



# Manual Cinema's Lula Del Ray

Series sponsored by:



FRI, MAR 31, 2017 | CAPITOL THEATER

OVERTURE'S

# PUPPET FESTIVAL

MAR 31 - APR 9, 2017

Check out the Playhouse Gallery Puppet Exhibit, which features original work from local artists and puppeteers – open throughout the festival!

**FRI, MAR 31**

**Festival Kick Off!** Rotunda Stage/Playhouse Gallery | 5 - 6:30 PM

Puppet play-station and an interactive Shadow Puppet Theater presented by First Act. Family-friendly refreshments available.

**Manual Cinema's Lula Del Ray** \$25+ | Capitol Theater | 7 PM



**SAT, APR 1**

**Family Toy Theater Workshop\*** MMoCA | 9 AM - NOON

**Puppet Play Theater** FREE | Rotunda Lobby | 9 AM - 3 PM

**KIR: Taiwan Puppets** FREE | Rotunda Stage | 9:30 AM, 11 AM, 1 PM

**The Man Who Planted Trees** \$26 | Promenade Hall | 1 PM, 3 PM

**SUN, APR 2**

**Puppet Play Theater** FREE | Rotunda Lobby  
11:30 AM - 4 PM

**Erth's Dinosaur Zoo Live** \$25+ | Capitol Theater  
1 PM, 4:30 PM | Pre-show meet and greet for both performances with VIP ticket, space limited.

**Family Toy Theater Workshop\***  
Promenade Hall | 12:30 - 3:30 PM

\* Local artist Felice Amato will lead a Toy Theater Workshop for families to create a small toy theater set and puppets. Cost is \$15 per family with supplies included.



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## COMPANY BIO

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MANUAL CINEMA is a performance collective, design studio, and film/ video production company founded in 2010 by Drew Dir, Sarah Fornace, Ben Kauffman, Julia Miller, and Kyle Vegter. Manual Cinema combines handmade shadow puppetry, cinematic techniques, and innovative sound and music to create immersive stories for stage and screen. Using vintage overhead projectors, multiple screens, puppets, actors, live feed cameras, multi-channel sound design, and a live music ensemble, Manual Cinema transforms the experience of attending the cinema and imbues it with liveness, ingenuity, and theatricality. The company tours its own live performances and also works in collaboration on sound and design with other organizations.

Manual Cinema's performances have been presented by such organizations as The Metropolitan Museum of Art (NYC), The Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago, The Noorderzon Festival (Netherlands), The Kimmel Center (Philadelphia), The O, Miami Poetry Festival, The Tehran International Puppet Festival (Iran), Underbelly at the Edinburgh Fringe, the Off Center Festival (Seegerstrom Center, CA), and The Public Theater in NYC. The company has collaborated with StoryCorps (NYC), Erratica (London), The Belgian Royal Opera (Brussels), Hubbard Street Dance (Chicago), Pop-Up Magazine (San Francisco), Nu Deco Ensemble (Miami), NYTimes best-selling author Reif Larsen (NYC), and three time Grammy Award-winning eighth blackbird (Chicago). Future performances include continued touring throughout the US and Canada, debut tours in Mexico, France and Germany, a return to the Edinburgh Fringe, and the commission and premiere of "The End of TV" by the International Festival of Arts and Ideas in New Haven, CT.

You can stay in touch with Manual Cinema via our website at this link:  
<http://manualcinema.com/contact/>

[www.manualcinema.com](http://www.manualcinema.com)  
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## CO-ARTISTIC DIRECTORS

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DREW DIR has worked as a puppeteer, playwright, dramaturg, and director in Chicago and London. Most recently, his short play *The Lurker Radio Hour* was voted Best Production at Collaboration's Sketchbook 8 at the Steppenwolf Garage; his Sketchbook plays have been called "daring" by the *Chicago Tribune* and "ballsy" by *Time Out Chicago*. He holds an MA in Text and Performance Studies from King's College London and the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art. Currently, Drew is Resident Dramaturg at Court Theatre and a Lecturer in Theater and Performance Studies at the University of Chicago.

BEN KAUFFMAN is a composer, director, interactive media artist and co-Artistic Director of Manual Cinema. His work has been shown at The Jay Pritzker Pavilion (Chicago), The Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum (Chicago), and CUNY's Baruch College (NYC). He has lectured and given workshops at The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York University and Parsons the New School of Design. His past Composer/ Sound Designer credits with Manual Cinema include *Lula Del Ray*, *Ada/ Ava*, and the New York Times documentary *The Forger*. He holds a Master's degree from New York University's Interactive Telecommunications Program (ITP).

