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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: February 2, 2018
[Press Room](#)



Images of Manual Cinema are available for download from the Cal Performances [press room](#).

**CAL PERFORMANCES AT UC BERKELEY PRESENTS
MANUAL CINEMA IN *AVA/ADA*
FRIDAY–SUNDAY, MARCH 16–18, 2018
IN ZELLERBACH PLAYHOUSE**

Berkeley, February 2, 2018—Cal Performances at UC Berkeley presents the Chicago-based performance collective **Manual Cinema** in *Ava/Ada*, Friday–Saturday March 16–17 at 8pm, Saturday March 17 at 2pm, and Sunday March 18 at 3pm in Zellerbach Playhouse. *Ava/Ada* combines shadow puppetry, live music, and immersive visual effects to tell the story of two elderly sister lighthouse keepers who have been separated by death. The production, directed by Drew Dir, evokes the ethos of the New England gothic, and uses fantastic and supernatural themes to explore sentiments of mourning, melancholy, and sisterly love. The work features an original score and sound design by Kyle Vegter and Ben Kauffman, and is performed by two live actors/puppeteers,

two additional puppeteers, and a musical ensemble of vocals, clarinet, cello, guitar, keyboards, and synthesizer.

In the story of *Ava/Ada*, septuagenarian Ada is bereaved of her twin sister, Ava, and solitarily marks time in the patterns of a life built for two. However, a trip to a mirror maze at a traveling carnival plunges her into a journey across the thresholds of life and death.

Manual Cinema is a performance collective, design studio, and film/video production company founded in 2010 by Drew Dir, Sarah Fornace, Ben Kauffman, Julia Miller, and Kyle Vegter. The collective combines handmade shadow puppetry, cinematic techniques, and innovative sound and music to create visual stories for stage and screen, employing both vintage and cutting-edge technology to transform the experience of attending the cinema.

Ticket Information

Tickets for *Manual Cinema: Ava/Ada* on Friday–Saturday, March 16–17 at 8pm, Saturday, March 17 at 2pm, and Sunday, March 18 at 3pm in Zellerbach Playhouse are \$50 (prices subject to change). Half-price tickets are available for UC Berkeley students. Tickets are available through the Ticket Office at Zellerbach Hall, at (510) 642-9988, at calperformances.org, and at the door. For more information about discounts, go to calperformances.org/discounts.

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CALENDAR EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE:

CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS

Friday, March 16, 8pm
Saturday, March 17, 2pm & 8pm
Sunday, March 18, 3pm

Zellerbach Playhouse
Bancroft Way at Dana Street
UC Berkeley campus

Theater
Manual Cinema
Ada/Ava
Drew Dir, director
Kyle Vegter and Ben Kauffman, sound and score

Program: Shadow puppetry, live music, and immersive visual effects combine to tell the story of two elderly sister lighthouse keepers separated by death, in Manual Cinema's *Ada/Ava*. The Chicago-based performance collective's piece evokes the supernatural world of the New England gothic, where the living and the dead commingle in an exploration of melancholy, loneliness, and sisterly love.

Tickets: \$50 (prices subject to change)

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