

Les Coups de Théâtre

Festival international
des arts jeune public

Once upon eleven times there was Les Coups de Théâtre!

A reinvigorating adventure in the lively arts for young audiences

November 15 -28, 2010, on 11 Montreal stages

22 shows dedicated to new work and interdisciplinarity

Hats off to author Jasmine Dubé and Théâtre Bouches Décousues

Meetings of Professional Associations

Billetterie Articulée: 514-844-2172 – 1 866-844-2172

Tickets on sale from October 19 • A range of prices and family rates

Info-Festival: 514-499-2929 - www.coupsdetheatre.com

[High-resolution photographs available on the Festival website, press section](#)

Acknowledging the vitality and diversity in all the aspects of theatre arts for young audiences, and provoking extraordinary encounters: that's what motivates Artistic Director **Rémi Boucher** who twenty years ago, in 1990, founded **Les Coups de Théâtre / Festival international des arts jeune public**, a biannual event unparalleled in Canada.

Twenty-two national and international companies attending

From **November 15 to 28, 2010, twenty-two companies**, eleven from Quebec (with as many new works), and eleven from Australia, Germany, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, France, the Netherlands, and Norway, present modern, unexpected and sometimes strange works, reflecting society's transformations and young people's probing questions. Through the diverse spheres of theatre, puppetry, dance and music, children, teens and adults will encounter programming that is highly stimulating.

Increasingly, authors, directors, choreographers, designers and performers are turning to interdisciplinarity, sharing their expertise in order to transcend the boundaries of genre and style and to evoke universes of great theatrical richness. These works, all presented as **world, North American or Montreal premières**, are staged in French, English or in their original language, with surtitles, or without any words at all.

Festival locations: eleven Montreal stages

The Festival unfolds on the stages of Usine C; Place des Arts [Théâtre Maisonneuve and the 5^e Salle]; the Conservatoire de musique et d'art dramatique du Québec; the Monument-National; Tangente; the Agora de la danse; the Studio-théâtre de L'illusion; the Grande Bibliothèque; and the Maisons de la culture [Plateau-Mont-Royal and Frontenac], our partners for this edition.

From one adventure to the next... Take your seats!

Whether they draw their inspiration from epic or philosophical tales; whether they slip into the roles of legendary and famous characters from literature, whether they revisit a cult work; whether they tackle history, politics, codes of social behaviour, icons of popular culture, or ecological issues; whether they highlight an unusual slice of life, a personal quest or a search for love or identity; or whether they lead us on high-energy expeditions or plunge us into electrifying mysteries; these companies that, along with their poets wielding words and emotions, have been invited to the Festival, welcome all, young and old, onto the stage where imagination reigns, to share in an unforgettable artistic and human experience. While their protagonists may be passionate, ambitious, bumbling, cheeky, comic, nasty, wild, starry-eyed, steadfast, astute or loyal, their adventures offer just as many ways of looking at life. It was, it is, it will be. Make way for the 11th edition of the Festival Coups de Théâtre!

Hats off to Jasmine Dubé and Théâtre Bouches Décousues

On the occasion of the 25th anniversary of her company, **Théâtre Bouches Décousues**, the Festival highlights **Jasmine Dubé's** writing by presenting her with a **Hats off**. Author, actress and director, for a quarter of a century, this artist has had an extraordinary influence on Quebec's theatre for young audiences. On November 26, 7:30 p.m., at the Grande Bibliothèque, on the occasion of the *Théâtre à lire* event, organized jointly with the Centre des auteurs dramatiques (CEAD) and the Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec (BAnQ), actors **Macha Limonchik** and **Martin Faucher** will read excerpts from the playwright's work, outlining her background, what inspires her, and her creative process. Two of her plays will also be presented during the Festival's special events: *Les mauvaises herbes*, November 20 at 8 p.m. and November 21 at 2 p.m. at the Maison de la culture Frontenac and *Gingko et la jardinière*, from November 14 to 18 at the Centre culturel de Belœil. Also on offer, a reading of *Pierrette Pan, ministre de l'enfance et des produits dérivés*.

Meetings of Professional Associations

Meetings of professional associations will be held on November 22 at Usine C in Montreal and on November 23 at the Centre de diffusion jeunesse Les Gros Becs in Quebec City. Directors from Quebec and abroad will discuss the specifics of staging new works for young audiences.

The look for 2010

The visual design for the programme, poster and Internet site is by **Julien Berthier**.

