



International  
**Puppet Festival**  
Ireland



INTERNATIONAL  
**PUPPET  
FESTIVAL  
IRELAND**

**2008**

September 12-21

# Introduction



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The 2008 International Puppet Festival Ireland represents a milestone in the festival's history. Established in 1991, this will be the festival's 15th edition. To celebrate this we are delighted to present an eclectic mix of some of the worlds highest regarded puppetry artists.

The festival this year centers on the theme of 'the visual power of puppetry' and each production, in it's own way, displays the powerful theatre created by puppetry artists from many different traditions and cultures without the reliance on spoken word.

From performances by a highly regarded classical marionette artist to puppets conjured from parts of the body and a small theatre with seven individual stages, this year's festival has something for every age and theatrical taste. We are delighted to also launch a new schools project and introduce a festival artist in residency programme.

*We hope you will join us for this special festival.*

## Ronan Tully

Artistic Director (interim)

### Funded by:



Artistic Director (interim): **Ronan Tully**

Logistics: **Cynthia Faughnan**

Technical Manager: **Pat Sullivan**

Marketing Consultant: **Annette Nugent**

Design: **[www.gavinbeattie.com](http://www.gavinbeattie.com)**

Board of Directors of International Puppet Festival Ireland Ltd:

**Prof. John McCormick** (Chairperson), **Miriam Lambert** (Treasurer)

**Martin Moloney, Aedin Cosgrove, Ronan Tully** (Secretary)



### Partners:



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# Suspended Animation

## Phillip Huber Marionettes (USA)

Duration: 50 mins

Suitable for: adults & children 8+



**The International Puppet Festival Ireland is proud to present the first Irish performances by US artist Phillip Huber**

**Phillip Huber is recognised in the puppetry world as one of the greatest living marionette artists, best known by the public for his astonishing marionette sequences in the three times Oscar Nominated film "Being John Malkovich"**

*Suspended Animation* is a musical marionette cabaret show featuring a tightrope walking Pierrot, an incredible contortionist, dancers, singers, musicians and much more.

**What sets this show apart?**... Everything. His puppets are beautifully sculpted and costumed, the lighting is dramatic - but it's what he makes those marionettes do, that has an audience staring open-mouthed in fascination and then cheering in appreciation. Every movement is carefully timed and choreographed, though it never feels mechanical. The puppeteer is there - we're aware of him - but below, the marionettes are alive all by themselves with feelings, passions, attitudes and personality. This is when puppetry feels like magic.

**Directors Note:** Phillip Huber is truly one of the great modern puppeteers. He takes the traditional marionette and creates movements you would not believe possible from a puppet. We are honoured to host this prestigious artist for his first ever performances in Ireland.

*"Suspended animation adds sophistication to puppetry... the realistic detail is astonishing..."*

- LA Times

*"Brilliantly characterised and manipulated..."*

- Variety

**Venue: Pavilion Theatre, DunLaoghaire**

**Public Performances:**

**Thur 18th to Sat 20th Sept- 8pm**

**Matinee Performance Sat 20th - 3.30pm**

Schools Performance:

Fri 19th - 11am (Post-Primary)

**This performance is not suitable for children under 8 years.**

# Poemes Visuals

## Company Jordi Bertran (Spain)

Duration: 50 mins

Suitable for: adults & children 6+



**Company Jordi Bertran is one of the most successful and most highly regarded Spanish puppet companies. It's founder, Jordi Bertran, is considered a master puppeteer of several forms of puppetry.**

In *Poemes Visuals*, a poet (Bertran) introduces a series of letters to the audience. With the help of his guitar the letters come alive and between them tell the visual story of each letter's personality. The 'I' becomes a boy who plays with 'E', the dog. 'Y' and 'U' join together to form a graceful dancer and in the finale the letter 'T' becomes a hilarious and bossy high diving act.

*Poemes Visuals* is one of the best examples of how the simplest shapes

together with the most highly skilled puppeteers, can create a truly magical performance. The production is both funny, sad and touching and the addition of live music creates a truly memorable show for all ages.

