

GLOB



«The ideal opportunity to be carried
in a universe calm and playful
at the same time.»

Émilie Morin, Journal Le Quotidien

«Magnificent show, grandiose,
touching and so gentle!»

Marika Crête-Reizes, Place des Arts

«Humour and finesse of the direction
are the key elements of such
a well-executed show.»

*Gabriel Talbot, MatTV
Magazine 100% culturel*

«Glob is a gift
to offer to your audience.»

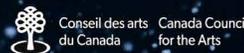
*Nathalie Cauwet,
Théâtre du Marais*

«It is a great joy
to dive into your universe.»

Julie Larouche, Ici Radio-Canada

«Your complicity on stage
is still as strong and impressive.»

Diane Blanchette, L'Anglicane



Press Review

Les Foutoukours & Glob



BY **GABRIEL TALBOT** · 18TH NOV, 2019

Un spectacle pour les enfants ... et les grands.

BY **Gabriel Talbot**

I was absolutely delighted to attend Glob, a clown performance presented by Les Foutoukours in Maison de la Culture de Verdun. The performance lasts 60 minutes, and is intended for kids 5 and up – though between you and me, the actual target audience is really much wider.



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“Speech is silver, but silence is golden,” as the saying goes. The two friendly clowns featured in the show abide by this principle by using mime exclusively as a way to communicate with one another as well as with the crowd, and they do so with outstanding efficiency. This is undoubtedly why this performance can be understood by anyone, regardless of where they are from or what language they speak. The two clowns tell their story without ever using words, relying only their body movements, facial expressions and the occasional grunt to say whatever they need to say.

The characters meet for the first time before our eyes, and the brilliant stage direction takes us through their relationship as it blossoms into a great friendship. The clowns are dressed in white outfits resembling polar bears, and throughout the performance, we come to discover their personality, their kindness, their joie de vivre and their talent. They learn to play together, with all of the joys and hardships that entails. Children can definitely relate to these characters, and a raised eyebrow, surprised expression or astonished face is enough to prompt immediate reactions from them. While the numerous situations the clowns go through do make kids laugh, they also bring a smile to the adults in the room, as the actors’ performances remind us of the children we once were (or indeed the ones we do have).

The duo combines juggling, stunts, music and dancing to tell us their story, wherein humour and fine theatrical direction are the key to a well-executed performance. The story is simple but effective and beautiful, as it involves human qualities that are dear to all of us, such as sharing, mutual help, teamwork and friendship. As the show goes on, the two characters grow into the friends we all wish we had. It is not a surprise, therefore, that many of the kids in the crowd went to have their picture taken with them after the performance; I even suspect some of their parents tagged along for the photograph, so they could say “I attended this wonderful show as well.”

The two plump characters are played by Rémi Jacques and Jean-Félix Bélanger, two masters of the clown arts. They have numerous other shows lined up, and if you would like to find out about their upcoming dates, please check out their website by clicking [here](#).



GLOB IN THE PIERRETTE-GAUDREAU THEATRE

Glob: A Pair of Gentle Clowns

ÉMILIE MORIN

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Wednesday morning's performance of Glob in Centre national d'exposition de Jonquière created its fair share of buzz and excitement among the 330 attending youths.

From the moment the pair of clowns featured in Glob entered the stage, hilarity spread itself through the audience in Salle Pierrette-Gaudreault, where the public performance is set to take place Saturday at 1:30 PM. Both characters are dressed in white furry costumes, which on its own suffices to generate laughter among the children. Various stunts, juggling, tap dancing and general clowning around take place throughout the hour, with the ambiance being set through the use of colours and music. The entire act is presented with a Scandinavian flair, and is inspired by the magical winter wonderlands one can observe through a snow globe.

Jean-Félix Bélanger, creator and director of Glob alongside Rémi Jacques, speaking of the challenges they wish to take on, asks: "Is it possible to create an hour-long artistic performance set in a very slow, quiet universe, without speaking a single word, and with the goal of soothing children as well as adults?" Judging from the crowd's reaction, the Foutoukours duo's latest creation, whose world premiere took place on 15 November 2019, succeeded brilliantly.

Rémi Jacques, co-founder of Foutoukours, explains how rhythm is the duo's specialty: "We are circus performers, and in the style of clown we do, there is no improvisation

happening whatsoever – every single move on stage is planned." Mr. Jacques describes the show as a "curve", with some moments intended to soothe and calm down the children, and others which are designed to get a reaction, and keep their attention for a while. "The whole thing is very structured," he adds.

Three years in the making

Each of Foutoukours' show involves a development period of three years, after which it will be performed for anywhere between five and eight years.

During these three development years, the concept of the show, as well as the aesthetics and décor, are put together – but that time is also used by the show's performers to learn the new techniques which will be put into use in their latest creation.

Such an example is the balancing ladder act, which impressed audience members of all ages.

"This discipline did not exist before," explains Jean-Félix Bélanger. "Rémi designed it from the ground up. Then, we had it made by professionals and engineers. And then, we had to create a specific vocabulary around the ladder in order to be able to develop an act for the show". In total, 16 collaborators contributed to the creation of the show.

The Foutoukours duo's success is not limited to within the borders of Quebec – Scotland, China, Japan and the United Arab Emirates are among many places in the world where the artists have garnered interest. Moreover, the duo found the inspiration for the aesthetics and

energy of Glob while touring Norway. Glob, a performance inspired by silent films of the 1920s, is sure to leave no one indifferent – especially not children, whose spontaneous reactions and bursts of laughter only add to the magic of the performance.



Glob is the ideal occasion to let yourself be taken to a universe that is both calm and playful. It will delight the kids and their parents alike.

LE PROGRÈS, JEANNOT LÉVESQUE



Glob is the result of three years of work during which the two artists featured in the show, Rémi Jacques and Jean-Félix Bélanger, created new disciplines such as the balancing ladder.

LE PROGRÈS, JEANNOT LÉVESQUE