The programme was designed to turn into a little theatre and become a playground for children, who may cut out figures and place their characters in this imaginary setting.

Thank-you!

The Festival Les Coups de Théâtre receives support from the Conseil des arts et des lettres du Québec, the Ministère de la Culture et des Communications, the Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport (Programme de soutien à l'école montréalaise, Agir autrement), the Ministère des Relations internationales, the Canada Council for the Arts, Canadian Heritage, Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada, the Ville de Montréal, the Conseil des arts de Montréal, and Young Canada Works.

LES COUPS DE THÉÂTRE 2010: AN OVERVIEW

CANADIAN AND INTERNATIONAL PRODUCTIONS

For the first time at the Festival!

---» IN DANCE: 4 troupes from Belgium, Canada and Norway

The Belgian troupe **Kopergietery** kicks off the 11th edition with the North American première of ***Satin et vin blanc***, a dance performance blending poetry and music, directed by **Eva Bal** and choreographed by **Ives Thuwis**. On the large stage of Usine C, the bracing, vibrant energy of **thirteen teenagers** performing the impassioned verses of the young Netherlands poet Hans Lodeizen, who died at a very early age (1924-1950). This “James Dean of poetry” penned expressive, deeply moving texts that instantly captured the hearts of the young performers, who found them to have many echoes in their own lives. Of the utmost beauty and with a thirst for life!

[10+ | Dutch with French surtitles | New work | North American première | Usine C | Nov. 15, 1 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. – Nov. 16, 10 a.m.]

Red Sky Performance, the dynamic young Toronto troupe that plays a crucial role in the evolution of contemporary aboriginal performance, makes its first Quebec appearance with the dynamic and thrilling ***Tono***. Choreographed by **Roger Sinha** and **Sandra Laronde**, the company's founder and artistic director, ***Tono*** has earned many prizes, including the prestigious Dora Mavor Moore Award for 2010. It has been highly acclaimed on numerous stages, including the Vancouver 2010 Cultural Olympiad and World Expo 2010 Shanghai. With grace, energy and beauty, eleven dancers and musicians from America and Asia bring to life the intersecting histories of the aboriginal peoples of these two continents. Guaranteed to ignite the senses!

[8+ | without words | New work | Quebec première | Théâtre Maisonneuve | Nov. 20, 7:30 p.m. – Nov. 21, 3 p.m.]

Just as vibrant is ***We Dance to Forget***, presented by the Belgian company **fABULEUS**. Make way for a wacky romp through the pop music of recent decades, in the company of two dancers and a DJ, Johnny and Bébé, Ginger and Fred, Michael and Janet Jackson. Conceived, staged and performed by choreographers **Koen De Preter** and **Maria Ibarretxe**. Frenzied excitement, contagiously sunny!

[10+ | without words | New work | North American première | Usine C | Nov. 16, 7:30 p.m. – Nov. 17, 10 a.m.]

Jo Strømgren, artistic director of the Norwegian company that bears his name, presents a provocatively titled work, ***A Dance Tribute to the Art of Football***. Staged at the Conservatoire, this quasi-political show uses humour to re-examine the relationship between sport and art, and effectively proves that between the stars of the stadium and the stars of the dance, there is just one step... a dance step! Energetic and daring!

[12+ | without words | New work | North American première | Conservatoire | Nov. 16, 1 p.m. - Nov. 17, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.]

---» IN THEATRE: 2 companies from Australia and Germany

For the first time the Festival welcomes an Australian company. Through the ingenious use of theatre, marionettes, video animation and music, ***Dr Egg and the Man with No Ear*** by **Jessica Wilson Productions** explores the ethical dilemmas of cloning and genetics. Amidst science, conscience and self-sacrifice, this fascinating and highly sensitive tale reveals an infinitely rich universe. You'll shiver with fear...and delight!

[8+ | English | New work | Canadian première | Usine C | Nov. 19, 1 p.m. – Nov. 20, 2 p.m. – Nov. 21, 11 a.m.]

From Germany, **Theater Mumpitz** brings us ***The Terrific Adventures of Brave Joan Woodsword***, a coming-of-age fable ablaze with fury and splendour, conceived by **Michael Bang**, **Michael Schramm** and **Sabine Zieser** and directed by **Alex Byrne**. Young Joan finds herself transported to the Middle Ages... wearing Joan of Arc's armour. Fascinating!

[8+ | English | New work | North American première | 5^e Salle - Place des Arts | Nov. 22, Nov. 23 and Nov. 24, 10 a.m.]

