

Wexner Center for the Arts

The Ohio State University

P R E S E N T S

The Old Trout Puppet Workshop

Famous Puppet Death Scenes

WED–SAT, NOV 7–10 | 8 PM

Performance Space

Patrons are requested to turn off signal watches, pagers, and cellular phones during performances.

C R E D I T S

Major support for the Wexner Center's 2007–08 performing arts season is generously provided by **Huntington Bank**, **Doris Duke Charitable Foundation**, and **The Columbus Foundation**.

Significant contributions are also made by **Morgan Stanley** and **Nationwide Foundation**.

Additional season funding is provided by the **Ohio Arts Council**, the **Corporate Annual Fund of the Wexner Center Foundation**, and **Wexner Center members**.

Accommodations are provided by **The Blackwell Inn**.

The Old Trout Puppet Workshop is funded in part by the **Alberta Foundation for the Arts**, **Calgary Arts Development**, and the **Canada Council for the Arts**.

ADDITIONAL
SEASON SUPPORT

ACCOMMODATIONS

EVENT
SUPPORT



Canada Council
for the Arts

Conseil des Arts
du Canada

PROGRAM

The Old Trout Puppet Workshop

Famous Puppet Death Scenes

Created and Conceived by The Old Trout Puppet Workshop & Friends
**Peter Balkwill, Don Brinsmead, Mitchell Craib, Pityu Kenderes,
Bobby Hall, Judd Palmer, Stephen Pearce, and Tim Sutherland**

Starring **Peter Balkwill, Mitchell Craib,
Pityu Kenderes, and Judd Palmer**
Directed by **Tim Sutherland**
Costumes by **Jen Gareau and Sarah Malik**
Lighting Design and
Production Stage Management. **Cimмерon Meyer**
Sound Design **Mike Rinaldi**
Produced by **Grant Burns**
Trout Administrator **Norma Lock**
Additional Production by **Mercedes Bâtiz-Benét,
Marilyn Palmer, Dawn Bryan,
Jimmy Davidge, and
Don Brinsmead**

Special thanks to Norman Armour, Mercedes Bâtiz-Benét, Bill Beauregard, James Davidge, Dave Lane, Derek Langille, The Green Fools, Marilyn Palmer, and Vanessa Porteous.

This show was developed as a creative residency with the PuSH Festival in 2006. The Old Trouts are very grateful for their assistance.

Visit theoldtrouts.org for upcoming performances and workshops.
For booking information please contact Grant Burns at
grant@theoldtrouts.org



NATHANIAL TWEAK PRESENTS THE GREATEST DEATH
SCENES IN PUPPET THEATRE HISTORY.

PLEASE ENDEAVOR TO CARE AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE.

- The Feverish Heart*by **Nordo Frot**
Act 1, Scene 3
- Das Bipsy und Mumu Puppenspiel*by **Freulicher Friedrich**
Episode 43 "Bipsy's Mistake"
- The Ballad of Edward Grue*by **Samuel Groanswallow**
Act 4, Scene 6
- The Modern Age (Part 3)*by **Eamon Schloss**
"The Staircase Scene"
- The Forgotten Dish*by **Sterling Lowry**
"The Winds of Fate"
- The Swede of Donnylargan*by **Sir Walter Pill**
- My Stupid Dad*by **Sally**
Act 1, Scene 1
- A Desperate Attempt*by **Sarah Phweet**
Act 3, Scene 4
- The Feverish Heart*by **Nordo Frot**
Act 2, Scene 6
- La Nature au Naturel*avec **Dr. François LeBoule**
Episode 12
- The Cruel Sea*by **Thorvik Skarsborg**
Hour 14
- Never Say it Again*by **Linda Snuck**
- The Beast of Muggditch Lane*by **August Stainbrook**
Act 1, Scene 1
- The Feverish Heart*by **Nordo Frot**
Act 4, Scene 14

Funeral Ritual of the Sugawara Denju

The Last Whale by **Grover Bailiwick**

How the Spirit Entered Me by **the Reverend George Foote**

The Feverish Heart by **Nordo Frot**
Act 19, Scene 78

Ice Age starring **Swan Roderick**

Lucille Arabesque by **Agathon Finley**

King Jeff the Magnificent by **William Dingo**

The Perfect Death Scene by **Nathaniel Tweak**

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR HOST

These death scenes are taken from the greatest puppet shows in history—not merely the most famous, or the most popular in their time (for indeed true art is often far ahead of its own era)—but indeed the greatest, according to the judgment of one who has dedicated his entire life to the art of the puppet death scene: myself. My credentials in this regard are simply the choices I have made: judge for yourselves whether I have chosen rightly.

