



Friday, November 24, 2017, 8pm  
Saturday, November 25, 2017, 2pm  
Sunday, November 26, 2017, 3pm  
Zellerbach Hall

## **Imago Theatre** ***La Belle***

### ***Lost in the World of the Automaton***

*Written by*

Carol Triffle, Jerry Mouawad, and Devin Stinson

Inspired from *La Belle et la Bête (Beauty and the Beast)*  
by Gabrielle-Suzanne Barbot de Villeneuve, written in 1740

*Created and Directed by*

Carol Triffle and Jerry Mouawad

*Scenic, Puppet, and Production Design*

Carol Triffle and Jerry Mouawad

*Costume Design*

Carol Triffle

*Lead Sculptor*

Jerry Mouawad

*Performers*

Jim Vadala – *Sam Stoker*

Justine Davis – *Lady Rose*

*Puppeteers*

Lance Woolen and Erin Nicole Chmela

*Original Music and Lyrics*

Carol Triffle, Amanda Payne, Alyssa Payne, and Lydia Ooghe

*Additional Music*

Mathew Kong, Andrew Payson, Pedro Celli, and Dennis Yaws

*Sound Design*

Kyle Delamarter

*Art Direction Consultant*

Paul Harrod



*Shadow Illustration Design*  
Jill Mackesey

*Director of Fabrication*  
Lance Woolen

*Associate Fabricator*  
Erin Chmela

*Fabricators*  
Bruce Bowman, Brian Rooney,  
and Kyle Delamarter

*Head Carpenter & Props*  
Brad Saby

*Understudies*  
Mark Mullaney and Madeleine Delaplane

*Production Stage Manager*  
David Mackie

*Assistant Director*  
Charmian Creagle

*Dramaturge*  
Jennifer Perlmutter

*Additional Shadow Design*  
Graham Molthan

*Additional Sculptor*  
Bruce Bowman

*Mechanical Engineer*  
Roger Nelson

*Lighting Design*  
Jeff Forbes and Jerry Mouawad

*Scenic Painters*  
Tim Smith, Elecia Beebe, and Sophya Vidal

*Captain's Voice*  
Sean Bowie

*Additional Production*  
Ken Hansen, Nathan Hansen,  
Rex Jantze, and Sumi Wu

*Prop Master*  
Sarah Andrews

*Mechanics Electrical*  
Jon Farley

*Digital Printing*  
Oregon Blue Print

*Graphic Design*  
David Deide

*La Belle is made possible by grants from Meyer Memorial Trust, Oregon Community Trust Creative Heights, The Collins Foundation, Regional Arts and Culture Council, Wyss Foundation, James F. & Marion L. Miller Foundation, The Wessinger Foundation, Oregon Arts Commission, Regional Arts and Culture Council, Harold and Arlene Care Foundation, and The Kinsman Foundation.*

*Cal Performances' 2017–18 season is sponsored by Wells Fargo.*

## IMAGO THEATRE

Founded in 1979 by Carol Triffle and Jerry Mouawad, Imago Theatre has toured its original productions internationally for over three decades. Imago's signature works have appeared three times at the acclaimed New Victory Theater on Broadway in New York; *FROGZ* (2000, 2002) and *ZooZoo* (2010.) The universal nature of Imago's world has won audience and critical acclaim in tours across the US, Canada, Europe, and Asia. The company received the New York Dance Film Award and the "Best Touring Production" award from Independent Reviewers of New England. Imago has been hailed by critics worldwide for its wide range of original work.

The company operates out of a massive 18,000-square-foot theater laboratory in Portland, Oregon, where Imago's ensemble of actors, dancers, designers, fabricators, and musicians become alchemists seeking fresh perspectives in performance. The company has been honored for mask theater pieces that have appealed to a wide age range of audiences, as well as for innovative works that push the boundaries of form, design, and story.

Imago Theatre's methodology is based on the teachings of Jacques Lecoq (1921–99). Carol Triffle studied extensively with Lecoq, completing his exclusive pedagogical program. Drawing inspiration from Lecoq, Imago Theatre aims to place form and design at the forefront of theater creation and infuses each production with an idiosyncratic physical energy. In 2006 the company's innovative production of Jean-Paul Sartre's *No Exit* ran at two Tony Award-winning theaters—American Repertory Theater and the Hartford Stage

Company. The United States premiere of Caryl Churchill's *A Number* was produced by Imago Theatre in 2003. Imago produced the United States premiere of Yukio Mishima's *The Black Lizard* in 2012.