**Director's Note: This production has won numerous awards at festivals around the globe and is one of those rare productions which plays equally well to both exclusively adult and family audiences. This is the first opportunity to see *Poemes Visuals* in Ireland.**

**Venue: Lambert Puppet Theatre,  
Monkstown**

**Fri 12th Sept – 8pm**

**Sat 13th Sept – 3.30pm**



## Short Stories

**Teatro Hugo & Ines** (Peru)

Duration: 50 mins

Suitable for: adults & children 7+

We have the immense pleasure of welcoming Teatro Hugo & Ines back to Dublin following the runaway success of *Short Stories* at The Dublin Theatre Festival in 2005.

Critically acclaimed mime artist and puppeteer Hugo Suarez presents a picturesque parade of amusing characters, which, in the brief moments of their existence on the stage, catch those poetic moments that are hidden in daily life.

Young and old alike will be mesmerised as a parade of touching and funny characters are created in front of their eyes using fingers, hands, knees and even a stomach. This is a warm, charming and hilarious performance for everybody over the age of 7 years.

**Director's Note:** This is puppetry as you have never seen it before! *Short Stories* has been praised by critics across the globe and this promises to be one of the hits of this year's festival. Book early!

**Venue:** Lambert Puppet Theatre, Monkstown.

Sat 13th Sept – 8pm

Sun 14th Sept – 3.30pm

# Hands Up!

**Lejo** (Netherlands)

Duration: 40 mins

Suitable for: adults & children 3+

**Featuring a hyperactive pianist, a cool DJ and an entire children's choir, *Hands Up!* is a witty and charming collection of short scenes suitable for adults and small children from three and up.**

Having performed at festivals across Europe, Dutch puppeteer Leo Peterson manages to fascinate audiences wherever he goes with his 'simple' puppets, consisting of just hands and wooden eyes.

Since 2002 Leo has been creating short video inserts for the Dutch version of the Sesame Street television show using his own unique form of puppetry.

**Director's Note: Lejo's fusion of simplicity and comedy makes this show a truly great introduction to theatre for younger audiences.**



**Venue: Lambert Puppet Theatre, Monkstown**  
**Sat 13th & Sun 14th Sept – 11am**  
(Please see also Libraries section)

# Poli Degaine

**Company La Pendue (France)**

Duration: 50 mins

Suitable for: adults & children 6+

**Two puppeteers are on the run armed with a massive weapon of hilarity: when confronted with an audience they draw their weapon... 'Polichinelle', the most famous of all puppets. They then enthusiastically announce a performance of exceptional qualities. But, as planned, nothing goes as planned.**

Welcome to the hilarious frenzy of a new version of Polichinelle where he appears at his wildest and most explosive. Indiscriminately striking young and old alike with uncontrollable laughter. Because Polichinelle laughs at everything, even death!

**Director's Note: In Poli Degaine, two young French performers take Polichinelle, the father of Punch and Judy and one of the oldest European theatre traditions, to the next level. This production features some of the most sublime glove puppetry and incredible comic timing. If you think you know Punch and Judy... you haven't seen anything yet!**

**Venue:**

**Lambert Puppet Theatre, Monkstown  
Sat 20th & Sun 21st Sept - 3.30pm**

(Please see also Libraries section)

with the assistance of





# Diva

**Sofie Krog (Denmark)**

Duration: 50 mins

Suitable for: adults & young adults 12+

**Behind the heavy curtains in an old theatre, the fabulous Diva prepares for this evening's performance. Every night, when the curtain opens, her audience is enchanted by her beautiful, wistful song.**

On this fatal evening however, the show does not go to plan. Featuring a lovesick butler, a mischievous lab assistant and a beyond-mad scientist. Audience members are lured into the mystery within the cabaret walls as each character endures an ill-fated night that may well be its last.

