Saturday, November 23, 2013, 2pm  
Sunday, November 24, 2013, 3pm  
Zellerbach Hall

For Families

Imago Theatre

FROGZ

The national tour of FROGZ is sponsored, in part, by grants from the Regional Arts and Culture Council and the Collins Foundation.

Cal Performances’ 2013–2014 season is sponsored by Wells Fargo.

PROGRAM

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Imago Theatre

FROGZ

PROGRAM

Frogs
Alligators and Lizards
Paper Bag
Windbags
Strings
Cowboy
Sloth Circus

INTERMISSION
Orbs
Larvabatic
Penguins
Paper

The program is subject to change.

CAST

Creation, Design, and Direction  Carol Triffle and Jerry Mouawad
Original Music  Katie Griesar
Lighting Design  Jeff Forbes
Cowboy Illustrations  George Smith
Performers  Jonathan Godsey, Darren McCarthy, Pratik Morwani, Garrett Larreau, Nevan Richard
Production Stage Manager  Kayla Scrivner
Fabrication Team  Mark Forrest and Cati Thomas
Music  Mark De Gli Antoni
Carol Triffle (creator) completed a three-year pedagogical program with Jacques Lecoq in 1979 after studying for him for two previous years in 1986–1988. A member of the dance troupe 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 canon of original music-theater works that includes Ajax, Oh Lost Weekend, No Can Do, and Missing Mona. In 2006, her music-theater works changed form after influences from Richard Maxwell and often featured anti-clown heroes played by Danielle Vermette and Mr. Mouawad in works titled Hit Me in the Stomach, Mix Up, The Dinner, Simple People, Backs Like That, and Splat. She co-directed FROGZ and ZooZoo with Mr. Mouawad on Broadway. Ms. Triffle has staged works for the Jefferson Dancers and the Oregon Symphony. Her acting appearances in Mr. Mouawad’s original plays include Dead End Ed, Samuel’s Major Problems, Serial Killer Parents, Apis, Tick Tack Type, Stage Left Lost, and Zugzwang. Her awards include Best Touring Production by the Independent Reviewers of New England, Oregon Arts Commission Fellowship, Portland Theater Guild Fellowship, Best Director by the Independent Reviewers of New England, the New York Dance Film Award, and Best Touring Company’s production of FROGZ as lighting designer and stage manager, and as technical director and lighting designer for the Deborah Hay Dance Company. His work in dance and performance includes frequent collaborations with such choreographers as Linda Austin, Linda K. Johnson, Do Jump! Movement Theater, Monster Squad, Josie Moseley, Mary Oslund, Sally Silvers, and Cydney Wilkes. He is a co-founder, with Linda Austin, of Performance Works NW, for which he also serves as technical director.

Katie Griesar (original music) makes music with guitar, antique and toy musical instruments, found objects, collected sounds, wrong notes, and awkward gestures. A graduate of Vassar College and the American Repertory Theater Institute at Harvard University, she is a three-time Portland Drama Critics Circle Award winner for her music and sound work with Imago Theatre, where she is currently Resident Composer. Ms. Griesar has contributed original music and sound to Imago’s productions of FROGZ, Biglittlethings, ZooZoo, House Taken Over, Oh Lost Weekend, Missing Mona, The Dinner, Simple People, Backs Like That, Splat, Symphony of Rats, Half Light, Ginger’s Green, Trailer Park Paradise, Blood Wedding, Imaginary Invalid, No Can Do, and A Number. She has also contributed original music and sound to works by choreographers Linda Austin, Catherine Egan, Mary Oslund, and Cydney Wilkes, and most recently she scored the dance piece Problem of Bias by choreographer Jessica Hightower.

Jeffer Mouawad (creator) studied the teachings of Jacques Lecoq at the Hayes-Marshall School of Theater. After co-founding Imago Theatre with Carol Triffle in 1979, he went on to collaborate with her for 14 years, creating mask pieces before exploring experimental theater. He staged two works by Richard Foreman, Samuel’s Major Problems and Symphony of Rats. He has adapted magical realist literature for the stage, incorporating multimedia, puppetry, and stage illusion in Verdad (in collaboration with Ms. Triffle) and Half Light. His adaptations of modern classics 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 Theater and Hartford Stage Company. He has staged work for BodyVox, Portland Opera, and the Oregon Symphony. He directed the U.S. premiere of Caryl Churchill’s A Number at Imago Theatre. His series of original silent works titled “Opera Beyond Words” include Apis, or the Taste of Honey, Cuban Missile Tango, Tick Tack Type, Stage Left Lost, and Zugzwang. On Broadway, he co-directed FROGZ and ZooZoo with Ms. Triffle. He has appeared as actor in Ms. Triffle’s original works Ajax, Ginger’s Green, Oh Lost Weekend, Missing Mona, The Dinner, Simple People, Backs Like That, and Splat. His awards include Oregon Arts Commission Fellowship, Portland Theater Guild Fellowship, Best Director by the Independent Reviewers of New England, the New York Dance Film Award, and Portland Theatre awards for acting, light design, choreography, and best original play.

