

GRAND ONSTAGE  
PLAYBILL



# THE TRIPLETS OF BELLEVILLE

A CINE-CONCERT



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**Benoit Charest,  
Composer-Conductor**

Featuring

**The Triplets of Belleville**

a film by Sylvain Chomet  
and

conducted by the composer Benoît Charest

**Le Terrible Orchestre de Belleville**

**Dan Thouin** – Keyboard & Accordion

**Alain Bastien** – Drums

**Michael Emeneau** – Percussions & Electric  
Vibraphone

**Bruno Lamarche** – Saxophone, Clarinet & Flute

**Maxime St-Pierre** – Trumpet

**Edouard Touchette** – Trombone

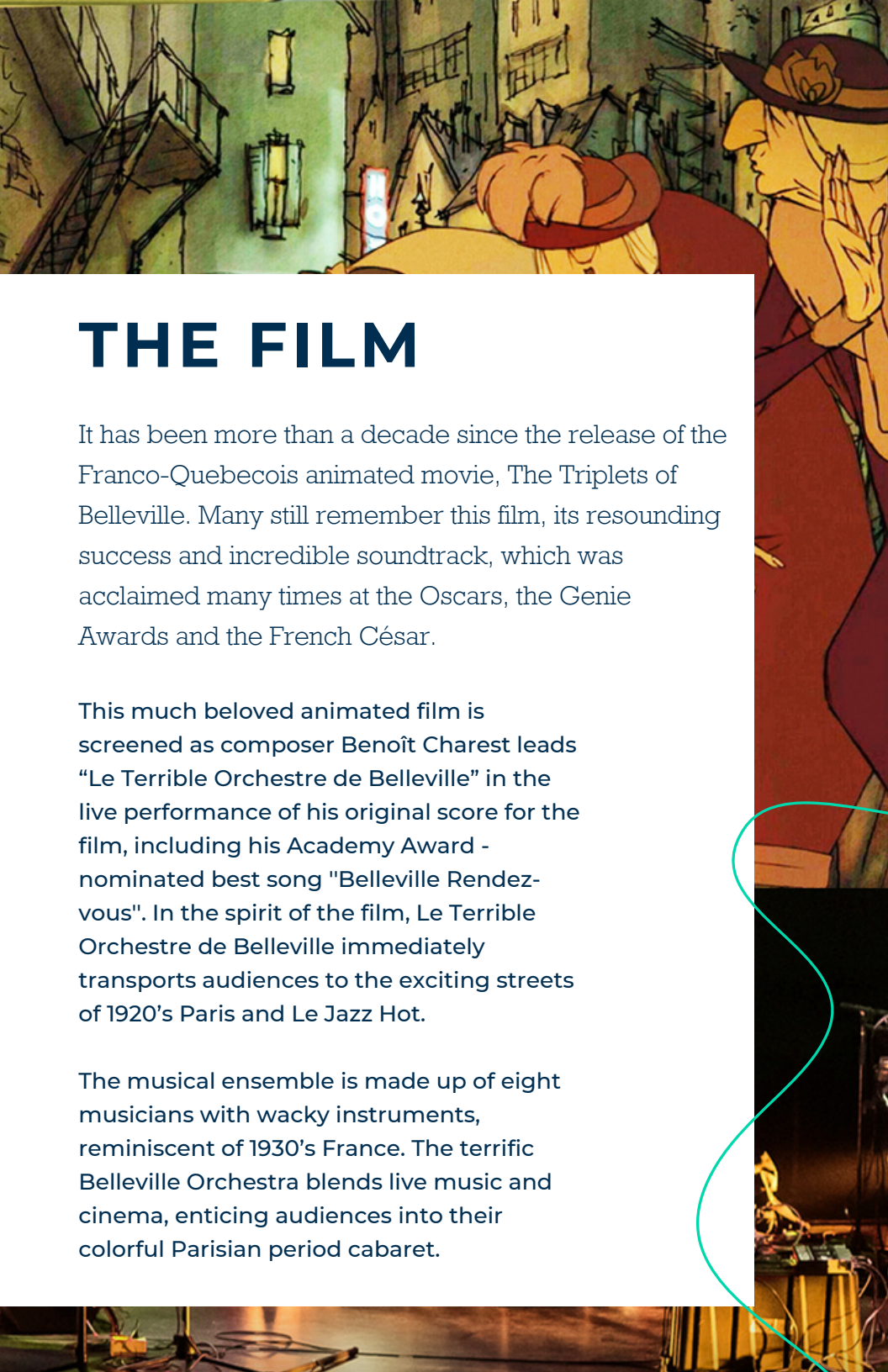
**Morgan Moore** – Double Bass + Bass

Tour Manager – **Paget Williams**

Sound and Technical Director- **Guillaume Briand**

*There is no intermission.*





# THE FILM

It has been more than a decade since the release of the Franco-Quebécois animated movie, *The Triplets of Belleville*. Many still remember this film, its resounding success and incredible soundtrack, which was acclaimed many times at the Oscars, the Genie Awards and the French César.

This much beloved animated film is screened as composer Benoît Charest leads "Le Terrible Orchestre de Belleville" in the live performance of his original score for the film, including his Academy Award - nominated best song "Belleville Rendez-vous". In the spirit of the film, Le Terrible Orchestre de Belleville immediately transports audiences to the exciting streets of 1920's Paris and Le Jazz Hot.

The musical ensemble is made up of eight musicians with wacky instruments, reminiscent of 1930's France. The terrific Belleville Orchestra blends live music and cinema, enticing audiences into their colorful Parisian period cabaret.



A stylized illustration in a comic book style. The top half shows a blue sky with a black umbrella floating in the air. A yellow curved line starts from the bottom left and goes up towards the umbrella. The bottom half shows a boy on a bicycle, wearing a red shirt and black pants, riding on a yellow path. The background is a mix of blue, yellow, and brown tones.

