



## **New Victory 2019-20 Season Features New Works Directed by Lee Sunday Evans, Kaneza Schaal, Raphaëlle Boitel**

**Season Opens October 12 with World Premiere of TheaterWorksUSA's *THE POUT-POUT FISH***

**Highlights Include the Return of Isango Ensemble in *AESOP'S FABLES*, Cirque Mechanics in *42FT – A MENAGERIE OF MECHANICAL MARVELS* and Step Afrika! in *DRUMFOLK***

New York, NY (June 19, 2019) -- **The New Victory Theater**, which brings the whole world to New York families, announces its 2019-2020 Season of 15 theater, opera, circus, dance and puppetry productions from nine different countries.

The season begins with the World Premiere of **TheaterWorksUSA's *THE POUT-POUT FISH*** (October 12 - 20, 2019), a bright new musical based on the popular book series by Deborah Diesen featuring puppets by **AchesonWalsh Studios** (*The Secret Life of Bees; The Lightning Thief: The Percy Jackson Musical; Pip's Island*), and ends with the U.S. Premiere of **Cie L'Oublié(e)s *FIERCE 5*** (May 30 - June 14, 2020), an astounding work of aerial acrobatics directed by **Raphaëlle Boitel** (*When Angels Fall*).

Back-to-back this winter are two works developed through **New Victory LabWorks**, the theater's initiative to expand the canon of compelling original works made in the U.S. for family audiences: ***RIDDLE OF THE TRILOBITES*** (February 7 - 23, 2020), a new musical created by **CollaborationTown** [*Family Play (1979 to Present)*], directed by two-time Obie Award winner **Lee Sunday Evans** (*In the Green, Dance Nation, The Things That Were There*) and featuring puppetry by **Amanda Villalobos** (*In the Green, Amélie, Cute Activist*); and ***CARTOGRAPHY*** (January 10 - 19, 2020), a multimedia work about young refugees by experimental theatermakers **Kaneza Schaal and Christopher Myers** (*JACK &, GO FORTH*).

Throughout the season, New Victory fan favorites return with all-new shows:

- A high-flying hit for the holidays, **Cirque Mechanics** (*Pedal Punk*, New Victory 2015) combines American ingenuity with big top flair in ***42FT – A MENAGERIE OF MECHANICAL MARVELS*** from December 6 - January 5, 2020.
- South Africa's Olivier Award-winning **Isango Ensemble** (*A Man of Good Hope*, BAM 2017; *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, New Victory 2015; *The Magic Flute*, New Victory 2014) enlivens familiar fables with bright marimba music in the vibrant opera ***AESOP'S FABLES*** (November 1 - 3, 2019).

- **DRUMFOLK** (February 28 - March 15, 2020) is the second in a trilogy of work by **Step Afrika!** that chronicles and celebrates the African American experience through dance, currently in development as a follow up to their hit show, *The Migration: Reflections on Jacob Lawrence* (New Victory 2017).
- In an exhibition of 19th-century artistry and terrific storytelling, Milan's **Carlo Colla & Sons Marionette Company** (*The Pied Piper*, New Victory 2016; *Sleeping Beauty*, New Victory 2013) takes the stage from March 20 - 29, 2020, for the U.S. Premiere of **TREASURE ISLAND**, adapted from Robert Louis Stevenson's classic tale.
- In the spring, an ensemble of actor-musicians from **New International Encounter** (*Beauty and the Beast*, New Victory 2018) reimagines **SNOW WHITE** (April 24 - May 3, 2020) with a healthy amount of quirkiness and a rollicking indie score.

New to the New Victory are the popular and eccentric **MUMMENSCHANZ**, who will delight a new generation of fans with **RE:PLAY** (November 15 - December 1, 2019), and **Catapult**, the *America's Got Talent* finalists who will bring **MAGIC SHADOWS** to The New Victory for Spring Break from April 3 - 19, 2020.

To nurture a love of theater for young New Yorkers, The New Victory ushers four U.S. Premieres to the American stage:

- **BECAUSE I SAY SO** (U.S. Premiere December 12 - 22, 2019) pops with exciting dance energy from Swedish company **Unga Klara** for kids ages 3-5.
- **FOUR GO WILD IN WELLIES** (U.S. Premiere March 27 - April 5, 2020) Produced by the inclusive Scottish company **Indepen-dance 4**, this outdoorsy fun frolic is for ages 3-5.
- **JABBERBABBLE** (U.S. Premiere May 9 - 17, 2020) For ages 4-7, the Dutch **Theatergroep Kwatta** uses a singsong mix of languages to share a universal message about belonging.
- **NÃO NÃO** (U.S. Premiere June 5 - 14, 2020) Intended for audiences ages 1-4, this tale of a mischievous little boy made out of mud, water and talc is told using real clay on stage by **Le Vent des Forges** from Melesse, France.

