

Created by

THÉÂTRE À L'ENVERS

For children
5 years of age
and older

THE LITTLE GIRL AND THE BIRDS

A visual poem of shadows and music

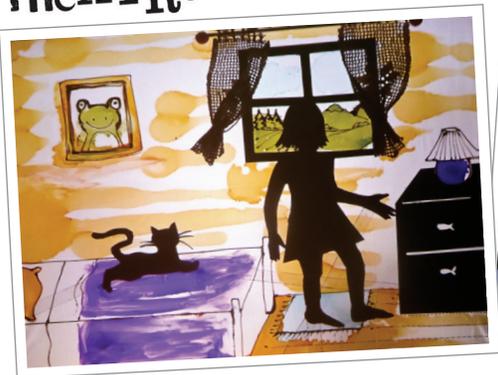
www.theatrealenvers.ca

Illustration: Riverjune

CONSEIL
DES ARTS
DE MONTRÉAL

naître
ET grandir

THÉÂTRE À L'ENVERS



Illustrations: Riverjune

The Little Girl and the Birds

The tale of *The Little Girl and the Birds* is a metaphor illustrating the beauty and pitfalls of the creative process. A little girl is swinging in her garden, when suddenly she hears the cry of a mysterious bird. The bird draws her into the hollow of an old tree, where she climbs down into a secret cave. There she discovers a cloth bag. But the bag keeps filling itself with birds as the little girl tries to bring it back home, beyond the maze of roots she must navigate to find the exit. At first, the birds are frail young chicks, so delicate you'd think they were made of dust, but they soon grow into a multitude of feisty, wild birds asking to be released so that they can fly away. She tries to abandon the bag, but the further she gets away from it, the more the birds' cries seem to beg her to not to leave. Frightened, she begins singing to herself, and this soothes the birds. It is by trusting what is hidden deep within her and following her intuition that she will allow herself to be guided by the cry of a single bird who will lead her to the exit, and onto new opportunities to explore life.

Information:

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General Co-Director and Artistic director
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This visual poem takes the form of shadow projections on a large screen, accompanied by live music played on a violin and/or piano. The story is an invitation to take the plunge into one's very core and imagination, and give free rein to the creative spirit.

Story: Oriane Smith

Stage director: Patricia Bergeron

Performers: Puppeteers and Oriane Smith (musician)

Target audience: Children 5 years of age and older

Length: 45 minutes (indoor version) and 30 minutes (outdoor version)

Capacity: 100 to 300 persons

Performance area (outdoors): 7.31 m x 6.40m (24' wide x 21' deep)

Performance area (indoors): 10.46 m x 7.62m (34'9" wide x 25'2" deep)

Set-up: 3 to 4 hours before the performance

Strike: 1 hour to 1-1/2 hours

Number of people on the tour: 2 (outdoor version) and 5 (indoor version)

Technical aspects: See the detailed description

Demonstration video: <https://vimeo.com/504948149/19d2a77056>

Shadow theatre workshops for children (aged 4-12 years) and their families:

www.theatrealenvers.ca/TAE/en/shadow-theatre

Illustration workshops: also available with the illustrator and muralist Riverjune