



Maison internationale des arts de la marionnette (MIAM)



Le Schatz

Press release | For immediate release

Joanie Fortin and Valise Théâtre, recipients of the 2024-2025 creative research residencies for professional puppeteers from Montréal

Montréal, July 2, 2024 — Casteliers, the Conseil des arts de Montréal and Le Schatz House are pleased to announce that **Joanie Fortin** and **Valise Théâtre** are the recipients of the 2024-2025 Creative research residencies for professional puppeteers from Montréal.

With the goal of developing puppetry arts, these residencies will give the artists the opportunity to work on their respective projects and to take advantage of specialized spaces, equipment, and resources. Each residency lasts 17 days and will be split into two segments: 12 days at the Maison internationale des arts de la marionnette (MIAM) in Montréal, and 5 days at Le Schatz, in Sutton.



Joanie Fortin

A graduate in theatre studies and contemporary puppet theatre from UQAM, Joanie Fortin works with the collective Les Tables Tournantes and several companies including La Pire Espèce, Tortue Berlue, and Création Bluette, as an actress, puppeteer, set designer, and sound creator.

Joanie will use this residency to work on her new creation *Le Kiosque d'information*, surrounded by a creative team composed of author Timothée-William Lapointe, assistant director and lighting designer Sarah Gagné, outside eye Iris Richert, and Guillaume Létourneau, electroacoustics, live sound effects, and sound spatialization consultant.

This solo for a puppet and objects explores the theme of work, a sphere deeply in crisis in our contemporary societies. In a stylized, choreographic, and offbeat manner, it depicts an employee showing signs of exhaustion, disengagement, and boredom at work. The dramaturgy explores how she is transformed by the intervention of imagination and the unusual nature of the questions posed to her.



Mojtaba Moaf

Valise Théâtre

Founded in Montréal in 2017, Valise Théâtre aims to explore universal themes and promote cultural diversity through puppet theatre. Originally from Iran, co-founders Mojtaba Moaf and Ghazaleh Moradiyan are both puppeteers and playwrights, and stage direction graduates from the University of Art in Tehran.

The residency will allow them to work on their next creation *Des Lignes*, a show that invites young audiences to question the lines that surround us, whether physical, imaginary, or geographical ... and that influence our daily lives. By combining dramatic art, visual arts, dance, and mathematics, the show creates an imaginary world populated by characters made of various lines, a confrontation between humans and lines, where the latter becomes border, law, and art.

Additionally, two other applications received a “jury favourite” award. **Théâtre À l’Envers** will present its next creation to the public as a PRELUDE at MIAM during the 2024-2025 season, while **Tenon Mortaise** will benefit from a creative residency at Le Schatz.

Conseil des arts de Montréal

Through its various forms of assistance, the Conseil des arts de Montréal supports artistic innovation and creative expression in all its diversity, with the aim of promoting Montréal’s artists, producers and presenters. Since 1956, the Conseil has played a unique role as a catalyst for this artistic ecosystem, helping make Montréal one of the world’s great cultural metropolises.