*Programs, artists and ticket prices are subject to change. Please see attachment for complete show descriptions, profiles and pricing for all New Victory 2019-2020 season programming.*

### **Family Engagement**

Come early or stay late to play, explore, experiment and have fun with the art forms and themes on stage. Created for both kids and grown ups, New Victory Family Engagement changes with every show so that every visit to The New Victory is a uniquely memorable one.

**Lobby Activities:** Before and after every show, check out the theater lobbies to participate in free arts activities inspired by the show on stage.

**Meet the Cast:** Visit the lobby after the show to say hello, take a photo and, at select performances, participate in our lively Talk-Backs with the cast and creative team.

**Family Workshops:** From circus tricks to puppetry, these 90-minute workshops at the New 42nd Street Studios will teach you and your family new skills to unlock your inner artists.

**Family Activities:** Available online for every show, these downloadable guides are designed for friends and families to have fun with the performing arts at home.

### **Audience & Accessibility Services**

The New Victory lobbies boast improved accessibility, energy-efficient restrooms and kid-centric offerings at merchandise and concessions, as well as the free lockers, stroller parking and booster seats New Victory patrons know and love.

In consultation with Autism Friendly Spaces, Inc., select performances of *The Pout-Pout Fish*, *42 FT – A Menagerie of Mechanical Marvels*, *Riddle of the Trilobites* and *Snow White* will be **Sensory-Friendly Performances**, adapted for individuals on the autism spectrum or anyone who may benefit from a more relaxed theater experience. In partnership with Hands On, The New Victory continues to offer **Sign-Interpreted Performances** throughout the season. **Audio Description** services are available all season long.

### **Ticket & Membership Information**

Full price tickets range from \$17 - \$59 based on seating location and show. Theatergoers who buy tickets to three or more New Victory shows automatically save up to 40% on tickets all year long and qualify for free Membership benefits, including free unlimited exchanges up to 48 hours in advance of performance, early access to New Victory programming, free invitations to New Victory LabWorks events and savings on New Victory Family Workshops.

Tickets are available online ([NewVictory.org](http://NewVictory.org)) and by phone (646.223.3010). For box office window hours, please visit [NewVictory.org/BoxOffice](http://NewVictory.org/BoxOffice). Beginning September 3, the New Victory box office window (209 West 42nd Street) will be open Sunday and Monday from 11am-5pm and Tuesday through Saturday from 12pm-7pm.

### **Credits**

As part of the nonprofit The New 42nd Street, The New Victory Theater is supported, in part, with public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council; the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and the New York State Legislature; and the National Endowment for the Arts, as well as the Board of Directors, the New Vic Council, and our dedicated foundation, corporate and individual donors.

### **About The New Victory Theater**

The New Victory opens new worlds to young people and families through extraordinary performances, education and engagement programs. Bringing kids to the arts and the arts to kids since 1995, this nonprofit theater has become a standard-bearer of quality performing arts for young audiences in the United States. Reflecting and serving the multicultural city it calls home, The New Victory is committed to arts access for all communities of New York to experience and engage with the exemplary international shows on its stages. A global leader in arts education, youth development and audience engagement, The New Victory Theater has been honored by the President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities with the National Arts and Humanities Youth Program Award, by Americans for the Arts with a national Arts Education Award, and by the Drama Desk for "providing enchanting, sophisticated children's theater that appeals to the child in all of us, and for nurturing a love of theater in young people."

### **About The New 42nd Street**

The New 42nd Street, which recently announced Russell Granet as the nonprofit's next President & CEO, catalyzes the power of performing arts to spark new perspectives, incubate new works and create new opportunities for us all. Through our signature projects--The New Victory Theater, New 42nd Street Studios and The Duke on 42nd Street--New 42nd Street makes extraordinary performing arts a vital part of everyone's life—from the earliest years onward. The organization also stewards seven historic theater properties on 42<sup>nd</sup> Street, between 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Avenues, ensuring the legacy and vitality of America's most iconic theater district. Together with our supporters, we are opening access to performing arts that move us—as individuals, communities and a society.

**The New Victory Theater  
2019-2020 Season**

World Premiere

***THE POUT-POUT FISH***

TheaterWorksUSA

New York, New York

October 12 - 20, 2019

The New Victory Theater

Full price tickets are \$17, \$22, \$31 or \$42 based on seat locations.

Direction and Staging by Matt Acheson and Fergus J. Walsh

Production Design by Matt Acheson and Fergus J. Walsh

Book by Christopher Anselmo, Jared Corak, Matt Acheson, and Fergus J. Walsh

Music & Lyrics by Christopher Anselmo, Jared Corak

Based on *The Pout-Pout Fish* Series of Books By Deborah Diesen, Illustrated by Dan Hanna

Presented by special arrangement with Macmillan Entertainment

Oh my blub, it's ***THE POUT-POUT FISH!*** Put your fins together for this brand new musical based on the best-selling children's book series. When Ms. Clam's precious pearl gets swept out to sea, everyone's favorite frowny fishie blankets the reef with his biggest dreary-weary yet. Can our fish of little faith find the gem and save the day? Be *shore* to find out! For after all, not everything in the big blue sea is as blue as it seems.