KYLE VEGTER is a composer, sound designer, theater artist, and Managing Artistic Director of Manual Cinema. As a composer he's been commissioned by such groups as TIGUE, The Chicago Symphony Orchestra's MusicNOW series, the Chicago Composer's Orchestra, and Homeroom Chicago. His production credits span genres, and include recent releases by *Thin Hymns*, *Spektral Quartet*, Tim Munro (of eighth blackbird), and *Color Card*. His past Composer/ Sound Designer credits with Manual Cinema include *Lula Del Ray*, *Ada/ Ava*, *FJORDS*, *Mementos Mori*, *My Soul's Shadow* and various other performance and video projects. He has been an artist in residence at High Concept Laboratories, and co-founded Chicago's only contemporary classical music cassette label Parlour Tapes+.



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## PERFORMERS

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LIZI BREIT (Puppeteer, MC Associate Designer/ Studio Manager) is a puppeteer, designer, printmaker and comic artist living in Chicago. Since graduating from SAIC in 2010 she has designed and/or performed puppets with various theatre companies in the city, including Blair Thomas & Co, The House Theatre and Dog & Pony Theatre Co.

MICHAEL HILGER (Guitar, Vocals, MC Company Member) is a composer, sound designer and multi-instrumentalist based in Chicago, IL. His sound design and composition credits include Redmoon Theater's 2012 *Youth Spectacle*, MC's own *Show & Tell*, the short film *KEPT* by Kacey Meyer, *Amygdala Rest* by Erasing the Distance, and *Mariko's Magical Mix*, a collaboration between Hubbard Street Dance and Manual Cinema. He has produced two EPs with Thin Hymns, a group he founded and fronts. He is currently working on new music and performing solo under the name Michael Albert.

CHARLOTTE LONG (Lula Del Ray) is a Chicago native with degrees from Sarah Lawrence College in Literature and Theater. She is a puppeteer, dance theater artist, actor, solo writer and movement teacher. She often tours with the award-winning animation and cinematic puppeteers, Manual Cinema. Other favorite puppet and non-puppet related credits include: *The Plagiarists*, *Oracle Theater*, *Tympanic Theater*, *Right Brain Project*, *Rough House Theater*, *The Ruckus*, *Lifeline Theater*, *Factory Theater* and *the Whiskey Rebellion*. You can find her occasionally performing her dance theater pieces at Salonathon on Monday nights. Charlotte is represented by Grossman & Jack.

SARA SAWICKI (Lula's Mom) is thrilled to join the touring cast of Manual Cinema's Lula Del Ray. Recent credits include projects with Actors Gymnasium, Buzz22 Chicago, and one step at a time like this in collaboration with Chicago Shakespeare Theater. She is a Company Member with for Youth Inquiry, performing and directing participatory plays focused on sexual health and education in Chicago schools. Sara works nationally with Sojourn Theatre & Center for Performance and Civic Practice.

MAREN CELEST (SFX, Clarinet, Vocals, MC Company Member) is a multimedia artist, burrito lover and vagabond collaborator. Originally from middle-of-nowhere, Michigan, she has attended school in London and lived in Oakland, CA and Chicago, IL, released two full-length albums and a 7 EP in the *Photographers*, has had photographs published internationally (*Levi's*, *CZE Magazine*, *Hope & Anchor's Paris Exhibit*, *Firehouse Collective Exhibit*, etc.), nurtures an on-going solo project and is working towards combining her passions in motion picture.

## STAFF

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MIKE USREY (Production Manager, Sound Engineer) has mixed in around a hundred venues worldwide, ranging from large outdoor festivals to theaters and clubs. He toured internationally for three years with the band Dark Dark Dark (Minneapolis, MN) as front of house engineer. He has also toured with Pillars and Tongues (Chicago, IL), A Hawk and a Hacksaw (Albuquerque, NM), Royal Canoe (Winnipeg, MB Canada) and Pattern is Movement (Philadelphia, PA). He has been the front of house sound engineer for Manual Cinema since 2014.

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An annual commitment from the City of Madison helps support Overture Center and the community engagement programs we provide. Mayor Paul Soglin, the Madison Common Council and City of Madison residents deserve our gratitude for their generous support.

Overture also wishes to thank Dane County Executive Joe Parisi, the Dane County Board of Supervisors and the residents of Dane County for their generous support.

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