**Carol Triffle** (*co-director, co-creator, co-writer, puppet and production design, lyrics, costume design*) completed a program with Jacques Lecoq in 1997 after studying with him in 1986–88. A member of the dance company The Company We Keep, she founded Imago Theatre in

1979 with Jerry Mouawad and began touring the United States with original mask theater. In 1997 she wrote and directed *Ginger's Green*, which marked the beginning of a group of original music-theater works that includes *Ajax*, *Oh Lost Weekend*, *No Can Do*, and *Missing Mona*. In 2006, and influenced by Richard Maxwell, her works changed form and often featured anti-clown heroes played by Danielle Vermette and Mouawad; these works included *Hit Me in the Stomach*, *Mix Up*, *The Dinner*, *Simple People*, *Backs Like That*, *Splat*, *Beaux Arts Club*, and *Francesca*, *Isabella*, *Margarita on a Cloud*. On Broadway, she

co-directed with Mouawad both *FROGZ* and *ZooZoo*. Triffle has staged works for the Jefferson Dancers and the Oregon Symphony. Her acting appearances in Mouawad's original plays include *Dead End Ed*, *Samuel's Major Problems*, *Serial Killer Parents*, *Apis*, *Tick Tack Type*, *Stage Left Lost*, *Zugzwang*, and *Pimento & Pullman*. Awards include Best Touring Production from the Independent Reviewers of New England, an Oregon Arts Commission Fellowship, New York Dance Film Awards, and Portland Theatre Awards for choreography, costume design, and best original play.

### *La Belle*

*Lost in the World of the Automaton*

#### *The Setting...*

An engine room  
on the steamship *La Belle*,  
somewhere in European waters  
in the early 20th century

Act One is about 45 minutes

#### INTERMISSION

Act Two is about 35 minutes

Imago Dedicates *La Belle*  
to Roger Nelson (1948–2016).

*Without Roger's ingenuity  
we would not have been able  
to create the world of automata.*

**Jerry Mouawad** (*co-director, co-creator, co-writer, puppet and production design, lyrics, lead sculptor, co-lighting design*) studied the teachings of Jacques Lecoq at the Hayes-Marshall School of Theatre Arts. After co-founding Imago Theatre in 1979 with Carol Triffle, he went on to collaborate with her for 14 years creating mask pieces before exploring experimental theater. He has staged two works by Richard Foreman, *Samuel's Major Problems* and *Symphony of Rats*. Mouawad has adapted magical realism literature for the stage, incorporating multimedia, puppetry, and stage illusion in *Verdad* (in collaboration with Triffle) and *Half Light*. Modern classic adaptations include *Blood Wedding*, *The Imaginary Invalid*, *Exit the King*, and *Uncle Vanya*. His adaptation of Sartre's *No Exit* on a moving stage played at American Repertory Theatre and Hartford Stage Company. Mouawad staged the US premiere of Caryl Churchill's *A Number* with Imago Theatre, as well as productions for BodyVox, the Portland Opera, and the Oregon Symphony. His series of original silent works titled *Opera Beyond Words* includes *Apis*, *or the Taste of Honey*; *The Cuban Missile Crisis*; *Tick Tack Type*; *Stage Left Lost*; and *Zugzwang*. Mouawad's recent Pinter productions include *The Lover* in 2013 and *The Caretaker* and *The Homecoming* in 2014. Additional productions include Yukio Mishima's *The Black Lizard* (2012) and *The Lady Aoi* (2016), and *Pimento & Pullman* (2014). On Broadway, he and Triffle co-directed *FROGZ* (2000, 2002) and *ZooZoo* (2010.) Mouawad has appeared as an actor in Triffle's original works *Ajax*, *Ginger's Green*, *Oh Lost Weekend*, *Missing Mona*, *The Dinner*, *Simple People*, *Backs Like That*, and *Splat*. Awards include fellowships from the Oregon Arts Commission and the Portland Theater Guild, Best Director from the Independent Reviewers of New England, the New York Dance Film Award, and Portland Theatre Awards for acting, lighting design, choreography, and best original play.

**Devin James Stinson** (*co-writer/verse writer*) is a native of Portland, and currently resides there. Earlier, he traveled to Los Angeles, where he studied recording arts at the Los Angeles

Recording School. Upon his return to Portland in 2011, Stinson began to hone his spoken-word writing and performing skills. He was selected to write for *La Belle* based on some of his spoken-word-picture videos on YouTube. This is his first collaboration with Imago and his first as a writer for the stage.