Based on the popular book series written by Deborah Diesen and illustrated by Dan Hanna, ***THE POUT-POUT FISH*** features music and lyrics by **Christopher Anselmo and Jared Corak** (New Victory LabWorks 2017-18), direction and staging by **Matt Acheson and Fergus Walsh** (New Victory LabWorks 2017-18) and puppets by **AchesonWalsh Studios** (*The Secret Life of Bees*; *The Lightning Thief: The Percy Jackson Musical*; *Pip's Island*).

**TheaterWorksUSA** (Barbara Pasternack, Artistic Director; Michael Harrington, Managing Director) is lauded for creating such productions as *Junie B. Jones*, *The Lightning Thief: The Percy Jackson Musical* and the upcoming *Dog Man: The Musical*. Since 1962, the not-for-profit has captured the imaginations of 100 million new and veteran theatergoers with an award-winning repertoire of over 130 original plays and musicals. Acclaimed alumni include Kristen Anderson-Lopez and Robert Lopez (Disney's *Frozen*), Jerry Zaks (*Hello, Dolly!*), Benj Pasek and Justin Paul (*Dear Evan Hansen*), Daphne Rubin-Vega (*Rent*), and Kathleen Chalfant (*Angels in America*).

N.Y. Premiere

***AESOP'S FABLES***

Isango Ensemble

Cape Town, South Africa

November 1 - 3, 2019

The New Victory Theater

Full price tickets are \$17, \$22, \$31 or \$42 based on seat locations.

Directed by Mark Dornford-May

Co-Music Direction by Pauline Malefane

Associate Direction and Co-Music Direction by Mandisi Dyantxis

When Aesop escapes his master and embarks on a journey to Mount Olympus, he learns some very valuable lessons like "where there's a will there's a way" and "look before you leap!" You'll happily keep your eyes wide and your ears open to take in the colorful costumes, enthralling dance and spirited sounds

of South Africa in this vibrant staging by the Olivier Award-winning **Isango Ensemble** (*A Man of Good Hope*, BAM 2017; *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, New Victory 2015; *The Magic Flute*, New Victory 2014). Sung through in English and a mix of Xhosa, Tswana and Zulu languages with a soaring live score of marimba music inspired by gospel and traditional African song, sound advice sounds sunny in **AESOP'S FABLES**.

The South African company **Isango Ensemble** is based in Cape Town. The core of the company was formed by director Mark Dornford-May and music director and singer Pauline Malefane in 2000. Isango's productions re-imagine classics from the Western theater canon, finding a new context for the stories within a South African or township setting, and adapting South African literary works, thereby creating inventive work relevant to the heritage of the nation. Their take on *The Magic Flute* (New Victory 2014) won the Olivier Award for Best Music Revival. They are also the recipient of the South Africa Arts and Culture Award for Excellence in Opera. The company's productions have toured Australia, Austria, Canada, France, Germany, Hong Kong, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Martinique, the Netherlands, Norway, Singapore, Turkey, the U.K. and the U.S.

### **RE:PLAY**

MUMMENSCHANZ

Altstätten, Switzerland

November 15 - December 1, 2019

The New Victory Theater

Full price tickets are \$17, \$22, \$31 or \$42 based on seat locations.

Floriana Frassetto, Artistic Director / Creator

Marc Reinhardt, Managing Director

Technical Direction by Eric Sauge

Cast includes Floriana Frassetto, Christa Barrett, Sara Hermann, Kevin Blaser and Oliver Pfulg

Creature conjurers! Shape shifters! Material manipulators! The masked mimics of **MUMMENSCHANZ** make their New Victory debut with **RE:PLAY**. Inspiring audiences across five continents for nearly five decades and three years on Broadway, the "Musicians of Silence" will surprise you with each artful scene. A playful production of timeless vignettes, **RE:PLAY** is as much about what you don't see as what you delightfully do!

Formed by founding members Andres Bossard, Floriana Frassetto and Bernie Schürch in 1972, **MUMMENSCHANZ** pioneered contemporary mask theater. Their groundbreaking techniques earned them a three year run on Broadway and appearances on *Sesame Street* and *The Muppet Show*. **MUMMENSCHANZ** won the Swiss Award in 2011 for their 40th Anniversary and recognition of their contribution to both national and international culture.

**\* HOLIDAY SHOW \***

**42FT – A MENAGERIE OF MECHANICAL MARVELS**

Cirque Mechanics  
Las Vegas, Nevada  
December 6, 2019 - January 5, 2020  
The New Victory Theater  
Full price tickets are \$22, \$27, \$37, \$59 based on seat locations.

