



TOF
theatre

Season 2025/2026... the 39th

For 39 years, the TOF Theatre has been cooking up puppet-based recipes and serving them with a delicious range of sauces: stage sauce, street sauce, short sauce, yellow sauce, all audiences or adult-only, naïve or connoisseur....Tasty saucy sauces or mildly anarchic, but always flavoured with a pinch of impertinence and a dash of tenderness. Delicious home-made dishes which have travelled the world and continue to explore how to reach audiences and reflect beyond words. Yet again this season, a range of new ingredients, projects and innovations to spice up the chef's speciality on the menu.



Unmissable moment of our season: the **international MAboule festival**, puppets and associated arts, takes places every year and invades the streets and theatres of Genappe. Wackier than ever, this 11th edition festival for contemporary puppets, theatre of objects and fairground attractions kicks off from the 18th to the 21st of December 2025.

Save the date ! www.maboule.be

The Monty, an artistic cultural and citizens third place is a blend of a theatrical laboratory, a theatre and cinema, a citizen's meeting place, a collaborative shop, a welcoming bar, a cosy canteen, concerts, exhibitions etc...Inspired by the **TOF Theatre**, the program has a strong unique artistic direction: favourite gems spotted during our tours, newly hatched shows or classic shows produced by confirmed artists. With the assistance of a fine line-up of engaged citizens, **Le MONTY** opens its doors and welcomes all looking to cultivate creativity and bring people together. www.lemonty.be



Transmission

Supporting and promoting new projects takes many forms at the TOF Theatre, such as providing creative workspaces and guidance for emerging artists, backed by the experience of our seasoned team.

THE COMPANIONSHIP program offers a more in-depth collaboration to certain artists from the entire TOF Théâtre team in terms of artistic, technical, administrative, and distribution aspects.

The 2024-2025 companionships have enabled the creation of two shows by two emerging female artists to be taken further : **"The station"** by Julie Burg and **"Potato Heart"** by Jeanne Guillou for the Wallonia-Brussels Federation.

Following a masterclass with Alain Moreau in Senegal in 2022, at the request of Astou Ndiaye, one of the participants in this training module, a cultural cooperation project with the Djarama association was set up, leading to the creation of a complete show in 2025. Alain Moreau,

Nicolas Laine, and Sandrine Hooge accompanied Astou, joined by Seynabou Faye, and together they created **"Keur Mame Boye"** under the watchful eye of Mamby Mawine.

During our regular **"PUPPET CRASH TEST"** evenings, several puppetry projects by artists in residence at our venue or elsewhere, our companions, the Master's students in Puppetry training at MONTY, can test the results of their research, meet, and share their practices with the public.



Associated Artist with the **TOF Theatre** since 2022, Nicolas Laine develops his personal projects and contributes to the company's new creations. Touring this season "**Chaud must go on**".

The **Tof** also takes part in 3 key moments of the **Master's in Puppetry** course at the Arts² Mons and the Academie for Fine Arts in Tournai in partnership with the Centre for Puppets in Tournai:

- Module: construction and puppet animation (Alain Moreau)
- Module: Shadow theatre (Fabrizio Montecchi)
- Presentation of final personal student projects for jury and public...



Puppet Pop Troc

A cultural collaboration project between the French and Flemish communities in the puppet sector and associated arts, initiated by the **TOF Theatre**, the **CC Gasthuis Aarschot** and their respective festivals: **MAboule** and **Boze Wolf**. During the 2024-2025 season, residency exchanges, inspiring visits to workshops, crossover of audiences and curators from both festivals and a professional convention day. Details and resources on the website : www.puppetpoptroc.be

With the support from the French and Flemish Communities in framework of the Cultuur-Culture cultural cooperation agreement and many partnerships.

Puppets and associated arts in the public space

Since 2021, the **TOF** has initiated several projects to explore **Puppets and associated arts in the public space** developed through professional symposiums and mutual exchanges in partnership with M-collectif, Aires Libres, The FWB centre for Puppetry, THEMAA, the CIFAS, Asspropro, WBI and WBTD.

