INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF PUPPET THEATER

THE JIM HENSON FOUNDATION
117 East 69th Street
Nyc 10021

WHAT'S EVERYONE TALKING ABOUT?
International Festival of Puppet Theater

This September the Jim Henson Foundation will present an epic gathering of masks, marionettes, shadows, rod puppets and found objects in the International Festival of Puppet Theater at the Public Theater. It’s an encore presentation of a festival that debuted two years ago, and was called by The New York Times, “a giant step toward increasing American awareness of puppetry as adult theater.”

This year’s line-up is a sophisticated, sparkling array of shows, featuring sixteen masterful companies from around the world, most appearing in New York for the first time. Productions range from startling adaptations of Shakespeare, Büchner, Gertrude Stein and Strindberg to fantastical original inventions. Three productions are for kids. The rest are created specifically for adult audiences.

Two years ago, the Festival sold-out before it opened. That’s the stuff that legends are made of, and we’re certain it could happen again. To guarantee your seats, we urge you to order today.

Presented by
THE JIM HENSON FOUNDATION

Hosted by the
PUBLIC THEATER
THE ROOTS OF PUPPETRY CAN BE TRACED TO

HANDSPRING PUPPET CO. 
SOUTH AFRICA

WOYZECK ON THE HIGHVELD 
(U.S. PREMIERE)

This daring and moving interpretation of Büchner's classic play skillfully combines actors, puppets, music and animation to create a uniquely rich and multi-dimensional whole. Conceived and directed by filmmaker William Kentridge, the action is transposed from 19th-century Germany to a highveld township of Johannesburg. One critic called this Handspring Puppet Company production "a fantastic, stylistic work that simply shatters all standards."

SEPTEMBER 6 AT 8PM
SEPTEMBER 7, 8 AT 7:30PM
SEPTEMBER 9, 10 AT 8PM

HANNE TIERNENY 
NEW YORK

A PLAY CALLED NOT AND NOW 
(WORLD PREMIERE)

Acclaimed sculptor and puppeteer Hanne Tierney is a master of "abstract form." Her production of A PLAY CALLED NOT AND NOW is an elegantly sophisticated dramatization of Gertrude Stein's witty play lampooning Beverly Hills celebrities of her day. Representing Stein's characters (a man who looks like Dashiell Hammett, a woman who looks like Lady Diana Grey) with an ingenious assortment of tafetta fabrics and industrial materials, Tierney captures the elegant superficiality and purposeless movement that inspire this classic Stein play.

SEPTEMBER 6 - 9 AT 8PM
TEATRO HUGO & INES
PERU/BOSNIA

THE ADVENTURES OF GINOCCHIO
Together, mime and puppet masters Hugo Suarez and Ines Pasic have created a delightful program which has charmed audiences throughout Europe. THE ADVENTURES OF GINOCCHIO is a series of whimsical vignettes featuring a cast of knees, feet, hands and elbows, that combine and recombine to create an amazing amalgam of unforgettable characters.

SEPTEMBER 7 - 9 AT 8PM
SEPTEMBER 10 AT 3 & 8PM
SEPTEMBER 11 AT 1 & 3PM

DONDORO
JAPAN

KIYOHIME MANDARA
(U.S. PREMIERE)
Master puppeteer Hoichi Okamoto leads the audience into a world of dreams and fantasies in this stunning Butoh-style puppet play. In Okamoto's exquisite treatment of this classic folk tale - one of Japan's most famous traditional stories - the puppeteer enacts a beautifully mysterious dance of obsession, love and revenge using life-sized puppets and masks.