# THE STORY

Adopted by his near-sighted grandmother, Madame Souza, Champion is a lonely little boy. Noticing that the lad is never happier than on a bicycle, Madame Souza puts him through a rigorous training process. Years go by and Champion becomes worthy of his name. Now he is ready to enter the world-famous cycling race, the Tour de France. However, during this cycling contest two mysterious, square-shouldered henchmen in black kidnap Champion. Madame Souza and her faithful dog Bruno set out to rescue him.

Their quest takes them across the ocean to a giant megalopolis called Belleville where a trio of eccentric jazz-era divas, the renowned "Triplets of Belleville." The three music-hall stars decide to take Madame Souza and Bruno under their wing. The motley sleuths follow the clues to an underground speakeasy, where they entertain the crowd. Thanks to Bruno's brilliant sense of smell the chase is on! But will they succeed in beating the devilish plans of the evil French mafia?

# THE DIRECTOR

**Sylvain Chomet** was born in 1963 in Maison-Lafitte, France. In 1982, he graduated from high school specializing in art and in 1987 received a diploma from the prestigious comic-strip studio at Angoulême (France). In 1986, he published his first book-length comic, *Secrets of the Dragonfly* (Futuropolis) and drew an adaptation of a Victor Hugo novel, *Bug-Jargal*, in collaboration with Nicolas de Crécy. Moving to London to work as an animator at the Richard Purdum studio, in September 1988 he established a London-based freelance practice working on commercials for clients such as Swissair, Principality, Swinton, Renault, etc.

In 1991, Chomet started work on his first animated film project, *The Old Lady and the Pigeons*, with backgrounds designed by Nicolas de Crécy. In 1992, he wrote the script for a comic entitled *The Bridge in Mud* (Glénat), a science-fiction and historical

saga, now in its fourth episode. The following year, he wrote the story *Léon-la-Came*, drawn by Nicolas de Crécy and serialized in (*A SUIVRE*) magazine. The book version was published by Casterman in 1995. It won the René Goscinny Prize in January 1996.

