

A person wearing a white protective suit and a yellow hood is sitting in a blue bucket. Water is splashing over them from above, creating a misty effect. In the background, two young girls in striped tank tops are sitting on a blue surface, looking towards the camera. The scene is outdoors, possibly at a pool or a water park.

SUITE FOR LEAKS
IN GLEE MAJOR!

AQUAPHONIE

TOXIQUE TROTTOIR



ABOUT THE SHOW

AQUAPHONIE

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This aquatic celebration for all ages won't leave anyone high and dry! Dive into the adventures of three Aquanaut clowns! In a faraway, long-forgotten land, a group of water preservationists still rules. These amusing adventurers are on a mission to index the Earth's waters... when a leak in the main tank jeopardizes their plans!

In a panic, the trio spurts out torrents of solutions, each one more ineffective than the other, but the stream of their imagination has no limits!



Acrobatic diving, fishing, swimming, sailboat journeys, games in the frog pond, showering, washing, wringing out, and rubber rings... In all waters lies a tidal wave of pleasure no dam can stop!

From channels to funnels of laughter, Aquaphonie is a street theatre clown show set in the realm of fantasy.

UMBRELLA ADVISED!



ARTIST STATEMENT



Aquaphonie is an ode for children to the blue of our planet. Its tender imagery is a reflection of aquatic feelings. The show pays tribute to the magic of water and to its fathomless mysteries; three naïve and endearing clowns drive the narrative.

Written for children, the show falls within the scope of our emotional relationship to our most precious good. Relying on humour rather than on educational or moralizing lines, it promotes the respect of water, a fundamental issue for everyone. The poetical nature of the show benefits from the physical acting based in clown arts. The stage design draws its strength from the many waterworks and is guaranteed to bring childlike joy.

Selected after an open call for projects for *À nous la rue!*, the flagship event of Montreal's 375th anniversary, Aquaphonie went through a first creative phase in 2017, with public showings in July. The team chose to pursue the research process; the show will be available again as of June 2019.



INFORMATION

Aquaphonie is a clown theatre show without words created for children. Among ideal venues: a street closed to circulation, an alley, a fitted-out park, or any space that doesn't fear water!

Audience: children ages 3–7 and families
Without words

Length of the show: 30 minutes (no intermission)

Capacity: up to 200 spectators

THE CREW

Performers: Marie-Hélène Côté,
Muriel de Zangroniz & Dominique Marier

Stage Director: Soizick Hébert

Stage Design, Costumes and Props:
Thierry Vigneault et Fanny Mc Crae

Music: Frédéric Desroches

Photo credits: Marie-Noël Pilon

SPECIFICATION SHEET

The show is fully autonomous at the technical level. For evening performances, it is necessary to make sure that street lighting is sufficient; if not, the presenter will have to supply additional lighting.

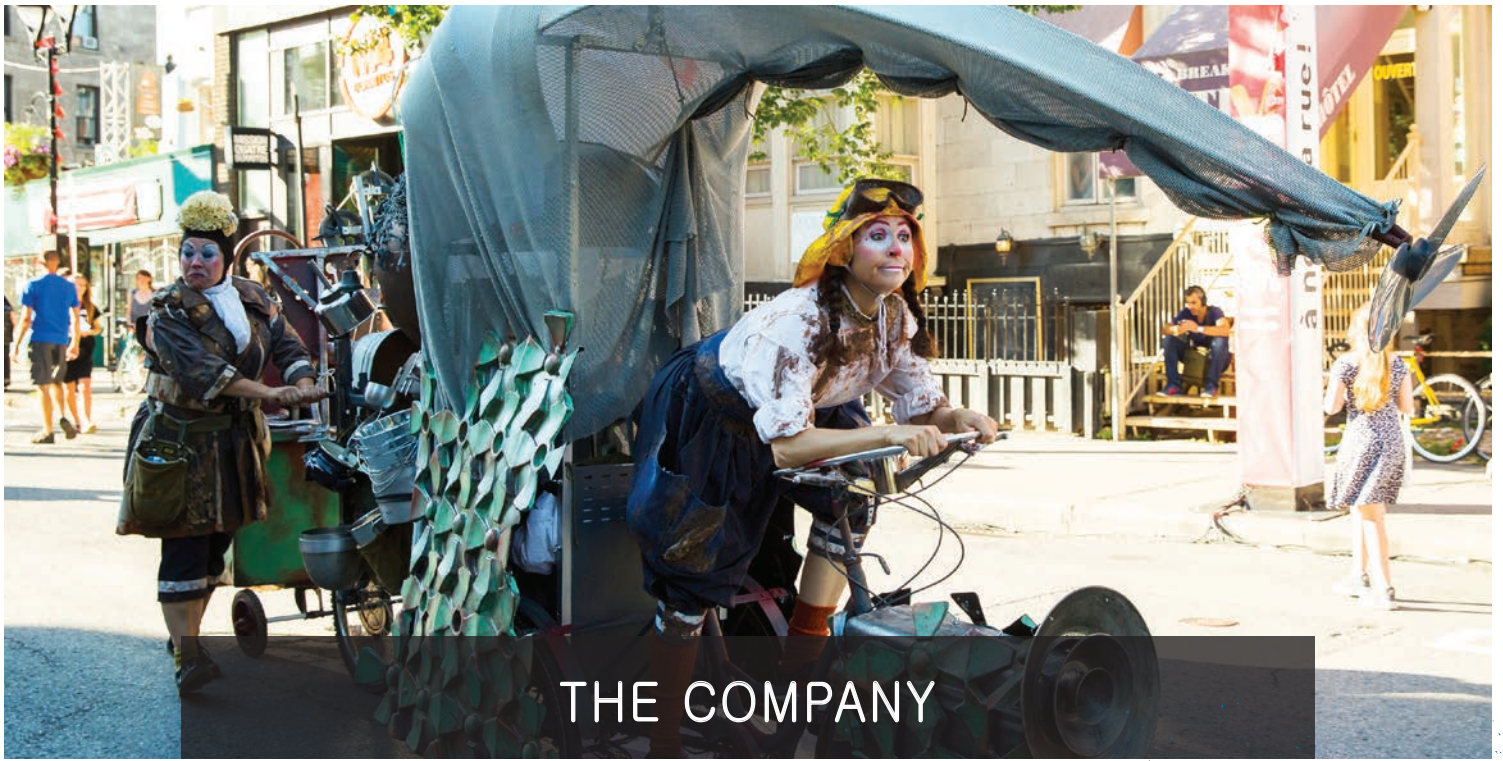
Crew: 3 people (3 actresses/technicians)