Creative Direction by Chris Lashua  
Production Direction by Janeen Johnson  
Lighting Design by Joe D’Emilio  
Creative team includes Chris Lashua, Aida Lashua, Sean Riley, Aloysia Gavre, Steven Ragatz, Caroline Rogers, Michael Picton, Janeen Johnson, Anthony Powers

Cast includes Wes Hatfield, Javen Ulambayer, Battulga Battogtokh, Chase Jarvis, Justin Herrien, Esther Monteflores, Krystal Henning, Tatiana Vasilenko, Brooke Neilson, Michael Rubino, Ariel Mosier, Gregory McElroy

Behold! A man so strong he juggles trees! An acrobat so light she floats on air! With a brilliant blur of sequined stilts, feathered frocks and flashing circus stripes, the endlessly inventive **Cirque Mechanics** (*Pedal Punk*, New Victory 2015) upends expectations in a dizzying, dazzling array of acts that have never before appeared on the New Victory stage. Bright with light, laughter and good cheer, this stunning spectacle is a high-flying hit for the holidays!

Inspired by the wonder that can fill the 42 feet diameter of a traditional one-ring circus (minus the live animals), **42FT – A MENAGERIE OF MECHANICAL MARVELS** will feature such unique acts as a revolving ladder, a galloping mechanical metal horse and a rotating tent frame that will reveal that there’s just as much theater behind the scenes of a traveling circus as what’s featured in the spotlight.

**Cirque Mechanics** was founded in 2004 by Boston native and German Wheel artist, Chris Lashua, after the success of his collaborative project with the Circus Center of San Francisco, *Birdhouse Factory* (New Victory, 2008). **Cirque Mechanics** quickly established itself as a premier American circus, with its unique approach to performance, inspiring storytelling and innovative mechanical staging. Stories are wrapped in circus acrobatics, mechanical wonders and a bit of clowning around.

U.S. Premiere  
**BECAUSE I SAY SO**

Unga Klara  
Stockholm, Sweden  
December 12 - 22, 2019  
The Duke on 42nd Street  
Full price tickets are \$20

Created by Farnaz Arbabi, Daniela Kullman, Gustav Deinoff  
Directed by Farnaz Arbabi  
Choreography and Movement by Anne Jonsson  
Featuring Rita Lemivaara, Nina Rashid, Bianca Traum, Lisette T. Pagler, Maria Salah, Joel Mauricio Isabel Ortiz, Klas Lagerlund, Sakib Zabbar and David Nzinga

From offbeat ideas to curious habits, each kid is truly one of a kind. In the unique universe of **BECAUSE I SAY SO**, colorfully-clad performers in retro tracksuits ask the question: *What if kids had absolute agency?* With endless imagination, derring-do and daring dance, this renowned Swedish theater company helps us see and move through the world as little ones do.

Inspired by the book *Childism* by Elisabeth Young-Bruehl and devised from research on how kids discover and learn about power--who gets to make decisions for them and why--**BECAUSE I SAY SO** explores what it means to be a child in our society and how kids might move through the world differently if they were given agency over their own lives. Using dance physicality and multilingual dialogue with elements of mime, slapstick and acrobatics, **Unga Klara** plays with the dynamics between kids and adults.

Representing a national assignment for children and young people in Sweden, **Unga Klara** focuses on performing newly-written dramas, particularly those which present a child's perspective. Its writers and collaborators adapt serious topics into playful and sometimes provocative forms, combining different levels of abstractions as well as heavy and light emotional modalities. They examine and develop their ideas using test audiences from the very beginning of rehearsals and throughout the production process. Since its founding in 1975, the past 40 years of encounters, explorations and purposeful efforts have positioned **Unga Klara** uniquely within the Swedish and international culture scene. **Unga Klara** has a long tradition of working in partnership with organizations with social missions such as preventing bullying, ending child abuse and advocating for the LGBT community.

N.Y. Premiere

## **CARTOGRAPHY**

Kaneza Schaal & Christopher Myers

New York, New York

January 10 - 19, 2020

The New Victory Theater

Full price tickets are \$17, \$22, \$31 or \$42 based on seat locations

Conceived and created by Kaneza Schaal & Christopher Myers

Directed by Kaneza Schaal

Written & Designed by Christopher Myers

Produced by ArKtype / Thomas O. Kriegsmann

Lighting & Production Management by Chelsie McPhilimy

Interactive Video Design by Joshue Ott (U.S.) with Pierre Depaz, Grace Huang, Andrija Klaric and Mateo Juvera Molina (Abu Dhabi)

Inflatable rafts on the Mediterranean. Dark holds of cargo trucks. Family photos hidden carefully in a backpack. Hear the stories of young refugees when **CARTOGRAPHY** asks what part we play in the lives of young people who set out into the unsure waters of their futures. Developed as part of New Victory LabWorks and commissioned by The Kennedy Center, this multimedia theatrical work shares a world alive with movement and migration as the effects of climate change, war and poverty give shape to where we have come from and where we are going.