The objective is to promote creation, initiate collaborations, discover bold and innovative experiences, facilitate the sharing of resources, experiences, and artistic information, to develop relationships between artistic creation and public spaces. The goal is to create a framework for reflection on the role of puppets in the public space.

Puppet workshop Bringing puppets to life

With Alain Moreau and Nicolas Laine
For adults, preferably with stage experience.

Without a word, the puppet tells...

Through experimentation on stage, study, dissect and analyze what makes a tabletop puppet come to life.

Manipulate first alone, then in pairs, then in threes.

Transmit an emotion to the puppet, whisper a subject, a concern or a question in its ear, and then listen to it tell us without a word what it has to say. Through precise, sensitive manipulation, we strive to find the right gesture, the right movement to convey this to the spectator. But also by being outside, observe and sharpen your eye to create your own grammar, so you can then interpret and/or stage...

Workshop duration can be adapted to suit your needs, please contact us.



Touring shows

Season 2025/2026...





5 years old + /
Duration : 30 minutes

Indoor /
Outdoor

Keur Mame Boye

(Creation 2025)

Mame Boye invites us into her shop.

With humour and mischievousness, a few puppets and a few weird homemade objects, the old lady gives her expert advice... on dental hygiene. Cavities watch out !

Keur Mame Boye is a puppet show created by the TOF Theatre with young Senegalese artists for the Yaak'art company/DJARAMA in Toubab Dialaw, with the support of the CITF and the WBI. This initiative is part of a wider framework aimed promoting youth theatre in Senegal.

Press

With a gleam in her eye and her sagging lip – she's an uncanny, life-size puppet: a Senegalese mother dressed in a fuchsia, dress and headdress. The young Astou gracefully manipulated Mame Boye for the participants of the Symposium. The Magnificent Mame Boye won the public's hearts, and the future looks promising.

[Laurence Bertels, La Libre 2024]

Potato Heart

by Jeanne Guillou, Companionship (Creation 2025)
artist at the TOF Theatre

5 years old + /
Duration : 25 minutes

In public space

A performance, with no technical requirements, using only the body and voice.

We come across a young, starving tramp who finds an old potato amongst the rubbish. But her meagre meal is determined to live. An intimate encounter where the potato and the tramp get to know each other through a mix of tender and heartless exchanges.

Press

« (...) Jeanne Guillou's Cœur de patate, which manages to bring to life a tuber as funny as it is touching. »

[Catherine Makereel - Le Soir]



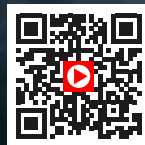
Nicolas Laine
associated artist at the TOF Théâtre

Chaud Must Go On

(Creation 2023)

6 years old + /
Duration : 30 minutes

Indoor...
street version
coming soon



You're Show, or not?

The tension rises, everything is in place for Bernard's big stage entrance. But the lead-singer and the star of the show keeps the audience waiting. He shouts out for help, and he'll definitely need it to make an entrance onto this booby-trapped stage. Unfortunately, the only help he gets is from his dead-beat guitar player. But Bernard faces the challenge and tries with his heart and soul to give it his all!

A production of the TOF Théâtre

(Creation 2025)

The Station

8 years old + /
Duration : 30 minutes

by Julie Burg,
Companionship artist at the TOF Theatre.

Indoor

Seaside fable on a miniature shore for two puppeteers

Once upon a time, there was a beach.

Two performers reenact the epic tale of this shoreline, somewhere between buried legends, a possessed seagull, futile searching, and shifting sands. A blown-up tale about the memory of a place and the big decisions made with the churn of a cement truck.





La Clé du 7^e

(Creation 2021)

Indoor



Adults only / Duration: 15 minutes

Installation/performance for adult audiences, reinvented for each public space that hosts it.

Jean, a life-size puppet and miniature sculptor, opens his studio to the public, offering them the chance to discover some of his creations and other unfinished works, intimate scenes displayed like erotic secrets.