---» **IN MUSIC + VIDEO: 1 company from France**

Les Percussions Claviers de Lyon, from France, presents *Trois contes*, a musical show featuring three famous tales by the ever-enchanting Charles Perrault: *Little Red Riding Hood*, *Sleeping Beauty* and *Little Tom Thumb*, set to music by composer Maurice Ravel. Direction by **Emmanuelle Prager**, with musical direction by **G rard Leco nte**. As a counterpoint to the poetic videos, five musicians provide a lively soundscape while a narrator recites the tales in their original version. "A novel coming-together of images from today, a score from yesterday and a tale that is forever." Beautiful and poignant!
[8+ | French | New work | North American premi re | Conservatoire | Nov. 17, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. - Nov. 18, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.]

Much-awaited repeat appearances!

---» **IN THEATRE, 4 companies from Denmark, the Netherlands, and France**

Following *Lennie & George*, inspired by Steinbeck's novel *Of Mice and Men*, which came to the Festival in 2002 and *Richard III* which came in 2004, **Teatret M llen**, the extraordinary Danish collective directed by **Gitte Kath**, returns this time with **Oskar**, a work inspired by Jonathan Safran Foer's novel, *Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close*, and directed by **Alex Byrne**. This play of epic optimism will have you on the edge of your seat. We follow Oskar as he carries out an investigation that takes him from Europe, the city of Dresden, February 15, 1945, to the streets of New York, on a certain September day in 2001. Superb!
[14+ | Danish with French surtitles | New work | North American premi re | Usine C | Nov. 22, 4 p.m. – Nov. 23, Nov. 24, 1 p.m.]

In 2004, with *L'ann e du li vre* Montreal audiences rediscovered the work of the Netherlands company **Stella den Haag**. The company returns now with *Thick Skinned Things*, a sophisticated show that weaves together music and narrative. In it we learn the story of a highly sensitive and shy young girl who buries herself in solitude. Until one lovely evening... Disturbing and fascinating!
[12+ | English | New work | North American premi re | Monument-National | Nov. 19, 10 a.m. – Nov. 20, 11 a.m. – Nov. 21, 11h – Followed by a discussion]

Following his 2004 visit with the much-remarked *Nosferatu*, **Denis Athimon** of **Bob Th  tre** (France) returns to Montreal with his remarkable theatre of objects. *Princesse K* tells a story full of twists and turns, about a beautiful princess who uses the advice of a martial arts master to increase her strength tenfold and avenge her family, and then stakes her claim to the throne. A delightful show!
[8+ | French | New work | North American premi re | Usine C | Nov. 25, 10h – Nov. 26, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. - Nov. 27, 11 a.m.]

During the Festival's 4th edition, director **Laurent Dupont**, with Brigitte Lallier-Maisonneuve, presented *L'air de l'eau*, a show for children 18 months and over. This time, as part of Compagnie ACTA, the Association pour la Cr ation Th  trale et Audiovisuelle, directed by Agn s Desfosses, he immerses us in childhood, "paradise lost?", when, in order to learn to live and grow, Me Alone must face the Other. With *Moi seul*, he brings us an original musical, choreographic and visual work that is precise, sophisticated, and remarkable, for three performers and three little silhouettes. Sweet and spirited! [4+ | without words | New work | North American premi re | Maison de la culture Plateau-Mont-Royal | Nov. 25, 10 a.m. - Nov. 26, 10 a.m. - Nov. 27, 2 p.m.]

FROM QUEBEC

---» **Eight theatre companies with as many new works... They're on a roll!**

Directed and co-written by **Simon Boudreault** and **Richard Lacroix**, *Sur 3 pattes*, the 24th production by **Th  tre de l' il**, under director Andr  Lalibert , is a philosophical tale without words and a poetic reflection on the life cycle, with the forest in the leading r le. The art of puppetry at its very best. Magical and marvellous!
[5+ | without words | New work | World premi re | Usine C | Nov. 17, 1 p.m. - Nov. 18, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.]

  la belle  toile by **l'illusion, th  tre de marionnettes** welcomes you into its home for a fascinating exploration of the universe of *Hansel and Gretel*, the tale brought to us by the brothers Grimm and adapted by director **Claire Voisard**.
[5+ | French | New work | Studio-th  tre – L'illusion | Nov. 17 and Nov. 18, 7:30 p.m.]

