Eloïsa

THÉÂTRE DES CHARDONS

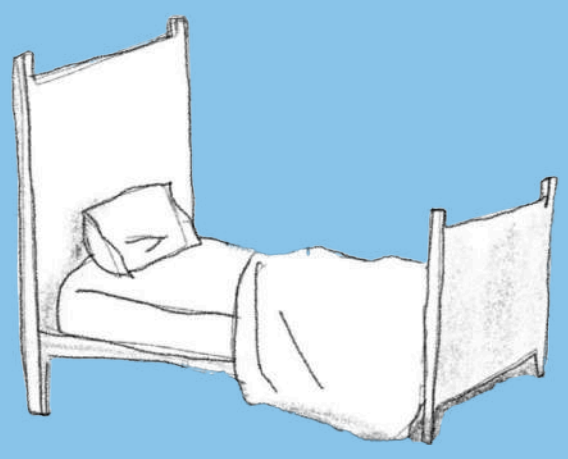
FÉDÉRATION WALLONIE-BRUXELLES

de Rinck GEMEENSCHAPSCENTRUM

la Roseraie

Ixelles Elsene

Wallonie - Bruxelles International.be



Eloïsa is not from here
She arrived one day with her father

A little here
A little there
Eloïsa is getting to know
This new home of hers

She feels strange
Sometimes
Like a strange little creature

Today, it’s her first day of school

What are you saying ? *I don't want to go*
Where am I?

What's happening ?

I don't understand *What are these strange creatures ?*
I'm scared *Why do I have to go to school ?*

The show tells, in a quirky way, the story of a day in the life of this unusual duo : a father and daughter.
Why these two? Each member of the audience is drawn into their relationship and, as the story unfolds, invents their own narrative.

The world around them is seen through Eloïsa's impressions: a distorting, poetic gaze, sometimes playful, sometimes colorful, and at times unsettling.

This particular day is Eloïsa's first day of school: a significant experience that everyone can relate to. And on top of that, Eloïsa is discovering a new country with a whole new set of cultural norms.

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A composite form

To tell this story, we chose to explore narration through movement rather than words.
We focused on the bodies, on the interaction between characters and with the space.

The set is brought to life through projections and becomes a reflection of the world surrounding the characters.

From an aesthetic point of view, we worked with various images created from drawings and collages.

An original musical composition accompanies the performance and energizes the scenes.

Under the awed gaze of the little girl, characters appear : they all have frog faces.

The universe is quirky and unexpected, drawing the audience into a playful and poetic world.

Eloïsa is a story about the adventure shared between a father and his daughter, bound by a unique connection in a moment of disorientation.

Eloïsa shows us that it is possible to embrace the new, transform fears into curiosity, and find a sense of balance—while keeping alive the memory of what we have left behind.

It is a fable that gently and humorously explores the feeling of being "different", inviting the audience to see the world in a new way and to welcome change as an opportunity.

Eloïsa is loosely inspired by the children's book *Eloïsa y los Bichos* by Colombian author Jairo Buitrago

Technical elements

A show for children starting 5 years old
Duration 45 minutes + post-show discussion
Capacity 130 people
Minimum stage dimensions
Width 8m - Depth 8m - Height 4m
Setup 6 hours **Breakdown** 2h
Touring team 2 performers + 1 technician
Technical contact
Guillaume Toussaint Fromentin
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Distribution

Direction
Juan Bernardo Martinez
Assistant choreographer / assistant stage direction
Mora Eyherabide
Performance / dance
Natalia Weinger and Juan Bernardo Martinez
Illustrations, animation and video mapping
Nicolas Moins and Guillaume-Toussaint Fromentin
Lighting design
Guillaume-Toussaint Fromentin
Music and sound design
Marc Dehoux
Scenography and construction
Henry Debay
Costumes
Alexandra de Wilde
Mask design
Alice Germain

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Around the show

- Post-show discussions following the performances
- A teaching guide to help prepare for the performance
- Workshops in visual arts and physical expression

The company

Founded in 2011, Théâtre des Chardons is a theater company based in Brussels, and dedicated to young audiences.

Our creations engage the imagination through simple and economical means, always placing the performers at the heart of the story.

Since 2018, we have been constantly moving back and forth between writing and stage, combining different narrative modes: embodying, acting, performing, and storytelling.

Each new production is a playground for us, a challenge that drives us and pushes us to invent new forms. We enjoy crossing disciplines and surprising the audience at every encounter.

A production by Théâtre des Chardons with the support of Fédération Wallonie Bruxelles, La Roseraie, De Rinck - Gemeenschapcentrum and La Commune d'Ixelles - Service Culture - Petit Théâtre Mercelis.

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