In the form of a cabinet of curiosities, this installation/performance invites visitors on a journey of live sculpture and mini three-dimensional tableaux. The mischievous artist invites visitors to be curious and find the right angle to fully appreciate his tender, naughty, and playful works...

Ideally, the installation will take place in a passageway, inviting the viewer to enter, such as an unoccupied commercial space, garage, or porch...



adult audience only /
Duration : 30 minutes

Indoor

Summer of 69

(Creation 2023)



Jean, a life-size puppet, is known to be an artist, miniature sculptor, and handyman.

He remembers that famous summer of '69, the trip in a 2CV, the picnic, and especially the memorable nap that followed!

Slides from the period, a model of the meadow in the mountain pastures, figurines bearing his likeness and that of his wife, a video camera, and various crafts are deployed to bring this intimate and tender moment back to life.

But we also know that Jean is a prankster; he can't help himself, he allows himself a few liberties with his memory...

Between close-up and wide shot, Été 69 is a mise en abîme.

Everyone will create their own cinema and their own story, and find their way through this minimalist universe that travels between melancholy, desire, humor, and enchantment.

PICCOLI SENTIMENTI

A show without words for audiences ages 3 and up /
Duration : 47 minutes



Indoor

In an exquisite blending of the TOF Theatre's unhinged and sensitive world of puppetry, the 'art brut' of Antonio Catalano and the 'untamed lutherie' of patamusician Max Vandervorst, Piccoli Sentimenti concocts a hymn to the marvel of the marvellous awakening to artistic sensibility!

Piccoli Sentimenti was attributed the "Prix Résonnances" prize at the 21st "Festival International Jeune Public Momix" in Kingersheim (France). It has been nominated in Belgium as the best show in the category 'Young Audience' at the 2012 "Prix de la Critique". Winner of "Coup de coeur de la presse" (Rencontres de Huy - August 2012).

Production: TOF Théâtre, Teatro delle Briciole - Parme (Former direction shamelessly ousted).

Co-production: Le Granit - Scène Nationale de Belfort, MA Scène Nationale - Pays de Montbéliard, L'Yonne en Scène, Festival A pas contés (Dijon).

Press

This precious moment brings us together, big and small, around a miniature landscape, which will progressively reveal its secrets. Nestled right up to the stage play, all tightly squeezed together, we join in contemplating these tiny little things, looking on with amazement as they connect with the great mystery of the world, a world yet to be explored (...)

[Dominique Duthuit, France-Inter]



BISTOURI

Indoor or
Tent...

8 years old + /
Duration : 35 minutes

*The TOF Theatre presents
Bistouri which plunges
into the belly of
a well-known fable
character...*

So, who is this important patient that discovers a retired tinkerer-surgeon delighted to be back in business by his bedside? Which famous patient found this prankster and this time what is at stake with this open surgery?

Press

A touching show overflowing with so much rare ingenuity and imagination. The life and soul given to these "gadgets" is yet again proof of the high level of artistry. By the end of this thrilling operation, we just want to rush up to these magician surgeons and give them a big kiss for their fine work.

[Lyne Crevier, Ici Montréal]



The Volunteers

All audiences / Duration : 3 X 45 minutes

All spaces animation
indoor / outdoor

*A band of merry volunteers working
for the community.*

*Life-sized puppets blend into the public
space to try to make themselves useful with
their brand of professional amateurism.*

*With best intentions, they go to
boundless efforts to achieve their mission,
simplify your life come what may!*



Old Escape

(Creation 2021)

Indoor / Outdoor

8 years old + / Duration : 30 minutes



Show and DJ set in the company of two human-sized puppets and some smaller ones...

Gaby, Antoine are 2 joyful senior citizens. They merrily pull up their trailer on a square, in a park or in the clearing of a woods where they present an amusing show of their own, telling tales of the trials and tribulations of two residents of a retirement home who are determined to escape to savour the flavours of life again, renew social contacts and... party! Somewhere between a funfair and a street show, their goal is clear: to create this coming together, to reweave the intergenerational link that has been taken away. Gaby and Antoine are also peerless DJs, and their heart-warming show ends on the dancefloor, with a little session of boisterous dancing to vinyl 45's carefully selected to suit the audience on the day.