After *Amours, délices et ogre*, presented at the Festival in 2000, interdisciplinary artist **Claudie Gagnon** and the **Théâtre des Confettis** invite us, with *Les mécaniques célestes*, to cross the threshold of Time, as Alice once did, to stroll among several cabinets of curiosities. Tick tock. You will likely get caught in time's clutches, but have no fear, you will emerge from this labyrinth awed by so much beauty. A show that is funny, touching and that displays great sensitivity. [4+ | without words | New work | Montreal première | Usine C | Nov. 19, 10 a.m. – Nov. 21, 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. – Nov. 22, 9 a.m., 11 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. – Nov. 28, 2 p.m. and 4 p.m.]

Through the poetry of shadow play and the antics of theatre of objects, **Théâtre Motus** and director **Hélène Ducharme** reintroduce us to Edmond Rostand's magnificent texts: *Pour en finir avec... Cyrano*. Just imagine Roxane sitting in Cyrano's hand! [14+ | French | New work | World première | Maison de la culture Plateau-Mont-Royal | Nov. 22, 7:30 p.m. – Nov. 23, 1 p.m.]

Le théâtre du Gros Mécano celebrates 30 years of creating new works and presents *Prière de ne pas déranger*, based on the text by **André Jean** [Prix Louise-Lahaye 2009, dramatic writing for young audiences], directed by **Carol Cassistat**. A young man who has invented a device capable of reproducing all the sounds on earth meets a chambermaid who has a gift for reading dreams on pillows. Evocative and touching!
[6+ | French | New work | Montreal première | 5^e salle - Place des Arts | Nov. 25, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.]

Le grand méchant loup, written and directed by **Jacqueline Gosselin**, is **DynamO Théâtre's** 18th production. Three dunces give a troubling presentation on the fabled wolf, making the little fears and big victories of childhood leap out of the woods.
[6+ | French | New work | Maison de la culture Plateau-Mont-Royal | Nov. 16, 10 a.m.]

With *Clip!*, from the **Centre de recherche en art clownesque**, make way for a frenzy of delirious clowning. Alone onstage, from somersaults to pirouettes, **Philippe Trépanier** becomes an accomplice to child's play and to anyone who remains a child at heart!
[4+ | French | New work | Montreal première | 5^e salle - Place des Arts, as part of PDA junior | Nov. 21, 11 a.m. and 3 p.m.]

Composers **Martin Messier** and **Jacques Poulin-Denis** conceived *Projet pupitre*, an unusual show combining contemporary music and theatre, for **Youththeatre**. Directed by **Michel Lefebvre**, performers **Yann Godbout** and **Guillaume Lévesque** create a strange and colourful universe, by manipulating everything they find on their desks. Scintillating and ingenious!
[6+ | French | New work | World première in French | 5^e salle - Place des Arts | Nov. 26, 10 a.m. and 13 p.m.]

---» Three dance companies, three creations... Things really get moving!

Directed and choreographed by **Marie-Josée Chartier** and **Pierre-Paul Savoie**, *Contes pour enfants pas sages*, the latest work from **PPS Danse**, is a multidisciplinary adaptation of eight tales by Jacques Prévert, for children 3 to 6 feet tall who love make-believe. The poet is still contemporary! Simultaneously a celebration of the realm of childhood and a critique of the world of adults, these tales denounce man's exploitation of man and the destruction of nature's riches. A show that blends dance, theatre, music, and song. Tender, quirky and zany!
[6+ | French | New work | World première | 5^e salle - Place des Arts, as part of PDA junior | Nov. 28, 11 a.m. and 3 p.m.]

Choreographer **Hélène Blackburn**, artistic director of **Cas Public**, revisits a cult work which in 1913 broke all the rules of music and dance. *Variations sur le Sacre du printemps* is a choreographic and musical work that will take hold of you, and that reflects today's young people, thirsting for intensity and passion. Exhilarating!
[12+ | without words | New work | World première | Agora de la danse | Nov. 16, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. – Nov. 17, 1 p.m. and 7 p.m.]

With *RAYON X: a true decoy story*, choreographer **Marie Béland**, who directs the **maribé - sors de ce corps** company, invites audiences to dissect the elements of performance, tackling questions of authenticity and candour. Combining physical virtuosity, theatricality and humour, five dancers and one musician draw us into games where True and False taunt each other ceaselessly. Thought-provoking!
[14+ | French | New work | World première | Tangente | Nov. 24, 1 p.m. – Nov. 25, 10 a.m. – Nov. 26, 10 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. – Nov. 28, 4 p.m.]

ENJOY THE FESTIVAL!

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