Since 1993, Sylvain Chomet has been based in Canada. He spent 1995 and 1996 finishing his short film *The Old Lady and the Pigeons*. This film won the Cartoon d'Or prize, the Grand Prize at the Annecy Festival, a BAFTA, the Audience Prize and the Jury Prize at the Angers Premiers Plans Festival and received nominations for both the French César and for the Oscars.

In early 1997, Sylvain Chomet published *Ugly, poor and sick*, again with Nicolas de Crécy. The book version (Casterman) won the Alph-Art Best Comic Prize at the Angoulême Comic Strip Festival in 1997.

# BENOIT CHAREST

(Chief Musician/Composer and Guitars)

Ben Charest, Oscar nominee composer from Montreal, has written over 30 film scores such as 2004 Triplets of Belleville that has earned him many awards.

Ben studied at McGill and Montreal universities before learning his trade touring as a sideman with various bands. Versatile composer and accomplished jazz guitarist regularly performing with some of Montreal's finest musicians, Ben wrote his first score in 1992 for an NFB documentary.

Ben has composed scores for several movies including writing a tribute to B Movie Car Chase and is currently composing music for several upcoming films, as well as touring with the "Terrible Orchestre de Belleville". A cine-concert in which an 8-piece band play in-sync the score to the "Triplets of Belleville" movie.



# MEMBERS OF THE ORCHESTRE

## **Dan Thouin (Keyboard + Accordion)**

When he first sat behind the family organ Daniel Thouin was seven. Ten years later he was studying classical piano. Soon he started flirting with the jazz scene. Then, he took an interest in electronica and pop music, collaborating with the likes of Mara Tremblay, Yann Perreau and Marie-Jo Thériot, and touring with Jason Bajada and Ghislain Poirier. In 2002, Thouin assembled the Large Ensemble, an all-star local group mixing jazz and rock. Informed by Miles Davis' late sixties experiments, Thouin used the band to flex their improvisational muscles.

## **Alain Bastien (Drums)**

Born in Shawinigan (Canada, P.Q), Alain Bastien, although self-taught from the age of 15 pursues musical studies at the « Université de Montréal » where he achieves a BA in Jazz Performance. For the last 20 years, he has been working in different musical contexts from R & B, funk, Latin to popular although jazz remains for him the vehicle within which he operates. Played in jazz festivals all around Canada, U.S.A, France, Italy, Belgium, Germany, Spain, Greece, Switzerland, Mexico and China. Jean Beaudet, Yves Léveillé, Yannick Rieu, Benoit Charest, Tézé Montcalm, Carl Naud, Abraham Barrera are some of the artists he has been working with over the years.





# MEMBERS OF THE ORCHESTRE



## Michael Emeneau (percussions)

Michael has worked professionally as a vibraphonist, producer, re-mixer, and arranger for 25 years, playing such diverse genres as, jazz, rock, drum & bass, salsa, techno, country, Hindustani, gospel, baroque and orchestral music. During this time he has produced 16 albums recorded on another 150, composed music for eight films, toured internationally, and lived on three continents.

As a solo recording artist he has released a series of highly acclaimed solo CD's on the boutique record labels, Hearts of Space, Daikini, and Six Degree's records. Currently he is member of Ben Charest's "Orchestre Terrible de Belleville, and "Tur Malka" featuring Canadian jazz vocal legend Karen Young.

## Bruno Lamarche (Saxophone, Flute + Clarinet)

Saxophonist and multi-instrumentalist Bruno Lamarche has been known in Canada and Europe for more than twenty years. He has had the honor of working with luminaries such as Buddhakick, Félix Stüssi, Ray Anderson, Bernard Primeau, Joel Miller, Ben Monder, Philip Catherine, Christine Duncan, Kurt Rosenwinkel, Don Thompson. and of course, Benoît Charest. His wide-ranging career has seen him perform with Altsys, Dixieband, ONJM, and Jazzlab. A recognized arranger, Mr. Lamarche earned a Bachelor of Jazz Performance at McGill University where he also received the Marion Magor Memorial Scholarship and the James McGill Award.

