

Created by
THÉÂTRE À L'ENVERS



PROMOTIONAL GUIDE

WOÂNDA

PROMOTIONAL GUIDE



Photos: Michel Pinault

Table of contents

About Woânda.....	3
Video link.....	3
Credits	3
Théâtre À l'Envers.....	4
Shadow theatre workshop.....	4
History	5
Technical Sheet	6
Touring Activity	7

Contact

Théâtre À l'Envers
5350, Lafond street
Montréal (Québec)
H1X 2X2
info@theatrealenvers.ca
www.theatrealenvers.ca
514.544.9370

Patricia Bergeron
Director (Théâtre À l'Envers)
Cell.: +1.514.544.9370
diffusion@theatrealenvers.ca

James-Élizabeth Filion-Bridgman
Booking agent (Scène Ouverte)
Phone.: + 1.514.721.8588
diffusion@scene-ouverte.com



Canada Council
for the Arts



About Woânda

What could possibly happen when a frog decides to take up residence in the pipes of the bathroom? A lot of commotion... especially the frog, Woânda, comes face to face with Laura, the child who lives in the same house!

Laura is a lively and spontaneous little girl whose mother is seriously ill. To numb her sorrow, Laura takes refuge in painting: with her brushes full of colors, she fills canvasses with her emotions. But her world is turned upside down the day she loses her lucky charm, a ring given by her mother, down the plug hole of the bathroom sink.

Laura's search for the ring takes her through a whirlwind of twists and turns that combine dream with reality, laughter with tears and fears with friendship. And, of course, Woânda the frog becomes Laura's invaluable ally.

Puppets, shadows and video projections create Laura and Grandpa's world at home, as well as the mysterious world of pipes, dreams and imagination that Laura explores with Woânda. The unusual friendship she strikes up with the frog helps Laura to deal with the uncertain emotions she experiences. Above all, Laura learns how to overcome her fear of the unknown and to look positively towards the future and all it holds.



Photo: Michel Pinault

Video link

Trailer on Vimeo : <https://vimeo.com/332424459>

Credits

Written and directed by
Patricia Bergeron

Translated by
Maurice Roy

Original idea by
Patricia Bergeron
Lynn Katrine Richard
Joëlle Tougas

Stage Manager
Jacinthe Plamondon

Set Design
Fanny Bisailon-Gendron

Costume Design
Sophie Brosseau

Make-Up
Aurélia Boullen

Cast
Patricia Bergeron, puppeteer
Mariève Bibeau or Mariflore Véronneau, as Laura
Richard Fréchette, Jean-Léon Rondeau or Paul Stewart, as Grandpa
Maryse Poulin, musician

Puppet Design
Mélanie Charest
Daniel Auclair

Sound Design
Maryse Poulin

Lighting and Shadow Theatre Design
Lynn Katrine Richard

Production Manager and Shadow Theatre Design
Joëlle Tougas

Théâtre À l'Envers

Théâtre À l'Envers wants to create original theatre shows based on a research and experimentation process that focuses on blending different artistic and theatrical forms (puppetry, shadow theatre, mask theatre, video, music, dance). We develop our shows by alternating creative work periods with series of public performances of the project in order to build from the audience's feedback.

Patricia Bergeron

Artistic and general director

A stage director, actor, puppeteer and author, Patricia Bergeron completed an acting degree in 1998 at l'École supérieure de théâtre of the University of Quebec in Montreal (UQAM). She has been in several professional productions in Canada and abroad, namely with Carbone 14, L'Illusion (puppet theatre), Théâtre de la Dame de Coeur and Théâtre Sans Frontières (in England). She has participated in mask theatre, puppetry and dance workshops, in France, Italy and Canada. Over the last fifteen years, she has directed many theatre shows. She wrote and directed *Woânda* and *Mwana and the turtle's secret* produced by Théâtre À l'Envers. She has more than 20 years of experience in facilitating workshops on puppetry, mask and shadow theatre for children and adults. Patricia is very involved in cultural outreach projects and was an artist-mediator at TOHU in Montreal during three years. She also coordinated the *Prélude* program set up by the Conseil des Arts de Montréal, Cirque du Soleil and TOHU. She has completed a Masters Program in theatre at UQAM, which mainly focuses on the combination of dance and contemporary puppetry.