Indoor /
In public space

Antoine and Gaby DJs (Creation 2024)

A puppetesque DJ set

Duration : 1h30

Since 2024, the DJ Set is mobile for streets and festivals!

They're a duo, they're old. Rather than rot away in their retirement home, they decide to break free...to rock the house. Two turntables, a box full of vinyl singles from all eras...and they're off! Whether you're a 20-year-old spring chicken, 40 years young or an 60-year-old crooner, they'll find the hit to get you on your feet. They'll have the whole house rocking until dawn.

Madness in the workshop

A show without words for all audiences.

8 years and upwards !

Duration: 22 minutes

A short wacky performance to describe the mishaps of a puppet under construction who decides to make a stab at finishing up the job itself...

Twenty-two crazy minutes during which the character struggles with the elements, with the material, the objects, and sometimes even the manipulators themselves, never hesitating to tyrannize them...

Press

In 22 minutes, Alain Moreau delivers a juicy trashy thriller with humour that would make Tarantino green with envy. Just to reassure parents, children over 8 are allowed (... sorry!). It's delirious, it's clever, it's awesome.

[Catherine Makereel, Le Soir]

Indoor A show without words for adults /

Duration : 1h30

The Erotiks Zakouskis

Propped up at a bar in dim light, 3 short shows and an exhibition make up these delicious naughty delights.

Nothing indecent (or hardly!) or pornographic, just a cheeky wink at a cosy twosome.



Press

The TOF theatre explores eroticism so delicately and with such tenderness that we just want more. Nothing sinister or voyeuristic in Alain Moreau's collective. Awkward and poetic tones are ever-present. As with his shows for younger audiences, he delves into humanity, its little joys, and its deceptions with a tint of tenderness and humour.

[Jeanine Dath, Le Soir]



Why not !



Indoor

3 years old + /
Duration : 47 minutes

(Creation 2018)

And Why not!... gently shake up our preconceptions about the division of roles between mums and dads? This puppet show is a fun ride that lets us discover the chemistry between a "mumdad" (blending together of a mum and a dad) and their son. It also allows us to experience the infinite tenderness, the turbulent complicity and the clownish confrontation that punctuate their daily lives.

A two-hander for a man/acrobat and a puppet/child, Why not! is a snapshot of an offbeat, sweet and mad moment in life.

Production : TOF Théâtre.

Co-production: Performing Arts Centres of the Wallonia-Brussels Federation (Mars - Mons arts de la scène, Théâtre de Liège, Théâtre de Namur, Atelier Théâtre Jean Vilar, Louvain La Neuve). Rotondes - Luxembourg. Scène nationale du Sud-Aquitain. Centre Culturel du Brabant Wallon.

Other partners: Teatro delle Briciole - Parma (former management removed with dishonour). Le Grand Bleu, Lille. Le Théâtre - Scène Conventionnée de Laval - Théâtre Jean Arp, Clamart.

~ In production ~

(December 2026)

Le Ferrrier

3 years old +

Indoor

The TOF theatre's latest production is an invitation to immerse oneself in the heart of old junkyard inhabited by strange creatures constructed from iron, old zinc, old copper, and an old washing machine, each with its distinct force of character. A daring, joyful and musical show in close collaboration with Max Vandervorst, our long-time collaborator.

Co-produced with the CCBW (Centre culturel du Brabant wallon).

Seeking coproduction/Pre-sales/Distribution



(December 2027)

TOF's merry-go-round

(working title)

Puppet carousel

In public space / 3 years old +

Adults and children are invited into a cabin built by handy playful, eccentric grandparents. Child-powered merry-go-round. 15 participants per ride.

Seeking Coproductions/pre-sales/distribution.