# MEMBERS OF THE ORCHESTRE

## Maxime St-Pierre (Trumpet)

As a member of many scholarly music bands such as Cegep St-Laurent, Montreal University, Vic Vogel, Dems Christianson and Montreal Jazz Big Band, Maxime St-Pierre became a solid trumpeter. He has also worked with many popular singers and groups, among them Jean Jean-Pierre Ferland, Daniel Belanger, Jean Leloup, Michel Legrand, Yannick Rieu, The Temptations, The Four Tops, Michel Cusson Wild Unit, Eva! Manigat, La Bande aMagoo and Kappa.

## Edouard Touchette (Trombone)

From Frelighsburg, Canada, he picked up the trombone at a young age. He moved to Montreal and went on to collaborate with established bands like Papagroove, Coyote Bill and the University of Montreal Big Band. At 24, he's already making his way as a freelance trombonist in the city.

## Morgan Moore (Double Bass + Bass)

Morgan has a Juno for his work on Ranee Lee's album "Live at Upstairs" and has performed with such notables as Sophie Milman, Oliver Jones, Nikki Yanofskysy, Rob Lutes, Kaba Horo, John Day, Ben Charest, James Gelfand, and Marianne Trudel. Being one of the first call Montreal bassists has given the opportunity to play with such international artists as Mark Murphy, Phil Dwyer, Jimmy Cobb, Nate Smith, Sheila Jordan, and many others.



## MEMBERS OF THE ORCHESTRE



### **Paget Williams (Tour Manager)**

A native of Montreal Paget Williams works in the music business since the mid 80's.

He has been Tour Manager for many artists such as Manu Chao, Amadou and Mariam, Bebel Gilberto, Marilyn Manson, NOFX, Martha Wainwright, Carla Bruni, The Herbaliser, Jain and many others. He also does Production, Production Management and Stage Management on many events: Osheaga Montreal, Owls Head Festival, World Ski and Festival Whistler, etc.

### **Guillaume Briand (Sound & Technical Director )**

Guillaume Briand became a musician when he discovered his passion for the art of sound. At age 17, he decided to follow his heart and began his career working as a sound engineer at Production Jeun-Est, Foufounes électriques, le Grand Bambou, Spectra, Cabaret Latulipe and Cabaret Juste Pour Rire. He has traveled the world, creating soundscapes and mixing instrumentation in France, Italy, China, the United States, Singapore and Germany where he worked with percussionist and hybrid artist Merlin Ettore. On tour with the extreme, heavy metal group, Unexpect, out of Montreal, he has performed his sonic magic in stadiums throughout Europe. He also performs as a Technical Director for touring shows, especially the poetic musicalizations of Queen Ka and cine-concert, The Triplets of Belleville.



## **EXCLUSIVE WORLDWIDE TOURING MANAGEMENT BY:**

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**The Triplets of Belleville is a film by Sylvain Chomet**

Rated PG-13 by the MPAA

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**Les Armateurs - Production company:**

Les Armateurs, founded by Didier Brunner in 1994, has brought two new writer-directors to the world of cartoon films, Michel Ocelot and Sylvain Chomet. The aim of the company is to discover talent and to produce a range of original and ambitious work aimed at family audiences and young adults.

# Presented by Grand OnStage and the City of Kingston Arts & Culture Services Department.

Learn more about Grand OnStage at [KingstonGrand.ca](http://KingstonGrand.ca).

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The City of Kingston acknowledges that we are on the traditional homeland of the Anishinaabe, Haudenosaunee and the Huron-Wendat, and thanks these nations for their care and stewardship over this shared land.