Shadow theatre workshop

Théâtre À l'Envers offers introductory shadow theater workshops. It is also possible to finance this activity through the **Culture à l'École** program.

See the link below for more informations:

<https://cultureeducation.mcc.gouv.qc.ca/repertoire/30382> (Artist: Patricia Bergeron)
and <http://www.theatrealenvers.ca/TAE/ateliers/>



Photos: Michel Pinault



History

Woânda, a play with actors, puppets and shadows, is **Théâtre À l'Envers's** first production and the result of two years of research and exploration.

During the fall of 2005, over a three months period, the creators gave regular workshops on drama and shadow theatre to two classes of 4 to 6 graders of the Saint-Isaac-Jogues School in Montreal. These workshops enable the artists to develop a direct relationship with the target audience. In april 2006, several groups of adults and children (including those mentioned above) attended performances of the work in progress, presented as part of an artistic residency offered by the **Maison de la culture Villeray – Saint-Michel – Parc-Extension**.

On January 30, 2007, Patricia Bergeron, Lynn Katrine Richard and Joëlle Tougas founded **Théâtre À l'Envers (TAE)**. In February of the same year, the company won the contest *Mon accès à la scène*, organized by **La Fondation du maire de Montréal pour la jeunesse**, in collaboration with **Maison de la culture Villeray-Saint-Michel – Parc-Extension** and **Cirque du Soleil**.

In July 2007, **Théâtre À l'Envers** received its first grant from **Canada Council for the Arts** to support the production of *Woânda* and was soon joined by co-producer **Théâtre Quatre/Corps**. A second residency at Maison de la culture Villeray–St-Michel–Parc-Extension concluded on October 21, 2007 with the premiere of the play.

Woânda was performed more than twenty times during seasons 2007-2008 and 2008-2009 and selected to participate in *La Relève en tournée*, a **Loto-Québec** tour for young artists supported by **La Fondation du maire de Montréal pour la jeunesse**, in collaboration with **Réseau Accès Culture**.

In 2008, *Entrées en scène Loto-Québec 2009's* jury choose **Théâtre À l'Envers** to showcase *Woânda* at the *Bourse RIDEAU 2009* event, held in Quebec City in February 2009. An extract from the show was performed for theater programmers, which resulted in a 60 shows tour across Québec for the 2009-2010 season. This tour was also supported by **Conseil des arts et des lettres du Québec**. In 2013-2014, The **Conseil des arts de Montréal** on tour supported the most recent tour of *Woânda* on Montréal's territory.

In the fall of 2019, with a grant from the **Conseil des arts et des lettres du Québec** and the **British Council**, *Woânda* was presented in French and in English, 18 times in 12 different cities during a tour in England set up by **Théâtre À l'Envers** in co-production with **Théâtre Sans Frontières** (England) with a team of performers from Quebec, Nova Scotia, England and Scotland.

Technical Sheet

Information on the production

Target audience : children (4 - 9 years old) and their families
Performance length : 50 minutes
Max capacity : 300 spectators
Stage dimensions : 9.2 m x 7.6 m x 3.7 m (30' width x 25' depth x 12' height)
Set-Up : 4 to 5 hours before the show
Strike : 1h30
Staff on tour : 4 artists and 1 stage manager

CONTACT

Technical director
Sara Sabourin
Phone: + 1.514.207.2117
srabourin@gmail.com

The presenter hereby commits to:

1. Make sure that someone in charge of the venue is present during arrival and set-up of Théâtre À l'Envers (either the technical director or a person who acts as technical director).
2. The company needs a good darkness on stage for the shadow theatre. Note that the dimensions of the stage may differ (by being smaller or slightly smaller in depth), but must be studied by the company's technical director to evaluate the possibility of presenting the piece.
3. Ideally provide the assistance of two (2) to three (3) technicians for the unloading and get in the set, the hanging and the focus of the lighting.
4. Allow a period of five (5) hours before the show to unload the truck, set up the set, adjust the lighting, install the equipment of the musician and make the lighting intensities if no pre-assembly has been done or then allow four (4) hours if a pre-assembly of the lighting has been done by the technical director of the venue. Allow a period of one (1) hour after the show to dismantle the scenery and load the truck.
5. Provide a clean place with mirror and water for the team (5 people).