**CARTOGRAPHY** was made possible by a generous grant from The Joyce Foundation, and is a co-commission of The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, The Arts Center at NYU Abu Dhabi, and Playhouse Square, Cleveland, OH, with developmental support provided by Young People's Theatre, Toronto, Canada and the Center for the Arts, Wesleyan University, Middletown, CT.

**Kaneza Schaal & Christopher Myers** are acclaimed New York City based visual, literary and theater artists whose past works include *JACK &*, recently at New York Live Arts and BAM Next Wave Festival, and *GO FORTH*, which premiered to great acclaim as part of PS122's COIL 2015.

A 2019 Recipient of a Soros Arts Fellowship, which recognizes work having to do with migration, **Kaneza Schaal** is lauded for her work with Elevator Repair Service, The Wooster Group, Richard Maxwell/New York City Players, and New York City Opera bringing her to venues including Centre Pompidou, Royal



Lyceum Theater Edinburgh, The Whitney Museum, Brooklyn Academy of Music, and MoMA. Her work has been supported by Baryshnikov Arts Center, Performance Space New York, Lower Manhattan Cultural Council, Nathan Cummings Foundation, Foundation for Contemporary Arts, Theater Communications Group, Princess Grace George C. Wolfe Award, Bogliasco Fellowship, and Kara Walker's 6-8 Months Space.

**Christopher Myers**, the new creative director behind Random House's Make Me a World imprint, is a widely acclaimed author and illustrator, as well as a versatile artist whose fine art has been exhibited at MoMA PS1 and numerous national and international museums and galleries. In addition to illustrating his own titles, Myers has worked with numerous authors, including E. E. Cummings, Zora Neale Hurston and his father, Walter Dean Myers; the two worked together on the Caldecott Honor winner, *Harlem*, as well as the Coretta Scott King Honor winners *Black Cat* and *H.O.R.S.E.* He collaborated with dancer Misty Copeland on the picture book *FIREBIRD*. In film, he co-directed the Sundance selection *Am I Going Too Fast?* with Hank Willis Thomas. Myers has written several notable essays, among them "Young Dreamers," an eloquent reflection on Trayvon Martin and Ezra Jack Keats's *The Snowy Day*, as well as the much-discussed "The Apartheid of Children's Literature," published in *The New York Times*.

N.Y. Premiere

***RIDDLE OF THE TRILOBITES***

CollaborationTown & Flint Repertory Theatre

New York, New York

February 7 - 23, 2020

The New Victory Theater

Full price tickets are \$17, \$22, \$31 or \$42 based on seat locations

Devised by CollaborationTown

Book & Lyrics by Geo Decas O'Donnell and Jordan Seavey

Music, Lyrics, Orchestrations & Arrangements by Nicholas Williams

Directed by Lee Sunday Evans

Set Design by Deb O

Lighting Design by Eric Southern

Sound Design by Kate Marvin

Costume Design by Katherine Nelson

Puppet Design by Amanda Villalobos

Puppet Direction by Pam Arciero

Featuring Sifiso Mabena, Julia Rose Duray, Mia Pak, Jordan Barbour, Phillip Taratula, Richard Saudek

Travel way way way way way back in time! In this original live musical, set 500 million years ago, all life dwells in one sea and trilobites rule the ocean floor. When young Aphra discovers that the fate of the entire trilobite kingdom rests on her shelled shoulders, she and her arthropod pals must solve the ***RIDDLE OF THE TRILOBITES*** before a sea change of epic proportions destroys their home. With humor, heart and eye-popping prehistoric puppetry, this underwater adventure by **CollaborationTown** [*Family Play (1979 to Present)*] shows us how we can leave our mark on the world when we dare to be brave.

Directed by two-time Obie Award winner **Lee Sunday Evans** (*In the Green, Dance Nation, The Things That Were There*), Artistic Director at Waterwell, and featuring 25 puppets designed by **Amanda Villalobos** (*In the Green, Amélie, Cute Activist*), ***RIDDLE OF THE TRILOBITES*** was developed as a part of New Victory Labworks in the 2014-15 and 2015-16 seasons and premiered to great acclaim at Flint Repertory Theatre in March of 2019.

**CollaborationTown** creates ensemble-driven, humorous and heartfelt new plays that defy expectations of how stories can be told in the theater. The company maintains a consistent core ensemble which

collaborates regularly with an ever-expanding community of artists and creates new plays that are relevant beyond traditional theater audiences.

N.Y. Premiere

**DRUMFOLK**

Step Afrika!