Artists on stage this season

Julie Burg (Design, scenography/actress/puppeteer: *The Station*)

Pierre Decuyper (Actor/puppeteer: *Why not!*)

Céline Dumont (Actress/puppeteer/stage manager: *Why not!*)

Lisou De Henau (Actress/puppeteer: *Piccoli Sentimenti*, *The Volunteers* and *The Fterrier*)

Yannick Duret (Actress/puppeteer: *Madness in the workshop*)

Laura Durnez (Actress/puppeteer: *Old Escape*, *The Volunteers* and *Antoine & Gaby DJs* and *DJ set Mobile*)

Seynabou Faye (AActress/puppeteer: *Keur Mame Boye*)

Renaud Gremillon (Actor/puppeteer/musician: *The Erotiks Zakouskis*)

Jeanne Guillou (Design, scenography/actress/puppeteer: *Potato Heart*)

Thierry Hellin (Actor/puppeteer: *The Erotiks Zakouskis*)

Sandrine Hooge (Actress/puppeteer/stage manager: *Why not!*, outside view *Keur Mame Boye*, ideation and assistant director: *The Fterrier*, ideation: *TOF's merry-go-round*)

Nicolas Laine (Design, Actor/puppeteer: *Chaud must go on*, ideation and outside view: *Keur Mame Boye*, outside view: *Potato Heart*, ideation and assistant director: *The Fterrier* and ideation *TOF's merry-go-round*)

Angela Malvasi (Actress/puppeteer: *Madness in the workshop*)

Alain Moreau (Design, Actor/puppeteer: *The Erotiks Zakouskis*, *La clé du 7^e*, *Summer of 69*, *Bistouri*, stage manager: *Madness in the workshop*, outside view: *The Station* and *Potato Heart*, ideation and art director: *Keur Mame Boye*, Design, ideation and art director: *The Fterrier*, *TOF's merry-go-round*)

Astou Ndiaye (Actress/puppeteer: *Keur Mame Boye*)

Rosalie Neal (Actress/puppeteer & production of the soundtrack: *The Station*)

Fred Nyssen (Actor: *The Erotiks Zakouskis*)

Céline Robaszynski (Actress/puppeteer/musician: *Piccoli Sentimenti*, scenography *DJ set Mobile*, stage manager/manipulations: *Bistouri*, *The Volunteers*, and *The Fterrier*)

Dorothée Schoonooghe (Actress/puppeteer: *The Erotiks Zakouskis*, *Old Escape*, *The Volunteers*, *Antoine & Gaby DJs* and *DJ set Mobile*)

Max Vandervorst (Musical scoring: *Bistouri*, *Piccoli Sentimenti*, *Madness in the workshop*, *Old Escape* and *Why not!*, *le Fterrier*)

Behind the camera...

Alain Moreau (Cover, *Old Escape*, *TOF's merry-go-round*, *F/terrier*, *transmission* and *workshop*)

François Fogel (*Keur Mame Boye*/Senegal)

Pierre Exsteen-Province de Liège (*Why not!*)

Guto Muniz (*Madness in the workshop*)

Melisa Stein (*Piccoli Sentimenti*)

Nicolò Cecchella (*Bistouri*)

Justine Cochou et Alain Moreau (*La Clé du 7^e*)

Vincent Van Utterbeeck (*Summer of 69*, *La Station*, *Keur Mame Boye*)

My Linh Bui (*Summer of 69*)

Ger Spendel (*Potato Heart*)

Alice Piemme (*Chaud Must Go On*)

Behind the controls...

Alain Moreau : Artistic and general direction & staging of shows
Catherine Blanjeau : Financial and administrative coordination
My-Linh Bui : Project development, programming for the Maboule Festival,
tour manager (Kurieuze & Cies)
Joachim Martens : Administration assistant
Pascale Mahieu : Production and project development
Matthieu Chemin : Technical director
Amaury Bertels : Tour technical director
Igor Paduart : technical interne

Many thanks to our board of directors!

Touring Contact

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