**Jim Vadala** (*Sam Stoker*) was born and raised in Philadelphia, and moved to Portland in 2012 to work for the Portland Playhouse. Vadala received his BA at West Chester University and has been seen nationally on *Portlandia* and *Grimm*. Some recent stage credits include: *HIR* (Defunkt), *Bloody, Bloody Andrew Jackson* (Portland Playhouse), *The Homecoming* (Imago), *Othello* (Portland Center Stage), *Gruesome Playground Injuries* (TVonStage), and *Enjoy* (CoHo). Vadala is also a regular of the irreverent sketch group Spectravagasm. He would like to thank the *La Belle* team for their work; Olivia, for her love; you, for supporting live theater. This is his second season with Imago and he is honored and humbled to be a part of the team that brings *La Belle* to life.

**Justine Davis** (*Lady Rose*) hails from California but grew up in Kazakhstan; she has been a nomad since. Davis is thrilled to be making her Imago Theatre debut. Favorite roles include CAP21's *On The Town* (Claire), Stumptown Stages' *In The Heights* (Vanessa), Samford's *Spelling Bee* (Olive), SPRAT's *Henri* (Izzy), CAP21's *Alone In The US* (ZuZu), and Merry-Go-Round's *Seagirl* (Seagirl). BFA: Samford U, CAP21's Professional Program. Davis is happy to be a part of bringing this magical show to life. Much gratitude to Jerry, Carol, and the rest of the crew. Love to her family and friends. Big shout out to the most supportive husband a girl could ask for. Love you Hunter! Eph 2:10.

**Lance Woolen** (*director of fabrication, mechanical design, puppeteer*) has enjoyed a career in puppetry for over 30 years. Along the way he has lived the life of the freewheeling itinerant puppeteer for Portland's award-winning Tears of Joy Theater, which tours the country and around the world, shaking the dollies and





amusing the throngs of gathered humanity for tens of dollars a day. More recently he has turned his attention to achieving fame and fortune by making stop-motion puppets for Laika Studio, where he created a veritable hoard of puppets for the films *Coraline*, *Paranorman*, and *The Boxtrolls*. Woolen is allergic to boredom and looks forward to an enjoyable retirement as a gentleman lobster farmer. True story. This is his first performance with Imago.

**Erin Nicole Chmela** (*associate fabricator, puppeteer, seamstress*), originally from Texas, now resides in Portland. She received her training in costume technology from the University of Texas and has previously built puppets for Wellington's puppet troupe Little Dog Barking. This is her first production with Imago, and she is excited to be a part of the team.

**Amanda and Alyssa Payne** (*original music*) are sister composers from Salt Lake City who currently reside in Portland. The two have been writing music together from a young age. After moving to Portland in 2013, they released their first self-produced experimental album. With a conceptual approach, they reference a wide range of subjects in a multilayered way—dreamlike, in which fiction and reality meet, well-known tropes merge, meanings shift, past and present fuse. The Paynes have composed three songs for *La Belle*—"Lost in the Woods," "Enchanted Forest," and "Teddy" (lyrics by Carol Triffle). This is their first production with Imago.

**Lydia Ooghe** (*original music*) lives in Los Angeles, where she has been producing music and writing content for comedy and animation since 2010. As a child, she spent several years acting professionally in the Broadway and touring productions of *Les Misérables* and *The Secret Garden*, which instilled a love for the work of storytelling at all levels. Recent projects include work with the Cartoon Network and Disney/ABC. Ooghe is currently developing a comedic YouTube series, *Ask a Hamster*, and producing an album of mostly instrumental songs, *Welcome, Please Wait*. She composed

two songs for *La Belle* in collaboration with Carol Triffle, "Black Rock" and "Let's Sail Out Together." This is Ooghe's first production with Imago Theatre and she is pleased to be on board!

**Kyle Delamarter** (*sound design, sound op*) has provided sound design for Imago since 2006. He created video elements for Imago's production of *The Black Lizard* (2012). In 2002 Delamarter joined Imago for the first run of *Big-littlethings* and toured internationally as a performer in *FROGZ* and *ZooZoo*.

**Roger Nelson** (*mechanical engineer*) was destined to be an engineer and has always enjoyed taking things apart just to see if he could put them back together. Nelson graduated from Oregon State University in 1971 with a degree in mechanical engineering, served in the US Army, and then began his career with Hyster, designing lift trucks. Among his professional accomplishments is a patent for co-inventing a new vehicle suspension system. In the mid-1990s, Nelson embarked on a larger project, designing the home that he and his wife built together. This is the first project he has worked on with Imago.