Washington, D.C.

February 28 - March 15, 2020

The New Victory Theater

Full price tickets are \$17, \$22, \$31 or \$42 based on seat locations

Produced by C. Brian Williams

Created and Directed by Jakari Sherman

Powerful. Precise. Persistent. Political. The drum is talking. The music is calling. When Africans lost the right to use their drums, the beats found their way into the body of the people—the **DRUMFOLK**. New percussive art forms took root and made way for tap, beatboxing and the African American tradition of stepping. From hambone to hip-hop, an extraordinary ensemble of dancers, drummers and musicians takes us from West Africa to Washington, D.C., to reveal the hidden histories and resounding rhythms that transformed America.

Currently in development, **Drumfolk** will feature two distinct acts. The first half, similar in style to their hit show *The Migration: Reflections on Jacob Lawrence* (New Victory, 2017), will feature 18<sup>th</sup> century African-American percussive traditions, including the rarely-seen ring-shout coming out of South Carolina Gullah traditions, and a contemporary, Afro-fusion work inspired by the late Jacob Mbuyiselwa Semela, celebrated South African choreographer and founder of the Soweto Dance Theater. The second half is more rooted in 20th century music and dance, bringing us to current day with more contemporary stepping and the addition of vocal percussion and beatboxing.

**Step Afrika!** was founded in 1994 as the first professional company dedicated to the tradition of stepping. It now ranks as one of the top ten African American dance companies in the U.S. The company blends percussive dance styles practiced by historically African American fraternities and sororities, African traditional dance and influences from a variety of other dance and art forms. Performances integrate songs, storytelling and humor. In February of 2016, the company performed at the White House for President Barack Obama and the First Lady, headlining their Presidential Black History Month reception. Additionally, **Step Afrika!** is featured prominently at the Smithsonian's National Museum of African American History & Culture with the world's first interactive stepping exhibit.

U.S. Premiere

**TREASURE ISLAND**

Carlo Colla & Sons Marionette Company

Milan, Italy

March 20 - 29, 2020

The New Victory Theater

Full price tickets are \$22, \$31 or \$42 based on seat locations.

Written by Eugenio Monti Colla

Adapted from Robert Louis Stevenson's novel

Music by Danilo Lorenzini

English translation by Nadia Boaretto

Directed by Franco Citterio and Giovanni Schiavolin

Technical Direction by Tiziano Marcolegio

Scenic Design, Sculptor and Lighting Design by Franco Citterio

Scenic Design Assistant, Debora Coviello  
Costume Design by Cecilia Di Marco and Maria Grazia Citterio  
Costumes construction by Cecilia Di Marco and Maria Grazia Citterio\*  
Hairdresser: Maria Grazia Citterio

Toolmakers: Giovanni Schiavolin, Paolo Sette, Camillo Cosulich and Pietro Monti

\*Some costumes have been realized under a didactic project involving students and teachers of Milan's Liceo Kandinsky

The Puppeteers: Franco Citterio, Maria Grazia Citterio, Piero Corbella, Camillo Cosulich, Debora Coviello, Carlo Decio, Cecilia Di Marco, Veronica Lattuada, Tiziano Marcolgio, Pietro Monti, Giovanni Schiavolin, Paolo Sette

Ahoy, mateys! Time to set sail for Robert Louis Stevenson's *TREASURE ISLAND*. In this rendition of the classic pirate story, 12 puppeteers animate exquisitely handcrafted marionettes to tell the swashbuckling adventures of cabin boy Jim Hawkins. Battling the high seas and the infamous Long John Silver, can Jim solve the mystery of Captain Flint's buried treasure? Or will he walk the plank? You'll have to pay a *buccaneer* to find out! From Milan's famed **Carlo Colla & Sons Marionette Company**, 19th century artistry takes center stage in this visually stunning production.

For over 300 years, **Carlo Colla & Sons Marionette Company** (*Pied Piper*, New Victory 2016, *Sleeping Beauty*, New Victory 2013, *Macbeth*, New Victory 2007) has built a collection of nearly 3,000 marionettes. Based in Milan, the company has toured five continents since 1980, participating in prestigious arts festivals in Edinburgh, Paris, Berlin, Sydney, Melbourne, Charleston and Mexico City, among others. Since 2000, the company has collaborated with the Piccolo Teatro of Milan-Teatro d'Europa, and presents in Milan at the Piccolo Teatro, at the Gerolamo theater and at the Atelier Carlo Colla e Figli. In 2007, the company received accolades in the U.S. for their co-production of *Macbeth* with the Chicago Shakespeare Theater.