The scenes have been recreated as faithfully as possible to the originals. In many cases, of course, there is no published script to work from; instead I have had to rely on folk-memory, second- and third-hand accounts, traditional Italian field-hollers, court records, and in some cases my own surmises. Nevertheless, I believe they closely approximate the original works. Of course, a puppet show is not an immutable thing; it changes with every audience, and these scenes were intended for very different audiences in very different places and times. To that extent, they must be viewed with a certain philosophical imagination.



I have gone to considerable effort to assemble the original puppets; some had been lost for many years, and many had long ago considered themselves retired from public life. Nevertheless, I scoured the world. For years I plundered mouldering crates, shadowed attics, and ship bilges, trudded through craggy bleakness and jungle swelter, interviewed crazed witnesses, followed hastily scribbled maps, battled competitors, and spent a fortune thrice over, to pluck these noble ancients from the dried fingers of their grizzled makers, to summon them to the stage once more for you.

Allow me to anticipate some potential criticism. There are those who hold *Dungbeetle's Lament* by Thingwold Singh as the apotheosis of the art of the puppet death scene, for example. I excite controversy, no doubt, in saying that it is shallow and manipulative, and deserves no place in the eternal canon. Some scenes, I admit, were impossible to reproduce—surely the climactic finale of Düsseldorf's *Colossal Jesus* should take its place here amongst the hallowed—but the theatre is only so large and the practice of human sacrifice has largely gone out of fashion. If anybody has any clues as to the whereabouts of Schnebel and Jorge, the beloved puppets of Jan Schnink, please let me know. I would dearly love to include *The Last Days of Don Santiago* in future productions, but I have been unable to track down their whereabouts. Schnink himself has been of no assistance, due to his current circumstances, which need no elaboration in these pages.

I have labored long on this production; one might say it is the culmination of my life's work. The pieces are carefully selected so that they produce a cumulative effect that I believe sheds light upon the very nature of our art, and of our souls. When watching the show, I hope you will keep the well-known Eastern parable of the *Elephant in the Bag* in mind. According to the story, certain monks encounter an elephant in a bag. It's never been made clear to me why there is an elephant in a bag, or why it is not obvious to the monks that it's an elephant in a bag (perhaps they are blind?), but the monks endeavor to determine the bag's contents by sticking their hands into it and feeling about. One grasps the tail, and says it must be a paintbrush in the bag. Another grasps the trunk, and says it is a tree. We assemble different grasplings into a different bag with a different beast inside. That beast is ourselves and it is we who do the grasping; what we find in our hands, and what we call it, is up to us.

Thank you for coming. It means so very, very much to me. Please enjoy the evening's entertainment as much as you can manage.

Nathaniel Tweak

RESIDENCY ACTIVITIES

In addition to organizing public presentations of contemporary work in the performing, media, and visual arts, the Wexner Center actively seeks to provide opportunities for interaction among visiting artists, students, faculty, and staff of The Ohio State University, and members of the community. These activities and associated discussions led by authorities in many fields offer our audiences a better understanding of the creative process and the work of artists engaged by the Wexner Center.

While at the Wexner Center the members of The Old Trout Puppet Workshop met with students from the department of theater to discuss their approach to contemporary puppetry. At this session they also touched on the challenges they have faced with developing their work in rural Canada and Calgary, as well as how they have made connections to tour their work.



