

LA MAMA

EXPERIMENTAL THEATRE CLUB

2018 Regional Theatre Tony Award Recipient

presents

THE LA MAMA PUPPET FESTIVAL

BLIND

Concept by Duda Paiva & Nancy Black

Directed by Nancy Black

Choreography by Duda Paiva



Ellen Stewart Theatre
66 East 4th Street, NYC, 10003
November 8 - 11, 2018

BLIND

Blind is an internationally acclaimed collaboration between Black Hole Theatre and the Duda Paiva Co.(NL). First developed in Melbourne in 2014, with support from Theatre Works, the show draws on both artists' personal experiences of disability and the social stigmas they endured, to explore a disabled mans journey toward self-acceptance. As a child in Brazil, Duda suffered a an illness that blistered his body and left him blind for many years. His surreal path toward healing involved both shamanic and western medicine. Using puppetry, dance, and referencing music and shamanic rituals from the Yoruba, a unique Afro-Brazilian subculture, *Blind* weaves a rich, metaphorical tapestry. It is funny as well as moving. Often engaging the audience as representatives of the wider world, it subtly seeks and finds the political through intimacy.

Concept by Duda Paiva & Nancy Black

Directed by Nancy Black

Performer | Duda Paiva

Choreography and Puppets by Duda Paiva

Composition by Wilco Alkema

Lighting by Mark Verhoef

Costumes in Decor by Machtelt Halewijn

Costumes for Performers by Atty Kingma

Decor by Daniel Patijn

Company Producer – Prisca Maas

Puppets | Evandro Serodio, Duda Paiva

The 8th La MaMa Puppet Festival Fall 2018 has been made possible with support from Ford Foundation, Howard Gilman Foundation, The Jim Henson Foundation, HBH Fund/Puppet Slam Network, The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, The Shubert Foundation, The Harold and Mimi Steinberg Charitable Trust and public support by the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs and New York State Cultural on the Arts. Additional support from Cheryl Henson is gratefully acknowledged.

Duda Paiva Company creates physical and visual performances at the crossroads of dance, puppetry and multimedia. With his dance partners, carved from flexible foam, Duda Paiva creates unique, elusive, magical, sometimes painful worlds, always touched by a sense of humour.

We present our productions in theatres, at festivals, inside or outside, all over the world. Our audience are adults, young people and children.

The Brazilian **Duda Paiva** went to the Netherlands as a dancer in 1996 and worked with such companies and choreographers as RAZ, Rogie & Company, Itzik Galili, Paul Selwyn Norton and Ron Bunzl. He soon displayed an affection and talent for objects and puppetry and decided to combine these forms in his own work.

Duda Paiva's art is centered on the intensity of the isolated puppeteer on stage. Paiva developed a dance technique through which a lifeless foam rubber object can transform into a fully-fledged dance partner. He has the ability to create a magical reality that touches audiences all over the world with the extraordinary objects that he cuts himself.

Founded in 1993, **Black Hole Theatre (BHT)** is an independent company that develops and presents puppetry and cross-art form performance in collaboration with artists from every field. Under the leadership of Artistic Director Nancy Black, BHT also facilitates the work of emerging artists, provides skill development opportunities, collaborates with local and international artists and companies, and contributes to the evolution of contemporary puppetry.

Nancy Black is well known in Melbourne as a writer, director, teacher, producer, and dramaturg. She first encountered puppets directing BHT's Caravan in 2001, succumbed to their magic, and has worked with BHT ever since, initiating and directing projects, setting up workshops, building networks for the company and its artists, and developing the company's international work. Her work has been aimed at adults, families, and young people. She is a passionate advocate for puppetry's place in contemporary theatre, and chooses to work across disciplines.

LA MAMA



RESTORE A BUILDING REMAKE A WORLD



Rendering: 74 East 4th St.

La MaMa's historic, landmark building at 74 East 4th Street is undergoing an urgently needed complete renovation and restoration to preserve the historic façade, create building-wide ADA accessibility, and provide much needed performance, exhibition and community space for decades to come.

La MaMa, founded by Ellen Stewart in 1961, has been on east 4th Street since 1967. La MaMa embraces every person in its community and is legendary as the place where new artists of all nations, cultures, races, and identities are given opportunities. It is the place where art begins.

To learn more about the renovation, or to make a donation please visit www.lamama.org/remakeaworld

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La MaMa Puppet Festival Blind

November 8 - 11, 2018
Ellen Stewart Theatre

La MaMa Puppet Festival Everything Starts From a Dot

November 8 - 10, 2018
The Downstairs

La MaMa Puppet Festival Don Quixote Takes New York

November 10 & 11, 2018 at Noon
The Downstairs

La MaMa Puppet Festival Coffeehouse Chronicles: Ralph Lee

Saturday, November 10, 2018 at 3pm
The Downstairs

La MaMa Puppet Festival Exodus

November 15 - 18, 2018
Ellen Stewart Theatre

COMING SOON

La MaMa Puppet Festival Food For The Gods

November 15 - 18, 2018
The Downstairs

La MaMa Puppet Festival Chicken Soup, Chicken Soup

November 17 & 18, 2018
The Downstairs

La MaMa Puppet Festival Jump Start

November 23 - 25, 2018
The Downstairs

Chasing the New White Whale

November 24 - December 9, 2018
Ellen Stewart Theatre

Zombie Asian Moms

November 29 - December 9, 2018
The Downstairs

Coffeehouse Chronicles: Richard Forman

Saturday, December 1, 2018 at 1pm
Ellen Stewart Theatre