



mind of a snail's

MULTIPLE ORGANISM

at Toronto Fringe

July 7th - 16th

BIO

Mind of a Snail is a shadow puppetry duo currently based out of Vancouver BC. Since 2003, Chloé Ziner and Jessica Gabriel have been developing a multilayered style of visual storytelling using overhead projectors as their main light source. Their performances play at the intersection of visual arts, clowning & music. As artistic collaborators, they are interested in exploring beyond the boundaries of traditional theatre, and creating magical immersive experiences for their audiences. Mind of a Snail's shadow theatre is like an early National Film Board animation created live before your eyes.

They have created work for many organizations, including Vancouver Art Gallery, Telus World of Science, Persephone Theatre in Saskatoon and numerous others. They have also performed in theatre & arts festivals across Canada such as Intrepid Theatre's Winterlab in Victoria, Revolver Festival in Vancouver, Summerworks in Toronto, Casteliers International Puppetry Festival in Montreal and many more. In the spring of 2017 they performed their show *"Caws & Effect"* at Taiwan International Festival of the Arts, Tainan Arts Festival & Taitung Arts Festival in Taiwan.

***"Mind of a Snail is pushing the boundaries - not only of what stories we tell, but also the ways in which we tell them"* -Vue Weekly Edmonton**

Mind of a Snail's show *"Curious Contagious"* won Patron's Pick at Toronto Fringe, Pick of the Fringe at Vancouver Fringe, and Most Daring Show (chosen by Theatre in London reviewers for risk and innovation) at London Fringe when it debuted in June 2016. In the last 2 years, their show *"Caws & Effect"* won Best-of-Fest/Patron's Pick awards in Toronto, Winnipeg, Vancouver, London ON, Saskatoon and Edmonton Fringe. They were nominated for Outstanding Projection Design for Persephone Theatre's production of *"Matchstick"* at the SATAwards in Saskatoon. Their show *"Against Gravity"* was presented as part of the Summerworks National Series in 2014, and also received the Vancouver Fringe Festival's Joanna Maratta Award for professional development in 2013. They were key collaborators in the Dusty Flowerpot Cabaret's 2011 Jessie Nominated *"Hard Times Hit Parade"*.

COMPANY MEMBERS

Jessica Gabriel

Jessica Gabriel is a visual and performance artist from the Sunshine Coast, BC, currently based in Vancouver. She holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts in painting from UBC and studied for a year at l'École Nationale Supérieure des Beaux-arts in Paris, France. She studied pochinko-style clown with David MacMurray-Smith, and is a founding member of "The ASSEMBLY", an all women's clown collective in Vancouver. Sometimes she performs experimental music/found sounds under the name "tay_ploops". She currently works as a puppeteer and co-artistic director of Mind of a Snail Puppet Co.

Chloe Ziner

Chloe Ziner is multi-disciplinary artist, producer and co-artistic director of Mind of a Snail in Vancouver BC. As a tinkerer, visual artist and all around maker of things, she has an insatiable curiosity and drive to discover new ways of creating and performing. As a teen she studied music, especially jazz and improvisation, and performed and toured in several independent bands. She did the 2 year Studio Arts Program at Langara College, which focussed mainly on visual arts. She studied Pochinko-style clowning with David MacMurray Smith as well as performance & improvisation with Gina Bastone, Deanna Fleysher, David Diamond and Ruth Zaporah. She is a director/coach for puppetry, clown & physical comedy: Aaron Malkin's (of "James & Jamesy") solo show "Thunderfoot", Priscilla Costa's "Mona Monae", Isabelle Kirouac & Nayana Fielkov's "Habitats", "The ASSEMBLY" clown collective and many others. She can also play around a dozen different musical instruments and does the majority of recording & sound design for Mind of a Snail.

Mind of a Snail contact name: Chloe Ziner

Email Address: mindofasnail@gmail.com

Phone #: 604 367 2849

Website: mindofasnail.org

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