SEPTEMBER 7 & 8 AT 8PM
SEPTEMBER 9 AT 7 & 10PM
SEPTEMBER 10 AT 7PM
OVER THE AGES, PUPPETRY EVOLVED INTO AN

MARIONETTE EATERN
SWEDEN

THE GHOST SONATA
(U.S. PREMIERE)
One of Europe's oldest and best-loved troupes makes its New York debut performing an inspired version of Strindberg's THE GHOST SONATA. Directed by U.S. puppeteer Roman Paska, this dream-like production seamlessly unites music, gesture, puppetry and state-of-the-art design to evoke the remorse, regret and crushed hopes of this surreal and symbolic late 19th-century masterpiece.
SEPTEMBER 7 & 8
AT 7:30PM
SEPTEMBER 9 & 10
AT 7 & 10PM
SEPTEMBER 11
AT 7PM

TEATRO GIICO VITA
ITALY

PETER BETWIXT AND BETWEEN
(U.S. PREMIERE)
Catching shadows on a variety of screens and shifting surfaces, Teatro Gioco Vita spins the stories of Peter Pan's origins as described in J.M. Barrie's famous book. This lyrical and poetic production takes audiences on a shadow journey with the infant Peter who, upon discovering that the souls of babies come from birds, tries to return to the nest. It's an exquisite tale of loss and love captured between layers of shadow and colored light.
SEPTEMBER 11 AT 7PM
SEPTEMBER 12 - 14 AT 8PM
BOX OF NIGHT AND OTHER WORKS
(NEW YORK PREMIERE)

On the Planet Ennui, citizens carry their heads on sticks as a form of amusement. A cow and horse traverse galaxies aboard a floating teacup. This is the fun and fanciful world of Suzy Ferriss, a painter and visual artist who takes audiences on a "magical mystery tour" in the alternate reality tradition of Alfred Jarry and Lewis Carroll. These three short tales incorporate an inspired mix of dance, live-performers-as-puppets, rod puppets and intriguing shadow images.

SEPTEMBER 12 - 15 AT 8PM

INTAR/RALPH LEE

A POPOL VUH STORY
(WORLD PREMIERE PRODUCED BY INTAR HISPANIC AMERICAN ARTS CENTER)

The extraordinary magic of the Quiche Mayan creation myth comes to life in this dazzling collaboration between puppetmaster Ralph Lee, composer Glen Velez and playwright Cherrie Moraga. Incorporating giant puppets, masks, movement, mime and Ralph Lee's trademark ingenious effects, this world premiere production evokes a powerful sense of awe and wonder over the timeless mysteries of the natural world.

SEPTEMBER 14 - 16 AT 7:30PM
SEPTEMBER 17 AT 3 & 7PM
SEPTEMBER 18 AT 2 & 5PM
TODAY'S PUPPET ARTISTS COMBINE VISUAL

BANIALUKA
POLAND
SOLITUDE
(U.S. PREMIERE)
This hypnotic production, based on the prose of Polish author Bruno Schulz, tells the haunting tale of a man visiting his dying father in a sanitarium. With its eerie energy, astonishing visual effects and arresting mix of puppets, mannequins and human figures, this surrealistic excursion has all of the elements that demonstrate why "Polish theater is technically and imaginatively years ahead of the rest of the world." Performed in Polish and English.
SEPTEMBER 13 - 17
AT 8:30PM

VELO THEATRE
FRANCE
ENVELOPPES ET DEBALLAGES
(NEW YORK PREMIERE)
A postman carries the theatre of his dreams in booby-trapped parcels, crammed with explosive images. This is classic, pure object theater at its best, creating a miniature fantasy world populated with tropical birds, dinosaurs, sharks and mermaids. It's a wonderful adventure in the form of a living postcard full of tenderness, poetry and humor.
SEPTEMBER 15 - 16 AT 8PM
SEPTEMBER 17 AT 3 & 8PM
SEPTEMBER 18 AT 1 & 5PM
PERFORMING, FOLK AND LITERARY ARTS...

