

A woman in a black Victorian-style dress and bonnet, surrounded by falling confetti. The dress is long-sleeved with a high collar and a large, full skirt. The background is a dark, gradient grey with white confetti falling around her.

DREAM EYES WIDE OPEN

# LE CIEL RUE

TOXIQUE TROTTOIR





## THE SHOW (IN A FEW WORDS)

### When Poetry and Clown Arts Meet Surrealism

With a cascade of choreographed scenes, optical illusions and magical effects, Le ciel rue's foothold is certainly out of this world. Finding its inspiration in the dreamlike, poetic universe of surrealism, the show unfolds as a tug-of-war with reason from which the fantastic emerges. A poem without words, Le ciel rue knows no bounds but those of the imagination.

This work is at the crossroads of theatre of movement, visual arts, and clown arts, of course, laughter being the favoured catalyst in Toxique Trottoir's productions. Humour promotes greater accessibility for the young and the old, for the initiated as well as novices.

Three women from another era, travellers on a quest, stroll along the street, drinking in the sky. Their dark costumes allude to the 19th century and are reminiscent of Magritte's pictorial universe.





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The performers' costumes are equipped with a range of items that appear progressively to shape the narrative. A new storyline ensues from each unveiling, putting to rout much of what the audience saw as a certainty. Dresses transforming into boats caught in a storm, or into strange sea creatures; a suitcase spouting out a snowstorm; or the imagery of Death in the Mexican culture...



Drawing from the unlimited realm of surrealism, various dreamlike scenes take shape: a book becomes a face; a Madonna sheds tears of colourful ribbons; witness the three women transforming into insects or melting into a tapestry...

### The Crew

Performers:

Marie-Hélène Côté, Muriel de Zangroniz & Dominique Marier

Stage/Movement Directors: Danielle Lecourtois & Soizick Hébert

Music: Jez

Stage Design, Costumes and Props:

Armen Heydon, Ginette Grenier, Daniel Séguin & Rachel Lesteven



# INFORMATION



LE CIEL RUE is an image-theatre show without words for the whole family. Among ideal venues: a street closed to circulation, an alley, a fitted-out park, a gymnasium, a hall.

Audience: all ages (quite popular with children)

Length of the show: 30 minutes without intermission

Capacity: 50 to 200 spectators

Video excerpt: <https://youtu.be/s672wNzsy-E>

Full video: <https://vimeo.com/198890237/d60706340c>

Cultural mediation workshop available

## 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: 2h before the show

Set-up: Upon arrival of the crew

Set-up time: 1h; Breakdown time: 1 h

Play area: The play area must be at least 20' X 20' to which is added a space big enough to accommodate the spectators. The show can only be presented on a hard surface: asphalt, wood, linoleum... (Impossible to play on grass or sand)

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. The changing-room door must be at least 33" (inches) wide to allow the trolley to pass. Bottled water would be appreciated.



# WORDS OF APPRECIATION

“ The offbeat worlds *Toxique Trottoir* brought to life at the international puppetry festival in Saguenay aroused festival goers’ curiosity. By pushing the limits of imagination, *Le ciel rue* and its contagious whimsicality have contributed to the success of the 14<sup>th</sup> FIAMS biennial. ”

– Dany Lefrançois  
Co-artistic Director  
Festival international de la Marionnette de Saguenay

“ A programming favourite in the 2017 edition of the *Plein la rue* festival! The audience is invited to a true celebration, a string of transformations, apparitions and disappearances that amaze and carry us in an infinitely changing universe. This playful, puppetesque show brilliantly occupies the public space! ”

– Myriame Larose  
Programming Director  
*Plein la Rue*, puppet festival

“ *Le ciel rue* puts forth a rich and disconcerting, yet simple and accessible theatrical universe. These three women clad in black pull us in a strange world from the get-go while the music makes us want to dance with them. Through a story without words, and a precise and efficient performance, they fascinate, prompt laughter and move us. There is something greatly magical and poetic about this show, to the delight of the Trois-Rivières spectators! The strong visuals and bewitching music quickly stirred the curiosity of our diverse audience. ”

– Sylvain Longpré  
Les Sages Fous



## THE COMPANY (IN A FEW WORDS)

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.



## TO A VENUE NEAR YOU

“ It is not the fear of madness which will oblige us to leave the flag of imagination furred. ”

- André Breton



### Contact

Scène Ouverte Agency  
 Élise Legrand  
[diffusion@scene-ouverte.com](mailto:diffusion@scene-ouverte.com)  
 514-576-9213  
[www.toxique.ca](http://www.toxique.ca)

### Summer 2015

Festival international d'été de Québec  
 Surprises Urbaines (Ville-Marie borough)  
 Cabaret sous les arbres (des Faubourgs Park)  
 Festival Rythmes & Saveur (Saint-Donat)  
 Rendez-vous Naval (City of Québec)

### Summer 2016

Trois-Rivières Summer Programming  
 Plein la rue Puppet Festival (Verdun)  
 Summer Carnival (Hochelaga-Maisonneuve)  
 Les Escales Improbables de Montréal  
 Maison des arts de Laval

### Summer 2017

Neighbour's Day  
 Tous au spectacle ( PAT-RDP borough, Montréal)  
 Festival International des arts de la marionnette (Saguenay)  
 Notre-Dame-de-Laus Village Celebration  
 Masson Street Fair (Montréal)  
 Saison de théâtre insolite presented by les Sages Fous (Trois-Rivières)

### Summer 2018

Juste For Laughs Festival  
 Fous de théâtre festival - Theatre Hector Charland  
 Maison de la Culture Borough of LaSalle  
 Maison de la Culture Borough of Saint-Laurent  
 Maison de la culture Borough of Mercier-Hochelaga-Maisonneuve  
 Maison de la culture Borough of Villeray-Saint-Michel-Parc-Extension  
 Maison de la culture City of Dollard-des-Ormeaux  
 Phenomena Festival  
 Montreal Clown Festival



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