WEX UP NEXT

Jérôme Bel

Pichet Klunchun and myself

MON, NOV 12 | 8 PM

Weigel Auditorium

"Captivating...a performance of rare intelligence"—*LE FIGARO, FRANCE*

French conceptualist choreographer Jérôme Bel returns with a collaborative project with the exquisite classical Thai dancer Pichet Klunchun. Together they offer a brilliant exchange of ideas in action.



PHOTO: R. B.

Romeo Castellucci/ Societas Raffaello Sanzio

Hey Girl!

TUE-WED, JAN 15-16 | 8 PM

Thurber Theatre at Drake Center

"Hypnotically beautiful...a visual resonance that you find all too rarely on stage."—*FINANCIAL TIMES, LONDON*

Be sure to see what is sure to be one of the most talked about theater productions of our season. The darkly poetic dreamscapes of Italian director Romeo Castellucci unfold in a series of startlingly spectacular stage pictures that will haunt you with their enigmatic power.

Note: Hey Girl! is intended for mature audiences only.



PHOTO: FRANCESCO RAFFAELLI

find more at WEXARTS.ORG

TICKETS—(614) 292-3535

OR [TICKETMASTER, \(614\) 431-3600/TICKETMASTER.COM](http://TICKETMASTER.COM)

THANKS

We thank our most generous donors*

Abercrombie & Fitch	Limited Brands
AEP Ohio	LT Custom Furnishings Inc.
Alliance Data	The Macerich Company
Altria Group, Inc.	MANCHU
American Electric Power	MBH Architects
Association of Performing Arts Presenters	Microsoft Corporation
Banc of America Securities LLC	Mills James Productions
Berglass Grayson	Morgan Stanley
The Blackwell Inn	National City
Camelot Management Corp./ Infinity Management Corp	National Endowment for the Arts
Cap gemini	Nationwide Foundation
Carreman	NBBJ
Colucci & Umans	NCR & Teradata
The Columbus Dispatch	Nimoy Foundation
The Columbus Foundation	Ohio Arts Council
The William C. and Naoma W. Denison Fund	Carole and Morton Olshan
The Eileen M. and Josiah Brooks Heckert Fund	Pennsylvania Real Estate Investment Trust
The Jean C. Huntington Fund	The Pizzuti Family Foundation
The Florence E. K. Hurd Fund	PKT
The Bernhart J. Mertz Fund	Quad/Graphics
The Helen E. Sandfort Arts-in-Education Fund	Resource Interactive
Commercial Contractors Inc.	Marshall Rose and Candice Bergen
Concept Creator Fashion Ltd.	SARK, Inc. (a division of Software Architects, Inc.)
Corna/Kokosing Construction Company	The Scotts Company
Global Lead Management Consulting	Joyce and Charles Shenk
Cultech, Inc.	Simon Property Group
Davis Polk & Wardwell	The Taubman Company
Doris Duke Charitable Foundation	Ten Lions Limited
Barbara Fergus	Thibiant International, Inc.
The Forbes Company	Time Warner Cable
General Growth Properties, Inc.	Tri Tech Laboratories, Inc.
The Georgetown Company	Triumph International Spiesshofer & Braun Kommanditgesellschaft
Ann and Gordon Getty Foundation	Trueman Family Foundation
Global Lead Management Consulting	T. W. Ruff & Company
Greater Columbus Arts Council	Univar USA
Agnes Gund and Daniel Shapiro	Valco Associates, Inc.
Honda of America Manufacturing, Inc.	Vee Pak, Inc.
Huntington Bank	Vorys Sater Seymour and Pease LLP
Elise Jaffe + Jeffrey Brown	Ward & Olivo
Mary G. and C. Robert Kidder	The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts
Bill and Sheila Lambert	Abigail and Leslie Wexner
	Ann and John F. Wolfe

The Wexner Center for the Arts is part of **The Ohio State University** and receives major public institutional support from the university. Major support is also provided by **Wexner Center members** and through the **Corporate Annual Fund of the Wexner Center Foundation**. The foundation is a private, nonprofit partner of the university's Board of Trustees, established to provide trustee guidance and financial support for the Wexner Center.