Time of arrival: 4h before the show

Set-up: Upon arrival of the crew outside the show area. Set-up time: 2h30 ; Breakdown time: 2h. Access to water is necessary ideally with an outside faucet.

Play area: The play area must be at least 25' X 25' to which is added a space big enough to accommodate the spectators.

Changing room: An appropriate space close to the play area, of at least 20 sq. ft., with at least a table, 3 chairs, a washroom and light to allow the artists to change and to do their makeup. Access to water would be appreciated.



THE COMPANY



A FEW WORDS ON THE COMPANY

Founded in 2004 by three theatre women, Muriel de Zangroniz, Dominique Marier and Marie-Hélène Côté, **Toxique Trottoir** invests public space to create shows and festive interventions for unusual encounters and dialogue between artists and citizens. The company engages with the audience in an original way through interactivity and by appealing to *spect-actors*. This encounter, in between theatre and clown arts, poetry and absurdity, reshapes our connection to everyday life, to the city, and to the performance.

COMPANY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Toxique Trottoir has a distinct vocation for social integration. In 2014, the company was awarded the Mosaïque Prize for Art and Culture in Rosemont, recognizing its strong contribution to the cultural and social development of the neighbourhood where it has based many of its projects since 2008.

Toxique Trottoir has more than 1,400 performances to its credit, and its work has been shown in the most prestigious events in Canada and the United States. The Montréal's 375th anniversary celebrations, the City of Quebec's 400th anniversary, the Vancouver Olympiad, Gaspé's 475th anniversary, the Burlington Waterfront Festival, the Quebec Scene at the National Arts Centre in Ottawa, the Beaux-Arts and Civilisation museums in the City of Quebec, the Festival d'été de Québec, the Montréal Cirque Festival, the Just for Laughs Festival and the Cirque du Soleil, among others, have welcomed Toxique Trottoir performances in their programming.



ARTISTS BIOGRAPHY

Marie-Hélène Côté — A multidisciplinary artist introduced to acting through improvisational leagues as a teenager, Marie-Hélène holds a bachelor's degree in Dramatic Arts from UQAM with a specialization in physical theatre and creation. She practises several arts: street theatre, singing, clowning, writing, cabaret artist. The approach she adopts today aims to bring citizens closer through art. She pursues her practice mainly through Toxique Trottoir projects, a company for which she has been, since 2004, creative artist, actress, stage designer as well as general and artistic co-director. An "Imaginator" Marie-Hélène is known for her inventiveness and impetuosity.

Dominique Marier — This "Toxique's" stage history began with studies: communication, dance, a bachelor's degree in Theatre. It continued with a logical and linear succession, dotted with moments of small glory. Seven years working with different Quebec theatre companies, more specifically with the *Théâtre qui monstre énormément* which created its own collective works. In 2004, the founding of Toxique Trottoir and the launch of its first project, *The Botero Family*, sparked a new love: the street. Between artistic creation projects, cultural mediation, artistic direction and setting-up, three years in a row, "La rue Kitétonne," a street-art festival, the story continues, 14 years running, still thrilling and creative.

Muriel de Zangroniz — It is at a very young age that Muriel fell under the theatre's spell. Since then, her artistic temperament asserted itself, first as an actress, then as an author and stage director, notably for the *Théâtre qui monstre énormément*. If, possessed by the clown, laughter has always been the preferred vehicle of her shows, it is so that art, akin a funhouse mirror, inevitably distorting, questions our humanity right here and right now. Thus, Mu believes in a social and committed art that builds bonds in communities. It is in the reconciliation of differences that she finds the deepest meaning of her approach. A founder and co-artistic director of Toxique Trottoir, she has been practising street theatre for fifteen years, foremost to prompt encounters with others, and with some urgency to transform reality.





AQUAPHONIE CONTACT



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