 2008 SEASON

Salle de diffusion Parc-Extension, Montréal
Salle communautaire le Trait d'Union, Longueuil
Pavillon de l'Île Saint-Bernard, Châteauguay
Maison de la culture Plateau Mont-Royal
Maison de la culture Frontenac, Montréal
Théâtre Mirella et Lino Saputo, Saint-Léonard

2009 - 2010 SEASON

Auditorium Patro Le Prévost, Villeroy
Auditorium de la Polyvalente Montignac, Lac-Mégantic
École secondaire de Beaconsfield, Beaconsfield
Théâtre Lionel-Groulx, Sainte-Thérèse
Pavillon de l'Entrepôt, Lachine
Théâtre des Deux-Rives, Saint-Jean-sur-Richelieu
Salle Jean-Després, Gatineau
Salle Pauline-Julien, Sainte-Genève
Centre Marcel-Dulude, Saint-Bruno-de-Montarville
Centre culturel de Drummondville
Maison des arts de Laval
Théâtre Hector-Charland, L'Assomption
Maison de la culture Pointe-aux-Trembles
Salle Mechatigan, Sainte-Marie-de-Beauce
Salle Albert-Phaneuf, Saint-Hubert
Ville Mont-Royal
Centre d'art de Richemond
Pavillon des arts et de la culture de Coaticook
Salle Alphonse-Desjardins, Rivière-du-Loup
École secondaire l'Arc-en-ciel, Trois-Pistoles
Centre des Arts de Shawinigan
Arts de la scène Montmagny
École secondaire de Cabano
Spect'Art, Rimouski
Maximum 90, Carleton
C.D. Spectacles, Gaspé
Village en chanson de Petite-Vallée
Productions de la Salle Comble
CoDeC d'Amqui
Salle Jean-Marc Dion, Sept-Îles
Comité de spectacle de Havre-Saint-Pierre
Café-Théâtre Graffiti, Port-Cartier
Théâtre Palace Arvida, Jonquière
Théâtre Métabetchouan
Salle Desjardins Maria-Capdeleine, Dolbeau-Mistassini
Théâtre de Baie-Comeau
Domaine Forget de Charlevoix

2008 - 2009 SEASON

Théâtre du Grand Sault
Maison culturelle et communautaire de Montréal-Nord
Maison de la culture Rivière-des-Prairies
Maison de la culture Marie-Uguay
Maison de la culture Notre-Dame-de-Grâce
Maison de la culture Mercier
Théâtre Paul-Émile-Meloche de Vaudreuil-Dorion
La Petite Église, Saint-Eustache
Centre culturel de Joliette
Palace de Granby

2010 - 2011 SEASON

Salle Maurice-Savaria de l'École secondaire du Grand-Coteau, Sainte-Julie
Auditorium de la Polyvalente St-Joseph, Mont-Laurier
Maison de la culture de Gatineau
Salle Rolland-Brunelle, Joliette
Salle de diffusion Parc-Extension
Salle André-Prévost, Saint-Jérôme
Maison de la culture Rosemont - La-Patite-Patrie
Auditorium Le Prévost, Villeroy

2012 - 2013 SEASON

Centre multifonctionnel Francine Gadbois, Boucherville
Théâtre Mirella et Lino Saputo, Saint-Léonard
Maison de la culture Mercier, Montréal
École des Nations, Montréal
Salle de diffusion Parc-extension, Montréal

2013 - 2014 SEASON

Centre Harpell, Saint-Anne-de-Bellevue
Complexe sportif de Kirkland
Théâtre du Grand Sault, LaSalle
Pavillon de l'entrepôt, Lachine
Maison de la culture Marie-Uguay, Montréal
École secondaire de Beaconsfield (en anglais)
Auditorium de la Grande Bibliothèque, Montréal

2014 - 2015 SEASON

Centre communautaire, Blainville
Salle de diffusion Parc-extension, Montréal (en français et en anglais)
Théâtre Léonard-Saint-Laurent, Sherbrooke



CONTACT



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