U.S. Premiere

**FOUR GO WILD IN WELLIES**

Indepen-dance 4

Glasgow, Scotland

March 27 - April 5, 2020

The Duke on 42nd Street

Full price tickets are \$20

Artistic Direction by Karen Anderson

Directed by Anna Newell

Music by David Goodall

Choreographed by Stevie Prickett

Created with the dancers

Featuring Hayley Earlam, Neil Price, Adam Sloan and Julie Spence

It's time to explore the great outdoors! What do we need? Tiny tents, bobble hats, scarves and wellies, of course! With all of the foliage and fun of any good forest adventure, **FOUR GO WILD IN WELLIES** features an inclusive dance company who reminds us that nothing is more natural than a kid's curiosity.

This performance has been created by **Indepen-dance 4**, an award-winning inclusive dance company for disabled and non-disabled people, alongside director Anna Newell, former Artistic Director of Belfast's Replay Theatre Company (*Babble*, New Victory 2015) and 2017 Tonic Theatre Award winner for "Women Who are Changing the Face of U.K. Theater."

**Indepen-dance 4** is the professional inclusive performance company of Indepen-dance. It promotes a diverse and inclusive society, which is not only enriching but is the foundation of a more sustainable future for everyone in the dance field and beyond. Its artistic approach is to ensure the arts, and dance in particular, is inclusive and that children, young people and adults who are disabled are fully included in the creative process of making, performing and being an audience for dance. All its activities are offered to disabled and non-disabled people, providing everyone with the opportunity to learn from each other and share a creative experience.

N.Y. Premiere

**MAGIC SHADOWS**

Catapult

Kent, Connecticut

April 3 - 19, 2020

The New Victory Theater

Full price tickets are \$17, \$22, \$31 or \$42 based on seat locations.

Conceived and Directed by Adam Battelstein

With the arc of an arm, the point of a toe or the twist of a torso, *America's Got Talent* finalists **Catapult** stretch their bodies, and your imaginations, in **MAGIC SHADOWS**. See Vivaldi's *Four Seasons* spring to life, follow a camel across the Sahara and spy a giant panda snacking on bamboo! Animated by the dancers' shadows, every cinematic scene is a kaleidoscope of colorful storytelling that will awe and astound you.

Founded in 2009 by Adam Battelstein (choreographer, creative director and master teaching artist for Pilobolus Dance Theatre for 19 years), the **Catapult** shadow dance company catapulted to fame on Season 8 of *America's Got Talent*, earning their way to the finals of the hit NBC show. Recently, the company debuted a new work in January 2019 commissioned by the Mozart Festival in Salzburg, Austria, inspired by and using the music of the classical composer. The company has performed for audiences throughout the U.S., as well as in mainland China, Saudi Arabia, Geneva, Stockholm, Nigeria, Monte Carlo and Vienna.

U.S. Premiere

**SNOW WHITE**

New International Encounter (NIE), Cambridge Junction and Tobacco Factory Theatres

Cambridge, England and Asker, Norway; and Bristol, England

April 24 - May 3, 2020

The New Victory Theater

Full price tickets are \$17, \$22, \$31 or \$42 based on seat locations.

Directed by Alex Byrne

Produced by Sarah Crompton

Movement Direction by Kasia Zaremba-Byrne

Music Composed by Joey Hickman and Elliot Davis

Music Direction and arrangements by Joey Hickman

Additional music developed by the ensemble

Lighting Design by Trui Malten

Designed by Stefanie Mueller

Assistant Designed by Fiona Rigler

Featuring Richard de Winter, Jodie Davey, Stefanie Mueller, Abayomi Oniyide, Joey Hickman, Alex Murdoch

Story Development by Rina Vergano

Associate Director, Michael Judge

Assistant Direction by Sam Turton and David Gilbert

Executive Producer, Cat Moore

Mirror, mirror on the wall, this **SNOW WHITE** has laughs for us all! Join our charmingly cheerful heroine as she escapes her hilariously homicidal stepmother with help from a family of feisty woods-dwelling, banjo-strumming, washboard-wearing vegans. From the creators of last season's *Beauty and the Beast*, this rustic romp boasts an eclectic indie score and affirms the belief that even the most evil deserve a chance at redemption.

**New International Encounter** (*Beauty and the Beast*, New Victory 2018; *Museum of Memories*, New Victory 2016), recipient of the ASSITEJ Award for Artistic Excellence, is an international and multilingual theater company producing work for and with young people based in Cambridge, England and Asker, Norway. NIE delivers high-quality creative projects with an international outlook, working in a way that allows people of all abilities to access their work as audience, participants, collaborators and creative artists. Bringing together theater artists from different countries to combine physical theater, multiple languages, live music and storytelling, NIE has created 34 shows and toured to 34 countries, touring across four continents, since 2001.