*Diva* is an almost wordless performance - in a rotating animation theatre. Behind an inferno of 7 scenes of action and 21 curtains everything can be moved, opened, shut, and hoisted up or down. Small light systems, music, sound effects,

cartoon comics, and tricky dexterity create a highly tensioned drama in a unique and magical universe.

**Director's Note: DIVA is a tour de force of manual dexterity that features the talented puppeteer Sofie Krog manipulating all of the action on multiple stages simultaneously from inside a small revolving theatre. The comic plot line is in the best tradition of Monty Python and this is a must for those who enjoy a dark and surreal comedy.**

**Venue: Lambert Puppet Theatre, Monkstown**

**Public Performances:**

**Fri 19th & Sat 20th Sept – 8pm**

**Schools Performance:**

**Fri 19th – 11am (Post-Primary)**

# Goldilocks & The Three Bears

**Miriam Lambert** (Ireland)

Duration: 45 mins

Suitable for: children 4+

Imagine a storybook that comes alive! Dancing hands open 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears', and lead the children through the tale of a little girl who pays a visit to the home of the adorable baby bear!

Devised, written and performed by Miriam Lambert, this gentle, captivating performance takes place on two levels where even though the puppeteer is visible, the magic, experienced by young and old, never fades.

**Director's Note: Miriam Lambert was a principal puppeteer, deviser and designer with the famous Lambert Puppet Theatre for over thirty years. Miriam's solo work has been the hit with children at both national and international arts festivals over the past two years.**

(Please see schools section)



# Artist in Residence

**Maira Coelho** (Brazil)



The festival's new Artist in Residence project aims to help a young and emerging puppetry artist gain the valuable experience of working within a major international festival. This project aims to help the artist develop a particular strand of their work by engaging with the public through performance, workshops and special projects.

## **Maira Coelho (Brazil)**

Maira Coelho has been an artist and puppeteer since 1992. She has studied in Brazil with international masters in puppetry, theatre and cinema and has collaborated with various different theatre companies in Brazil as a puppeteer, set designer and costume

designer. Together with Paulo Balardim she created The Titeretoscope, a mini puppet show. She was also art director for a number of short animated films that were awarded prizes for art direction.

## **Maira Coelho – Titeretoscope – Performance**

Since 1994 Maira Coelho has been developing the 'Titeretoscope', a miniature puppet theatre inspired by the first projector of moving images, the Cinematoscope, invented by Thomas Edison. The 'Titeretoscope' is a miniature theatre on top of a tripod reminiscent of those early cinema machines and each performance is for one person at a time. Maira has created

neumerous mini-productions, which last about a minute, and the Titeretoscope will be performing for adults and children at all throughout the festival at various venues.

## **Children's Puppet Workshops – The Puppet Catchers with Maira Coelho**

A special opportunity for children to become the creators in the festival! Artist in residence Maira Coelho will present three puppet-making workshops during the festival period.

Each of these workshops will centre on creating recycled puppets from everyday objects found by the participants. Such as plastic bottles, old newspapers, buttons and fabrics. Maira will show children that pretty much anything can be used to create your own puppet to perform and play with.

Each Workshop will centre on a different puppetry style:

**Workshop 1:** Shadow puppets  
Sat 13th Sept – 11am

**Workshop 2:** Rod puppets  
Sun 14th Sept – 11am

**Workshop 3:** Hand & finger puppets  
Sat 20th Sept – 11am

**Venue: Lambert Puppet Theatre Studio, Monkstown.**

**Duration: 2hrs.**

**Suitable for children age 6+**

**Please note these workshops are limited to a maximum of 15 children, early booking is advisable.**



Comhairle Contae County Council Libraries Section

## **Performances in Libraries**

**As part of the festivals outreach programme we are delighted to continue our long-standing partnership with DunLaoghaire Rathdown Public Libraries Service.**

This year Company La Pendue (France) and Lejo (Netherlands) will be presenting performances in libraries for school groups in their area.

These performances are for invited schools and are free of charge to the participating schools.

