

LE GR^{OS}
ORTEIL



The Librarian

Public: Children between 5 and 12 years old

Touring Experience: Asia - Europe - Canada

Artistic approach

Le Gros Orteil Company, founded in 2013, has as its primary mission the creation of shows, performances, and professional workshops for young audiences, blending circus arts, physical theatre, and clowning. The company seeks to foster improvisation as the starting point for the birth of a performance, to convey the authenticity of emotions, and to encourage warm, interactive connections with its audience. Because children are treasures of spontaneity and overflowing imagination, our shows give a prominent place to imagination, travel, and dreams. Without a fourth wall, the artists invite children to step right into their stories.





The Librarian

Acrobatic theater, clown, beat box and circus-requires a 10 feet Chinese pole (autonomous structure)

Original idea: Marie-Hélène D'Amours

Directed by: Marie-Hélène D'Amours & Hippolyte

Artist: Hippolyte

Target audience: Children between 5 and 12 years old

Workshops: 30-50 minutes (on-demand)

Stand-alone version: available

Paul-Émile Dumoulin has been working at his town's library for 25 years. He's serious and nervous, also proud and sometimes so clumsy. Bookshelves must be impeccable, each book in its place. But pay attention, because when

Paul-Émile Dumoulin begins to read, he enters completely in the story

and a taste for adventure shows him in another light. He embodies the book's characters for them to become suddenly very alive and expressing themselves with acrobatics, juggling, break dance and beat box.

A HILARIOUS SHOW THAT WILL MAKE YOU READ!

A director's word

Reading has always been an outmost stimulating, exciting and accessible activity for me. It's a hobby that remarkably helps children in the development of language and the imaginary, as well as encouraging their interest for the written stories. Libraries are a place where everything is possible, travelling over the shelves, from the novel to the documentary book. It's a place so quiet and yet so noisy because of all these words locked behind covers, words just waiting to be read to come alive and take the reader into an adventure, a distant land, a fiction or a love story.

The show *The librarian* gives a voice to books through Paul-Emile Dumoulin, interpreted by Hippolyte a multidisciplinary artist who largely contributed in the making of the show.



Marie-Hélène D'Amours

Stage director and artistic director

Marie-Hélène D'Amours grew up in Montreal. After studying at the Cégep de Saint-Laurent (college) in Community Recreation and Leadership Training, she continues her academic development in theatre at the University of Quebec in Montreal (UQAM) and then the circus arts at l'École de Cirque de Québec. She is also the founder of a company specialized in aerial shows: *Le Cirque en L'Air*, who performed in schools and several festivals around the province

of Quebec. This experience led her to a new passion: clown.

From 2001 to 2003, she pursues clown training with Francine Côté, with whom she elaborated the character of *Mademoiselle Manon*.

She will soon present her clown acts in many international events, then tour for 275 performances in Switzerland and Belgium with *Starlight Circus* in a show staged by Yves Dagenais. At the end of 2005,

she created the company **Swigne la Bacaisse**, who produced circus, music and clown. They performed in France and Belgium for numerous festivals in French-speaking Europe.

In 2007, she develops a new project with her spouse and children, it's called: **Entre Rhone et Saint Laurent** or between the Rhone and Saint-Lawrence River. With this project, she will travel on a sailboat

with her family for a world tour around half the globe for 2 years. She will perform circus shows and ecology education workshops in France, Morocco, Cape Verde, Senegal, the West Indies and Quebec. Upon her return to Quebec, she will create **Le Gros Orteil** company and present young-audience shows in Quebec's theatres.



Hippolyte

Playing Paul-Emile Dumoulin: The Librarian

After studying dramatic arts for 4 years in his high school in France, this self-taught and multidisciplinary artist started his career presenting street performances in New Zealand, Australia, France, Quebec, Indonesia, Bolivia, Peru and Palestine. An experience that he considers was the best of schools. During the past few years, he was trained as a physical

actor and in acrobatics with **Dynamo Theater**, in giant puppets with **Le Théâtre de la Dame de Cœur**, also in break dance and Chinese pole.

Since then, he has been interpreting physical characters for various companies' productions such as: **Le Gros Orteil**, **Cirquantique** and **Cavaland**.



Julie Laroche

Technical Director, Lighting Designer and Stage Manager

Julie Laroche has a very diverse career, always in the field of lighting.

She graduated in 1998 in cinema at Cégep de Saint-Laurent (college) and in 2002 at Vancouver Film School. She was drawn to performing arts when back to Montreal in 2003. From the Black and Blue Festival to the International Jazz Festival, Julie first specialized as an electric manager. Circus and theatre were then added to her many assets.

She was recently part of the creation / production team of the Cirque Eloize's

new show called Saloon as a project manager for stage lighting as well as lighting assistant.

Since 2009, she is also the house's electric manager at L'Espace Go.

Since 2011, she has been an assistant for André Rioux, a lighting designer. Nowadays, she travels around Quebec with productions for the general public. In 2015 and 2016, she signs the lighting design of all the productions of the Company Le Gros Orteil: Hisse and Ho, Petit voilier, The Librarian, Octave and The Lady Next Door.

Stage director: Marie-Hélène D'Amours

Artist: Hippolyte

Costume designer: Elizabeth Cognard

Music: Hippolyte

Set design : Ghislain Buisson

Lighting Design: Julie Laroche

Length: 50 minutes, without intermission

Requested stage dimension (m): Large 22 x Deep 18 x Height 12 (negotiable)

Presse

“Le Gros Orteil will be visiting the Maison de la culture Mercier on September 18th to present one of its creations: The Librarian. The librarian is Paul Émile Dumoulin, who transforms himself into an acrobat and dancer immediately when getting into a book.

Behind this company, there is a woman: Marie-Hélène D'Amours. A woman and a mother of 3 children viscerally attached to the circus arts, an environment where she has evolved for years as an artist and that took her to French-speaking Europe (France and Switzerland especially).

The Librarian poses as an ambassador of reading, which benefits no longer need to be demonstrated.”

— Culture MHM

Parent's opinion

"Great! We enjoyed your show !!!"

"Super show! Artist, staging, lighting, sound and light! There is talent in there!"

"The kids really liked it and they laughed a lot with the actor. The interaction with the audience is as good as the team who introduced Hisse and Ho! Thank you again for your excellent work!"

"Hello. I took my granddaughter to see The Librarian this past Sunday. What an amazing show and actor! "



Company history

2008

Hisse et Ho (On tour on a sailboat in Europe, Africa, and the West Indies) - Sarah Touchette.

2013

Hisse and Ho (new indoor version) - Sarah Touchette

2013

Petit Voilier - Marie-Hélène D'Amours and Yves Dagenais (artistic advisor)

2014

Félie - Marie-Hélène D'Amours and Sarah Touchette

2015

Aweye Manon - Marie-Hélène D'Amours and Soizick Hebert (artistic advisor)

2016

The Librarian - Marie-Hélène d'Amours and Hippolyte

2016

Bouge/Move - Marie-Hélène d'Amours

2020

Octave - Marie-Hélène D'Amours and François Isabelle

2021

Brrr ! - Sarah Touchette

2021

Plouf ! - Marie-Hélène D'Amours and Soizick Hébert

2023

The Lady Next Door - Soizick Hébert

2025

Maringouin - Sarah Touchette and Marie-Hélène D'Amours