U.S. Premiere

**JABBERBABBLE**

Theatergroep Kwatta

Nijmegen, The Netherlands

May 9 - 17, 2020

The New Victory Theater

Full price tickets are \$25

Text by Jibbe Willems

Composed by Rogier Bosman

Directed by Josee Hussaarts

Music / Piano Accompaniment by Edzo Bos

Lighting Design by Henk van der Geest

Decor and Costumes by Barbara Kroon

Production Management & Sound Engineering by Thijs Kempers

Featuring Sarah Bannier, Rogier van Erkel, Lucas Schilperoort, Jochem Smit

What happens when birds of different feathers flock together? And if they don't sing the same language, will they understand each other? In this sweet story about four birds and one nest, Theatergroep Kwatta uses a mix of languages to share a universal message about belonging. *Allonzy tutti* to **Jabberbabble**, where every day is *wonderfeej!*

The show is entirely sung, as it should be with birds, and the libretto earned Jibbe Willems a 2019 Zilveren Krekel award for his ability to use "different European languages in an extremely creative way, making the themes of the global refugee crisis understandable for everyone from the age of six." Cast member Jochem Smit recently won Best Newcomer at the Netherlands' 2019 Musical Awards for his performance in *You're The Top*.

Based in Nijmegen, The Netherlands, **Theatergroep Kwatta** has been Gelderland's professional youth theatre company since 2002. Under the artistic management of Josee Hussaarts, Kwatta creates theater without limits and attracts a worldwide audience, from Amsterdam to Taiwan to the United States. By asking simple questions about difficult issues and difficult questions about things that appear simple, Kwatta tilts reality to create a different perspective.

U.S. Premiere

**FIERCE 5**

Cie L'Oublié(e) – Raphaëlle Boitel

Boulazac, France

May 30 - June 14, 2020

The New Victory Theater

Full price tickets are \$17, \$22, \$31 or \$42 based on seat locations.

Directed by Raphaëlle Boitel

Artistic Collaboration, Scenic Design, Lighting Design by Tristan Baudoin

Technical Design by Nicolas Lourdelle, Tristan Baudoin

Original Music by Arthur Bison

Costumes by Lilou Hérin

Featuring Julieta Salz, Clara Henry, Salvo Cappello, Alejandro Escobedo, Loïc Levieil

Push, pull, rise, fall and fly. **FIERCE 5** exposes the success and perseverance, the balance and imbalance that come from making the impossible possible. In a tangle of cables, straps and perspectives, five fearless acrobats move through darkness and into light as they test the tenacity of the human spirit and find strength in solidarity. Harnessing raw energy and fighting against forces seen and unseen, the astonishing artistes of **FIERCE 5**, in French titled *5es Hurlants*, break through the void and dive into the *mystère* of the unknown.

Created in 2012 by aerialist, director and choreographer **Raphaëlle Boitel**, **Cie L'Oublié(e)** or “The Forgotten” recently toured throughout the U.S. with their hit show **When Angels Fall**. Boitel, who started her career at the age of 13, has toured with international artists like James Thierrée on his productions *The Junebug Symphony/La Symphonie du Hanneton* (New Victory 2002) and in *La Veillée des Abysses*. She has also presented her work at David Lynch’s club, The Silencio, in Paris. Most recently, she worked with Aurélien Bory’s Company 111 (*IJK*, New Victory 2008; *Plan B*, New Victory 2004) on their new piece *Géométrie de Caoutchouc*, choreographed *Macbeth* for La Scala Milan alongside Giorgio Barberio Corsetti and *Alcione* at the Opéra Comique in Paris, directed by Louise Moaty and conducted by Jordi Savall.

The company conceives a physical language inspired and influenced by a dynamic mix of theater, circus, dance, music and, uniquely, cinema and its relationship to light. The company pushes the boundaries of physical theater, creating new apparatus to move through space and accomplish aerial feats differently. In addition to *Fierce 5* and *When Angels Fall*, previous works include *The Black Beast* (2017), *The Forgotten* (2014), *Consolations* (2013) and *Horizon* (2019), a show for public spaces.

U.S. Premiere

**Não Não**

Le Vent des Forges

Melesse, France

June 5 - 14, 2020

The New Victory Theater

Full price tickets are \$20

Created by Odile L'Hermitte & Marie Tuffin, Co-Founders of Le Vent des Forges

Featuring Odile L'Hermitte and Christine Defay

Squish! Splash! Smash! Two seriously silly sculptors craft from clay a mischievous little boy bent on pandemonium and play. The artists create an entire story out of moldable clay. As Não discovers the joys

of muddy mayhem, audiences are treated to a tender and tuneful performance of tabletop puppetry that shows us just how messy life can be.

**Le Vent des Forges** hails from Melesse, France. They are known for their manipulated clay theater, which came about as the result of a chance encounter between an actress and a pottery artist. In 2018 and 2019, **Le Vent des Forges** performed at Imagine's Edinburgh International Children's Festival in Scotland and the Festival International des Arts de la Marionette in Saguenay (FIAMS) held in Canada, which showcases outstanding international theater and puppetry art for young audiences.