List reflects annual gifts and pledges of \$25,000 or more, as of September 1, 2007.

WEXNER CENTER FOUNDATION BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Leslie H. Wexner, *Chair*
E. Gordon Gee, *Vice Chair*
C. Robert Kidder, *President*

Trustees

David M. Aronowitz
Michael J. Canter
Sherri Geldin
Ann Gilbert Getty
Agnes Gund
Michael P. Glimcher
Elizabeth Kessler
James E. Kunk
Bill Lambert
James Lyski
Ronald A. Pizzuti
Marshall Rose
Joyce Shenk
Robert H. Schottenstein

Alex Shumate
A. Alfred Taubman
Barbara Trueman
Kevin E. Walker
Ric Wanetik
Abigail S. Wexner
John F. Wolfe

Ex Officio

Joseph A. Alutto
Karen A. Bell
Bruce A. Sall
Mark E. Vannatta

WEXNER CENTER FOR THE ARTS

Director Sherri Geldin
Deputy Director Jack Jackson

PERFORMING ARTS & SUPPORT STAFF

Director of Performing Arts Charles R. Helm
Performing Arts Program Associate Barbara Thatcher
Performing Arts Graduate Associate Julie Fox
Contracts & Facilities Rentals Manager Claudia Bonham
Director of Technical Services John A. Smith
Stage Managers William J. Barto
Andrew Hensler
Engineers Scott Austin
Stephen Jones
Michael Sullivan
Lighting Supervisor Ryan J. Osborn
Stage Crew Stagehands Local 12
Director of Patron Services Michele Mooney
House Manager Madeline Khurma
Assistant House Managers Zachary A. Bodish
Helyn Dell
Manager of Patron Services Mark Spurgeon

VOLUNTEER USHER CORPS

Emily Ach
LaDonna Adams
Florence Adegboye
Lisa Anfang
Dolores Blankenship
Kyla Booher
Derek Bower
Whitney Brooks
Monica Cantu
Constance Carroll
Beverly Carter
Don M. Catlett
Vicki Chay-Wilkins
Chu Young Chon
Jessica Coleman
Angela Collard
Esther Connors
Patrick Copeland
Sally Crandall
Galia Davidovitch
Jack Davis
Samantha Desilva
Greg Dew
Jessica Dolle
Laura Dolle
Catherine Doran
Jim Dorsey
Nancy Dorsey
Adam Dowell
Nick Droughton
Jaqueline Godsey
Marina Goldshteyn
Deborah Guy
Joo Yeon Ha
Timothy Hing
Nick Holtkamp
Kirsten Houck
Carolyn Inamura
Joe Inglis
Naomi Jacobs
Mila Jaroniec
Matt Jepsen
Bill Johnson
Evelyn Johns-Rivera
Agnes Klinko
Loribeth Kowalski
Tammy Lawlor
Angie Lawson
Faith Leibowitz
Anna Levin
Syd Lifshin
Roberta Lightfoot
Holly C. Longfellow

Cassandra May
Michael May
Chanelle Mays
Richard McClure
Anne McGorum
Erin McGovern
Connie McGrady
Re'nee Michael
Eleshia Morrison
Linda Mosley
Luke Neubecker
Caryn Neumann
Charles Nims
Ryan Pavlovicz
Sergio Pierluissi
Jim Portman
Takir Rahmanoff
Dena Rapoport
Lucille Ray
Ashley Rhodes
John Roberts
Tammy Roberts
Teresa Roberts
Robin Robinson
Susan Roche
Rachel Rosson
Kira Scott
Kaushik Sinha
Sarah Stralka
Bryan Straub
Peg Tefft
Audra Terrell
Pamela Thomas
Tracie Tuss
Susan Van Ausdal
Mariona Vitans
Amjad Waheed
Collin Ward
Richard Warren
Jen Washco
Mae Wells
Sally White
Laura Wies
Mike Wilkins
Christopher Williams
Michael Witherspoon
Kim Wollam
Shawn Wollam
Salene Wu
Stacy Xu
Lifeng Yang
Sofia Zinkovskaya