LARRY REED
SAN FRANCISCO

IN XANADU...INVISIBLE CITIES
(NEW YORK PREMIERE)
Shadow master Larry Reed conjures up the exotic beauty of Kublai Khan's 13th-century China in this dramatically brilliant shadow play. With its cast of 20 puppeteers and dancers, a multitude of puppets, props and costumes, and an enormous stage-wide screen, it is what one reviewer described as "a divine visual experience." Performers include members of Chaksam-Pa Tibetan Opera and Dance Company.
SEPTEMBER 16 AT 8PM
SEPTEMBER 17 AT 3 & 8PM
SEPTEMBER 18 AT 3 & 7PM

FRED CURCHACK
TEXAS

WHAT FOOLS THESE MORTALS BE
(NEW YORK PREMIERE)
This is a zany, fanciful and outrageous solo interpretation of Shakespeare's A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM from a performance artist who has been called "a Paganini of the human voice and body." With a true wizard's power to create powerful illusions through the simplest of means, Curchack enacts with stunning virtuosity Shakespeare's romantic comedy about two pairs of fated Athenian romantic lovers whose destiny is manipulated by gods and fairies.
SEPTEMBER 16 & 17 AT 7 & 10PM
SEPTEMBER 18 AT 7PM
HOBIE FORD'S GOLDEN ROD PUPPETS
NORTH CAROLINA

TURTLE ISLAND TALES
This heart-warming production combines Native American songs and traditional tales with an exciting mixture of full-figure and shadow puppet styles to explore the long-lost world of Turtle Island, the Iroquois name for North America.

SEPTEMBER 10 AT 11AM, 2 & 5PM
SEPTEMBER 11 & 18 AT 1 & 3PM
SEPTEMBER 17 AT 11AM & 2PM

PENNY JONES & CO.
NEW YORK

PEPPI AND THE POP-UP DRAGON

SEPTEMBER 10 AT 11AM & 2PM
SEPTEMBER 11 AT 12 & 2PM

TEATRO CIOCO VITA
ITALY

PESCETOPOCOCODRILLO
(FISH MOUSE CROCODILE)
Using all the magical techniques seen in their adult work, this is a collection of three funny tales by prize-winning author and illustrator Leo Lionni, about a curious and resourceful Fish, a poet Mouse and a nonconformist Crocodile.

SEPTEMBER 17 AT 11AM & 2PM
SEPTEMBER 18 AT 2 & 4PM
PS 122 is proud to present two ground-breaking puppet artists. Plus for the puppet hungry festival crowd, a feast of other activity:

**PUPPET LOUNGE**

A post-performance place to gather. Refreshing drinks and dinner catered by Veselka Restaurant, plus a dazzling display of puppet videos. Opens at 6:00pm.

- **FIVE NIGHTS ONLY**
  - **FRI. & SAT., SEPT. 9 & 10**
  - **THURS.-SAT., SEPT. 15-17**

**LATE-NIGHT CABARET**

Surprise entertainment beginning at 10:00pm, curated by 9th Street Theater. Tickets available at the door.

- **FIVE NIGHTS ONLY**
  - **FRI. & SAT., SEPT. 9 & 10**
  - **THURS.-SAT., SEPT. 15-17**

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PS 122 is located at 150 First Avenue.

Ludwig and Farwell tickets available through TICKETMASTER: 212 307-7171.
# PERFORMANCE CALENDAR

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**OPENING NIGHT PARTY** — Wed., Sept. 7. Reserved seats to the performance of your choice; cocktails and supper with cast members afterwards.

Tickets $100; $50 is a tax-deductible contribution to the Jim Henson Foundation.

*POST-PERFORMANCE DISCUSSION*

## EXHIBITION
**REVEALING ROOTS: UNCOVERING INFLUENCES IN CONTEMPORARY AMERICAN PUPPET THEATER**
The New York Public Library for the Performing Arts at Lincoln Center June 7 - Sept. 30.
A series of talks will be held afternoons at the Bruno Walter Auditorium.
For more information call 870-1630.