Material and technical needs

Stage dimension

- minimum dimensions for the stage (width x depth x height) :
9.2 m (30 ft) x 7.6 m (25 ft) x 3.7 m (12 ft)
- *- very low light in order to see the shadows or good darkness

Background

- *- 1 black curtain for the back stage approximately 9.2 m (30 ft) wide and 3.7 m (12 ft) high
- *- 2 black curtains of approximately 2.4 m (8 ft) wide and 3.7 m (12 ft) high for the sides

Sound (optional)

- (1) microphone stand with a boom;
- CD player or MP3 player (optional);
- sound system (amplifier and loudspeakers) (optional).

Lighting (minimal condition)

- *- lighting console with twelve (12) inputs;
- *- height (8) spotlights (Fresnel projector light in preference); if there is no possibility to hang the lights from the ceiling, please provide a minimum of two (2) lighting trees (in front);
- *- light and sound cables in sufficient quantity;
- *- three (3) adaptors U-ground with Twist-lock;
- back stage lights;
- plan of full lighting is available on demand.

Other

- *- table for the light board ;
- *- armless chair for musician...

Items marked with an asterisk (*) are essential to the running of the show. For others, we can always accommodate

Touring Activity

Woânda

SEASON 2018 - 2019

City	Venue	Date
Montréal	Église St-Jax	November 17, 2018
Sainte-Agathe-des-Monts	Théâtre Le Patriote	November, 27 2018
Blainville	Centre communautaire de Blainville	January 27, 2019
Montréal	Centre communautaire de l'Est	April 5, 2019

Woânda - UK TOUR

FALL 2018

City	Venue	Date
Hexham	Queen's Hall	September 27 and 28, 2018
North Shields	The Exchange	September 30 and october 1, 2018
Newcastle	Alphabetti Theatre	October 2 and 3, 2018
Ledbury	Market Theatre	October 6, 2018
Frome	Merlin Theatre	October 8, 2018
Crawley	The Hawth	October 10, 2018
Louth	Lincolnshire Riverhead	October 16, 2018
Stamford	Stamford Arts Centre	October 18, 2018
Hartlepool	Hartlepool Town Hall	October 21, 2018
Halifax	Square Chapel	October 23, 2018
Lincoln	Lincoln Drill Hall	October 28 and 29, 2018
Washington	Washington Arts Centre	November 2 and 3, 2018

Woânda

SEASON 2017 - 2018

City	Venue	Date
Salaberry-de-Valleyfield	Salle Albert-Dumouchel	December 17, 2017
Vaudreuil-Dorion	Centre multisports	April 15, 2018
Laval	Centre communautaire Jean-Paul-Campeau	May 5, 2018

SEASON 2015 - 2016

City	Venue	Date
Mont-Laurier	Espace Théâtre Muni-Spec	March 12, 2016
Drummondville	Maison des arts Desjardins	March 23, 2016

SEASON 2014 - 2015

City	Venue	Date
Blainville	Ville de Blainville	October 26, 2014
Montréal	Maison de la culture Parc-extension	November 18, 2014
Sherbrooke	Côté Scène / Centre Des Arts de La Scène Jean Besré	December 7, 2014
Sherbrooke	Côté Scène / Centre Des Arts de La Scène Jean Besré	December 8, 2014

SEASON 2013 - 2014

City	Venue	Date
Sainte-Anne-de-Bellevue	Centre Harpell	September 29, 2013
Kirkland	Complexe de Kirkland	October 20, 2013
Lasalle	Théâtre du Grand Sault	October 22, 2013
Lachine	L'Entrepôt	October 27, 2013
Montréal	Maison de la culture Marie-Uguay	November 10 and 12, 2013
Beaconsfield	École secondaire de Beaconsfield	February 9, 2014

