

L'éternité des fleurs (Eternity of Flowers)



L'éternité des fleurs tells the story of a dying child and an old woman who defy the rules of time by embarking on a journey where the child gets to live a full life in only one day. Freely inspired by the book *Oscar et la dame rose* by Éric-Emmanuel Schmitt and other parallel texts, this show explores themes of time, death and presence. A stale and impersonal hospital room explodes into an adventure that celebrates life and death as inseparable parts of our time here on earth. Both playful and serious, *L'éternité des fleurs* brings the audience on a journey through joy, beauty and hope, encouraging us to trust the unknown.

The first version of *L'éternité des fleurs* was created in 2021 as part of the contemporary puppetry program at UQAM. The premiere of the full-length show will happen on the 11th of March, 2023.



The creative process:

What lies at the heart of our work is the process of transformation. We work with everyday objects that we deconstruct in front of the audience to create new images and realities. We constantly invite ourselves to look at the objects we work with as if we see them for the first time, trying not to be limited by their assumed real-life purpose and function. Thus, our whole creative process has become rooted in the transformational capacities of our objects. A bed and a window transform themselves time after time until there is nothing left on stage but the pieces and particles of a fully lived life. Just as in death, where the particles that shape our bodies become something else, our puppet and our objects slowly go through this transformation on stage and take us to the root of our existence.



Verdandi Theatre:

Marika Karlsson is an actor and puppeteer based in Tiohtià:ke/ Montreal. Her artistic journey started in Finland where she studied theatre and music during most of her youth. After moving to Canada, she continued her studies with a BFA in theatre performance at Concordia University, which is where she developed a particular interest for somatic theatre practices and the art of puppetry. In 2021 she graduated from the contemporary puppetry program at l'UQÀM, and participates in various artistic projects in the Montreal art scene both as an actor, puppeteer and creative collaborator. In 2020 she co-created the company Synthèse Additive, which is currently on tour with their first show *SCOOOOOTCH!*. She collaborates frequently with Boulouki Theatre and currently works with Le Théâtre Catapulte for their show *Illusions* that will be presented at La Nouvelle Scène in Ottawa in May, 2023.



Yana K.M is a performer and a visual artist from Siberia. Her current art practice is a blend of physical theatre, puppetry, free movement and ritual. While growing up in Russia Yana studied ballet, classical music and theater. In her early twenties she worked towards her Master's Degree in Fine Arts in New York experimenting with photography, installation, performances, and animation. In her thirties Yana spent two years in Indonesia researching and practicing traditional Javanese shadow theater, palace dances and Joged Amerta awareness movement. She has extensively traveled in Europe and Asia working with international puppeteer artists and she completed the contemporary puppetry program at UQAM in 2021.



Kristina Troske has a background in theatre performance, puppetry and social work and has devoted the better part of the past several years to raising four children. Her interest in puppetry lies in its ability to examine themes difficult to address in traditional theatre, the strength of its image-based storytelling and its poetry. Creations include the co-creation with Céline Chevrier of *Statue*, a play about gender stereotypes, which has toured in festivals such as SkirtsAfire in Edmonton, FIAMS in Quebec and SummerWorks Festival in Stratford. With Ausgang Collective, Kristina recently finished the children's creation *L'amour te reviendra* which explores isolation and our need to connect with nature. *L'amour te reviendra* premiered as part of Montreal's Petits Bonheurs Festival in May 2022 and will be touring to Senegal in 2024.





Credits:

Text and creation: Marika Karlsson, Yana K.M and Gabrielle Chabot

Puppets, costumes and scenography: Marika Karlsson, Yana K.M and Gabrielle Chabot

Performers: Marika Karlsson, Yana K.M and Kristina Troske

Music: Alexander MacSween

Lights: Mathieu Marcil

Outside eye: Clea Minaker and Marie-Pascale Bélanger



Length: 45 minutes

Language: Available in French and English

Contact information:
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Teaser: [L'éternité des fleurs](#)

Audience: 10+

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