If you would like further information please contact the Festival Box Office.

**Mon 15th & Tues 16th Sept – Lejo**

**Thurs 18th & Fri 19th Sept – La Pendue**

## **Schools Project**



**Working with Southside Community Partnership the festival has begun an exciting four-year collaboration with four designated disadvantaged schools in the county.**

This project not only aims to help children access international performing arts but also enables students to become creators and critics while engaging with many different cultures. The four participating schools are:

- St Kevin's N.S. Sallynoggin
- Holy Family N.S. Monkstown
- Queen of Angels N.S. Balally
- Holy Cross N.S. Dundrum

During the festival period, each school will be introduced to the project with a performance in their school by Miriam Lambert.

## Booking Information:

### Ticket Prices:

**Venue: Lambert Puppet Theatre**

11am performances: €11/€9

3.30pm performances: €13/€10

8pm performances: €15/€12

**Venue: Pavilion Theatre (Huber**

**Marionettes)** All performances €20/€17

Post Primary Schools Performances: €10

Workshops: €15

(Performances in schools and libraries are provided free of charge as part of our outreach and collaborative projects.)

### Age Designation:

We ask our patrons to please respect our advice on age suitability of each performance for both the benefit of the audience and our international guests. Babies and children under the recommended age may not be admitted into some performances.

### Latecomers:

Some performances may use special lighting, which will prevent latecomers being admitted into performances. Tickets held by latecomers are non-refundable.

### Box Office:

**All Performances except**

**Huber Marionettes:** Festival Box Office, Lambert Puppet Theatre, Clifton Lane, Monkstown, Co. Dublin

Mon-Fri 10am to 5pm • Tel: 01 280 0974

Online Booking: [www.puppetfest.ie](http://www.puppetfest.ie)

**Tickets for Huber Marionettes must be**

**booked at:** Pavilion Theatre, Marine Rd. DunLaoghaire, Co. Dublin • Tel: 01 231 2929

Online Booking: [www.paviliontheatre.ie](http://www.paviliontheatre.ie)

**For Further details on all events and related issues please contact the Box Office or visit [www.puppetfest.ie](http://www.puppetfest.ie)**

## Timetable:

\*(LPT = Lambert Puppet Theatre)

### Thursday 11th

Opening LPT 8pm

### Friday 12th

Jordi Bertran (6+) LPT 8pm

### Saturday 13th

Lejo (3+) LPT 11am  
Workshop 1 LPT Studio 11am  
Jordi Bertran (6+) LPT 3:30pm  
Hugo & Ines (7+) LPT 8pm

### Sunday 14th

Lejo (3+) LPT 11am  
Workshop 2 LPT Studio 11am  
Hugo & Ines (7+) LPT 3:30pm

### Monday 15th

Lejo (3+) Libraries 11am

### Tuesday 16th

Lejo (3+) Libraries 11am  
Miriam Lambert (5+) Schools 11am

### Wednesday 17th

Miriam Lambert (5+) Schools 11am

### Thursday 18th

La Pendue (6+) Libraries 11am  
Miriam Lambert (5+) Schools 11am  
Phillip Huber (8+) Pavillion 8pm

### Friday 19th

Sofie Krog (12+) LPT 11am  
Phillip Huber (12+) Pavillion 11am  
La Pendue (6+) Libraries 11am  
Miriam Lambert (5+) Schools 11am  
Sofie Krog (12+) LPT 8pm  
Phillip Huber (8+) Pavillion 8pm

### Saturday 20th

Workshop 3 LPT Studio 11am  
La Pendue (6+) LPT 3:30pm  
Phillip Huber (8+) Pavillion 3:30pm  
Sofie Krog (12+) LPT 8pm  
Phillip Huber (8+) Pavillion 8pm

### Sunday 21st

La Pendue (6+) LPT 3:30pm  
Closing Party LPT 8pm

*Weirs*  
of Dun Laoghaire

*Traditional Irish Pub,  
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