SEASON 2012 - 2013

City	Venue	Date
Boucherville	Centre multifonctionnel Francine-Gadbois	October 14, 2012
Saint-Léonard	Théâtre Mirella et Lino Saputo	October 24, 2012
Montréal	L'École et les arts. maison de la culture Mercier	November 5, 2012

Touring Activity

Woânda

SEASON 2010 - 2011

City	Venue	Date
Sainte-Julie	Salle Maurice-Savaria	October 17, 2010
Mont-Laurier	Espace Théâtre Muni-Spec	October 27, 2010
Gatineau	Maison de la culture de Gatineau	November 9, 2010
Joliette	Centre culturel de Joliette	November 15, 2010
Saint-Jérôme	Salle André-Prévost	January 9, 2011
Montréal	Maison de la culture Rosemont - La-Petite-Patrie	January 21, 2011
Montréal	Maison de la culture Villeray-St-Michel-Parc-Extension	May 10, 2011

SEASON 2009 - 2010

City	Venue	Date
Montréal	Auditorium Le Prévost	October 3, 2009
Lac Mégantic	Auditorium de la Polyvalente Montignac	October 4, 2009
Beaconsfield	École secondaire de Beaconsfield	October 18, 2009
Sainte-Thérèse	Théâtre Lionel-Groulx	November 1, 2009
Lachine	Pavillon de l'Entrepôt	November 8, 2009
Saint-Jean-sur-Richelieu	Théâtre des Deux Rives	November 10 to 12, 2009
Gatineau	Salle-Desprez	November 22 to 24, 2009
Ontario	En vitrine à Contact-Ontariois	January 14, 2010
Montréal	Centre des arts de la scène Pauline-Julien	January 17, 2010
Saint-Bruno-de-Montarville	Centre-Marcel Dulude	January 24, 2010
Drummondville	Centre culturel de Drummondville	January 25 to 27, 2010
Laval	Maison des Arts de Laval	January 31 to February 4, 2010
Sallaberry-de-Valleyfield	Salle Albert-Dumouchel	February 7, 2010
L'Assomption	Théâtre Hector-Charland	February 16 to 19, 2010
Montréal	Maison de la culture Pointe-aux-Trembles	February 21, 2010
Sainte-Marie-de-Beauce	Salle Méchatigan	February 28, 2010
Longueuil	Salle Albert-Phaneuf	March 7, 2010
Richmond	Centre d'art de Richmond	March 27, 2010
Coaticook	Pavillon des arts et de la culture	March 28, 2010
Rivière-du-Loup	Salle Alphonse-Desjardins	April 11, 2010
Trois-Pistoles	École secondaire l'Arc-en-Ciel	April 12, 2010
Shawinigan	Salle Philippe-Filion	April 13, 2010
Ville Mont-Royal	Auditorium de l'école secondaire Mont-Royal	April 15, 2010
Cabano	Polyvalente de Cabano	April 23, 2010
Matane	Salle Lucien-Bellemare	April 24, 2010
Rimouski	Salle Desjardins-Telus	April 25, 2010
Carleton	Quai des Arts	April 26, 2010
Gaspé	C.D. Spectacles	April 27, 2010
Petite-Vallée	Théâtre de la Vieille Forge	April 28, 2010
Ste-Anne-des-Monts	Salle Gérard C.Gagnon	April 29, 2010
Amqui	Salle Jean-Cossette	April 30, 2010
Sept-Îles	Salle Jean-Marc-Dion	May 3, 2010
Havre-Saint-Pierre	Sous-sol de l'église	May 4, 2010
Port-Cartier	Café-théâtre Graffiti	May 5, 2010
Arvida	Théâtre Palace Arvida	May 7, 2010
Métabetchouan	Théâtre Métabetchouan	May 8, 2010
Dolbeau-Mistassini	Salle Desjardins	May 9, 2010
Baie-Comeau	Théâtre de Baie-Comeau	May 11, 2010
Saint-Irénée	Domaine Forget	May 12 and 13, 2010