**Jill Mackesey** (*shadow illustration design*) recently moved from Boston to Portland, where she is doodling her way into animation and illustration. She received a BFA at the University of Colorado in Denver, and further training at the Massachusetts College of Art and Design. Mackesey has created motion graphics for UC Denver as well as medical animation videos in Boston. This is her first season at Imago and she is enjoying every moment of it.

**Bruce Bowman** (*fabricator/additional sculptor*) is a native Oregonian and a self-taught multimedia artist. He has a bachelor's degree in theater from Oregon State University. As a freelance artist, he spent many years pursuing an acting career, performing the title role in *Galileo* and multiple parts for Tygres Heart Shakespeare Company. This is Bowman's first project with Imago Theatre.

**Jeff Forbes** (*co-lighting design*) is a Portland-based lighting designer working primarily in theater and dance. He is a nine-time winner of the Willie and Drammy Awards for his work for such companies as Artists Repertory Theatre, Imago Theatre, the Musical Theatre Company, Storefront Theatre, and Tygres Heart Shakespeare Company. Forbes has designed for American Repertory Theatre (Cambridge, MA), the New Rose Theatre, Portland Repertory Theatre, Portland Center Stage, Portland Actors Conservatory, and many others. He tours nationally and internationally with Imago Theatre, the Deborah Hay Dance Company, and Antony and the Johnsons. Forbes' work in dance and performance includes frequent collaborations with choreographers including Linda Austin, Tahni Holt, Linda K. Johnson, Josie Moseley, Mary Oslund, Sally Silvers, and Cydney Wilkes. He is currently the technical manager for White Bird Dance, a presenting organization based in Portland, and has served as a technical director for PICA's TBA Festival since its beginning in 2003. Forbes is a co-founder, with Linda Austin, of Performance Works NorthWest, for which he also serves as technical director.

**Andrew Payson** (*additional music*) is a composer and musician living in Los Angeles. He wrote the score and original songs for the film *Throuple*, which won Best Hawaii Feature at the Big Island Film Festival and the Audience Choice award as well as the Director's Award at the Palm Springs LGBTQ Film Festival. Payson is currently working on several projects, including a film directed by the Emmy Award winner Erik Angra. While other composers dream of becoming the next Mozart, Payson would prefer to live past 35 and be the next Koji Kondo.

**KeKo** (*additional music*), founded in 2014, is a cinematic music production team consisting of husband-and-wife duo Mathew Kong and Teresa Kerwin-Kong. KeKo (short for Kerwin-Kong) initially attracted attention with their unique "high noon" cover of "The Rains of Castamere" as part of their first EP, *The West Remembers: Game of Thrones in the Wild West*.

**Pedro Celli** (*additional music*) is a composer, performer, and music producer currently located in Germany. He was enchanted by and began discovering the world of music at the age of nine. Celli was granted a scholarship at the conservatory in Montreux, where he focused on piano and electric bass. Besides piano he plays alto saxophone, soprano saxophone, and flute. Even though Celli's main focus is his work as a composer, playing and improvisation on his instruments has been and will continue to be the great source of both meditation and inspiration.

**Dennis Bryce Yaws and Blake Wagner** (*additional music*) are original songwriters and composers based in Portland. Blake and Bryce bring quality music and sound design to all of their projects, which range from feature-length film scores to original songs.

**David Mackie** (*production stage manager*) is honored to be part of such an imaginative production. This is his first time working with the Imago team, and he is thrilled to be involved with a professional touring puppet company. Previous work has taken him around the country and the world, lighting productions for opera, dance, and musical theater. When not in the theater, he can be found tending his farm in Skagit County, WA, with his wife Bonnie.

### Special Thanks

Portland Center Stage, Seth Chandler, David McCrum, Brian Mooney, Oregon Children's Theatre, Portland Opera, The Oregonian, Anne Sorce, Darren McCarthy, Jonathan Godsey, Kaician Kitko, Chris Balo, Pratik Motwani, Anet Margot Ris, Kay Ethen, Jeffrey Desautels, Ryan J. Musil, Anna Sell, Taiga Christie, Mark Forrest, Third Rail Repertory Theatre, Geahk Burchill, Katrina Thatcher, Charlie Frazier.

### Booking Representation

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