## WORKS & PROCESS AT THE GUGGENHEIM
**Tue., Sept. 6, 8:00PM**
The extraordinary work of Dondoro theater's creator, Haichi Okamoto, will be featured for one night only in the rotunda of the museum.
For tickets and further information call: (212) 423-3699.

## SYMPOSIA SESSIONS
**FREE, NO RESERVATIONS**

**TOWARDS A VISUAL THEATER**
at the Public Theater. Sun., Sept. 11, 4:00 - 6:00PM
Panelists to include Julie Taymor, Ping Chong and William Kentridge (director of Wayzock on the Highweld).

**THE SACRED & THE PROFANE**
at the Bruno Walter Auditorium, Lincoln Center. Mon., Sept. 12, 6:30 - 8:30PM
Panelists to include Larry Reed and Diego Maj (director of Teatro Gioco Vita).

Additional support is provided by The American-Scandinavian Foundation; Armstrong Hirsch Jackoway Tyerman & Wertheimer; Asian Cultural Council; AT&T; Stephan Batory Foundation; Brillstein-Grey Entertainment; Capital Cities/ABC, Inc.; Creative Artists Agency; Children's Television Workshop; Cohen Insurance Entertainment Division of Near North Insurance Group; The Walt Disney Company; The Fan Fox and Leslie R. Samuels Foundation, Inc.; Fox Children's Network; The Cultural Services of the French Embassy in New York; J.P. Morgan & Co., Incorporated; Japan-United States Friendship Commission; The Jim Henson Foundation; Jim Henson Productions; Italian Presidency of the Cabinet, Performance Department; Mid Atlantic Arts Foundation; Nickelodeon/MTV Networks; The National Endowment for the Arts; New York Council for the Humanities and the National Endowment for the Humanities; The New York Times Company Foundation; Paragon Trade Brands; Prager and Fenton; Prodigy Services Company; Random House, Inc.; The Rockefeller Foundation; Samuel Rubin Foundation; South African Consulate-General; The Starr Foundation; The Suitcase Fund of Dance Theater Workshop; Trust for Mutual Understanding; Turner Broadcasting System, Inc.; VEE Corporation; and the Friends of the International Festival of Puppet Theater.

## THE INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF PUPPET THEATER
**CHERYL HENSON, EXECUTIVE PRODUCER**
**LESLEE ASCH, PRODUCING DIRECTOR**
**ANNE DENNIN, ASSOCIATE PRODUCER**

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Simply complete the order form and mail along with a pre-stamped, self-addressed, business size envelope to:
International Festival of Puppet Theater
The Public Theater, 425 Lafayette Street
New York, NY 10003

ORDER BY FAX
Simply complete the order form and FAX it to (212) 598-7127. Include credit card information and a copy of your mailing label.

ORDER IN PERSON
Visit the box office at the Public Theater, 425 Lafayette Street, (just below Astor Place)
open Monday from 1:00 to 6:00PM and Tuesday thru Sunday from 1:00 to 7:30PM.

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*Price not available after September 1.

Suggested tax-deductible contribution to the Jim Henson Foundation $25.00
Handling Charge $2.00
Grand Total

CHECK ENCLOSED PAYABLE TO THE PUBLIC THEATER
- American Express
- MasterCard
- Visa

Card No.
Exp. Date
Address

Name
City
State
Zip

Signature
Phone (day) (evening)

All photos by John E. Barrett except: Handspring: Ruphin Coudyzer; Tierney: Richard Nonas; Hugo & Ines: Birgit Noll; Dondoro: Takaharu Karaki; Marionetteeastern: Karl Gabor; Gioco Vita (Peter): Antonio Silva; Ferriss: David Zeager; INTAR/Lee: Jim Moore; Banialuka: Pierre Lewi; Velo: Tania Castaing; Reed: Richard Termine; Curchak: Steven Yeager; Ludwig: Rita Byers; Farwell: Olga Hiva; Ford: Dee Williams; Jones: Lois Sharrett; Gioco Vita (Pesce): Stefano Rossi.

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