Jonathan Godsey (performer) became interested in theater in 1998 at the ripe young age of 28. Since then, he has performed in numerous national FROGZ tours with Imago, including runs at American Repertory Theater in Cambridge and on Broadway in New York. Mr. Godsey’s other Imago appearances include Oh Lost Weekend, The Imaginary Invalid, and Biglittlethings. He currently studies aikido at Two Rivers Aikikai in Portland, and eventually plans to apply his extensive studies of t’ai chi ch’uan and aikido to the art of stage combat.

Darren McCarthy (performer) is thrilled to be a part of this wonderful show, and returning for his fourth season on tour with Imago. Past Imago productions include: The Dinner, Apis, Simple People, Cuban Missile Tango, Tic Tack Type, Backs Like That, and Stage Left Lost. Mr. McCarthy graduated from New England College in Henniker, New Hampshire, in 2007, receiving a bachelor’s degree in theater. He was most recently seen onstage in Portland as a performer in Push Leg physical theater company’s Nighthawks.
Pratik Motwani (performer) is an actor from Mumbai, India. He holds an M.F.A. in ensemble-based physical theater from the Dell’Arte International School of Physical Theatre. As a voiceover artist, Mr. Motwani has lent his voice to Dev Patel (the protagonist) in the Indian version of the Oscar-winning film Slumdog Millionaire. He is also the co-founder of MadBall Co., based in Mumbai. In 2010, he co-created the social outreach wing of the company with a workshop and performance program EK aur EK Gyarah (“One plus One = Eleven”) in partnership with over ten international aid organizations. The project reached thousands of street children, pediatric cancer patients, students, and teachers in Delhi and Mumbai. Recently, Mr. Motwani and his company created IN’Tents: A Conservation Comedy in the Great Outdoors as a response to the budget cuts in the national and state park system in the United States. Funded by the Puffin Foundation, the show reached over 1,300 families camping all the way from the Redwood Parks to Rocky Mountain National Park. As a performing artist, Mr. Motwani has played leading roles in the Dell’Arte Company’s production of The Nutcraper, Mary Jane: The Musical, and their recent production of The Comedy of Errors. After a fantastic touring experience last year, Mr. Motwani returns to Imago for his second season.

Garrett Larreau (performer) is excited to make his Imago début performing on the international tour of FROGZ. He has been seen onstage at Comedy Sportz Portland, Portland Center Stage, and Theater Vertigo. He also regularly works with the independent filmmaking scene, directing his own projects and appearing in many others. Mr. Larreau is very excited to apply his extensive martial arts background and acting chops to the world of Imago Theatre.

Nevan Richard (performer) was born and raised in Connecticut, eventually attending the University of Rhode Island to study animal management and theater. After graduating, he became the Outreach Coordinator and Resident Actor for the Contemporary Theater Co. in Wakefield, Rhode Island. In 2011, he was accepted to the Portland Playhouse Acting Apprentice program, and has since made Portland his home. He has worked with Bag&Baggage, Tears of Joy, Post Five Theatre, and most recently with Traveling Lantern as the title character in Ranger Ned’s Big Adventure in Yosemite National Park. In addition to theater, he is passionate about wildlife conservation, education, and soccer. FROGZ is his Imago début, and he is thrilled to work with this company and its members.

Kayla Scrivner (production stage manager) studied dance and technical theater at Portland State University, working in Lincoln Hall for over 15 years. From 1993 to 1997, she taught dance at the Edna Manley College of Fine and Performing Arts in Jamaica and danced with the National Dance Theatre of Jamaica. Ms. Scrivner worked as technical coordinator with White Bird Productions for nine years. She has also worked with Northwest Dance Theatre, Portland Ballet, Bodyvox, and the Portland Institute for Contemporary Art.

George Smith (cowboy illustrations) was a nationally syndicated cartoonist best known for The Smith Family. He was the proud father of eleven children, one of which is Artistic Co-Director of Imago Carol Triffle.

Mark Forrest (resident fabricator) is co-founder with Susan Bonde of Bon Design, which designs and constructs mascots, walk-arounds, and other unusual creatures. Mr. Forrest has been involved in theater design and construction for over two decades, including for projects Wee Sing, Oregon Children’s Theater, ORLO, and Sea World. He has been designing and constructing for Imago since 2003, and worked closely with Ms. Triffle to bring to life Imago’s “Dino.”

Cati Thomas (fabricator) was born and raised in England. She started sewing at seven and a few years later set off to work in the costume shops of regional and London theaters. A taste for adventure led her and her sewing machine to the American northwest, where, for 20 years, she led a domestic life in central Oregon. She has performed in, directed, and costumed numerous community theater and dance productions, including A Midsummer Night’s Dream, The Tempest, Charley’s Aunt, Death Trap, Oliver, Swan Lake, and The Trojan Women. When she returned to Portland three years ago, it was her heart’s desire to work at Imago Theatre and see the inside of an orb. She has since become intimately acquainted with the insides of many of Imago’s creatures. This is her fourth season at Imago. She would like to thank her three children.

Katherine Gray (Fabricator) has performed in four of Imago’s original works. She has assisted in creature creations for both FROGZ and Biglittlethings. While her primary focus has been as a dancer over the past 18 years, including many seasons with Oslund+Co/Dance, she works steadily in the field of prototype development, special events production, costuming, and industrial design.