



Quasimondo Physical Theatre Company Overview



Photos: Brian Rott

Mission

Quasimondo makes original performances that move bodies, hearts and minds. Through devising, performance and education, the interdisciplinary ensemble enriches the community with diverse perspectives to reveal our shared humanity.

Website: www.quasimondo.org

Experience

Based in Milwaukee, WI and founded in 2012, the critically acclaimed, award-winning company has premiered more than 30 original productions over eight seasons.

Quasimondo has collaborated with or been hired by the following organizations: Alverno College, Art Milwaukee, Artown (Reno, NV), Cooperative Performance, Lake Park Friends, Locust Street Days, Milwaukee Art Museum, Milwaukee Fringe Festival, Milwaukee Opera Theatre, Milwaukee Paranormal Conference, Milwaukee Public Theatre, Milwaukee Riverkeeper, Old World Wisconsin, Optimist Theatre, Present Music, Riverwest Co-op, SC Johnson Community Programs, Villard Avenue Business Improvement District, Villa Terrace Decorative Arts Museum, Wisconsin Historical Society, and Wright in Wisconsin.

Beginning in summer 2018, Quasimondo will transform the historic North Milwaukee Village Hall into the Arthaus, a theater and center for the arts and education. Previously, Quasimondo worked out of Studio G in The Shops of Grand Ave. (2014-2016), which Quasimondo constructed in collaboration with Milwaukee Public Theatre, and out of a fourth floor studio in The Milwaukee Fortress (2012-2014).

In addition, Quasimondo has staged site-specific work at the following unconventional spaces in and around Milwaukee, WI: Charles Allis Art Museum, Frank Lloyd Wright's Frederick C. Bogk House, Milwaukee Art Museum, Old World Wisconsin, Riverside Park, Trimborn Farm, Tripoli Shrine Center, and Villa Terrace Decorative Arts Museum.



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Tour History

Mrs. Wrights

- Charles Allis Art Museum (Milwaukee, WI), supported by a grant from the Milwaukee Arts Board and the Wisconsin Arts Board with funds from the State of Wisconsin, November 1st-16th, 2019 (6 performances) - 288 total patrons
- Frank Lloyd Wright's Frederick C. Bogk House (Milwaukee, WI), two 5-minute excerpts and a talkback presented by Wild Space Dance Company for a private fundraiser event, September 29th, 2019 (2 performances) - 50 total patrons
- American Dance Association North Central Regional Conference (Morris, MN), March 22, 2019 (Research Presentation: *Embodying Untold Stories: Dance and Performance Ethnography*) - 30 total attendees
- SC Johnson Golden Rondelle Theater (Racine, WI), presented by SC Johnson Community Programs - September 28th, 2018 - 132 total patrons
- Chicago Fringe Festival - September 1st-3rd, 2018 (3 performances) - 91 total patrons
- Edgcomb Barn (Warren, VT), presented by Phantom Theater - August 17th and 18th, 2018 (2 performances) - 50 total patrons
- Minnesota Fringe - August 4th-12th, 2018 (5 performances) - 112 total patrons
- Frank Lloyd Wright's Taliesin Hillside Theater (Spring Green, WI), presented by Wright in Wisconsin - June 1st, 2018 - 79 total patrons
- Mitchell Hall Studio 254 (Milwaukee, WI), presented by UW-Milwaukee Peck School of the Arts Department of Dance - May 5th, 2018 - 64 total patrons

Kamikaze Cutesauce Cosplay Club

- New York International Fringe Festival at Celebration of Whimsy (C.O.W.) Theatre - August 27-30, 2015

Hansel & Gretel: A Cautionary Tale

- Milwaukee Public Theatre at Milwaukee Public Schools - October 2013 - June 2014
- Artown Festival at Wingfield Park (Reno, NV) - July 29, 2013

Commissions of Original Work

Present Music

- *StalheimTime Finale* at Pabst Theater (Milwaukee, WI) - June 1, 2019
- *Sound & Sight* at Lynden Sculpture Garden (Milwaukee, WI) - June 23, 2018
- *Angst, Horror & Fun* at Milwaukee Art Museum (Milwaukee, WI) - October 21, 2016
- *Carnival* in collaboration with Grammy award-winning pianist Cory Smythe at Broadway Theatre Center (Milwaukee, WI) - October 26, 2015



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Milwaukee Riverkeeper - *Snail Sail* at Milwaukee Riverkeeper Boat Parade (Milwaukee, WI) - September 8, 2018

Optimist Theatre - *Dumb Lear* at Marcus Center Peck Pavilion KidzStage (Milwaukee, WI) - July 6-21, 2018

Wisconsin Historical Society - *Halloween Legends & Lore* at Old World Wisconsin (Eagle, WI) - October 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016

Milwaukee Paranormal Conference - *The Raven's Ball* at Irish Cultural & Heritage Center (Milwaukee, WI) - October 15, 2016

Milwaukee Art Museum - *MAM After Dark: Once Upon a Time* at Milwaukee Art Museum - October 18, 2013

Engagement

Quasimondo artists engage and educate audiences through post-performance talkbacks, work-in-progress showings, and lecture-demonstrations.

Quasimondo's multidisciplinary ensemble is available to teach workshops in the following areas of expertise: devising, physical theatre, traditional theatre, clowning, *bouffon*, *commedia dell'arte*, puppetry, mask, voice, aerial and circus arts, movement improvisation, choreography, contemporary dance, yoga, mindfulness.

Ensemble members are experienced in teaching youth, pre-professional university students, adult professionals and non-professionals, and in leading intergenerational community arts programs.

Awards & Critical Acclaim

Footlights Performing Arts Award:

- Winner, Best Professional Costume Design 2019 for *Zie Magic Flute* in collaboration with Milwaukee Opera Theatre
- Nominee, Best Professional Performance 2018 for *The Depths*
- Winner, Best Professional Performance 2017 for *Zie Magic Flute* in collaboration with Milwaukee Opera Theatre

Milwaukee Journal Sentinel's annual "Best of Wisconsin Theatre" list

- Six Shows, 2013-2017
- Top 10 overall productions: *Americlown* (2013)
- Top 20 overall productions: *Kama Sutra* (2016) and *Kamikaze Cutesauce Cosplay Club* (2015)
- Best Puppets: *The Depths* (2017)



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- Best Overall Design: *Giraffe on Fire* (2015)
- Best Choreography: *Bottle 99* (2014)

Quasimondo's *Kamikaze Cutesauce Cosplay Club* was an Official Selection of New York International Fringe Festival (2015) and has been featured in *Time Out: New York*, *Village Voice*, and *Daily Beast's* "Best of Fringe NYC."

Milwaukee Examiner.com's annual "Best Of" list: Three Shows, 2014-2015

Selected Quotes

"Quasimondo's work – all original, devised pieces forged through the crucible of the rehearsal process – often reveals as much or more about our collective hopes, dreams and fears involving race, class and gender as the scores of more conventionally presented plays covering these themes that I see each year." - Mike Fisher, Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

"They're the quirkiest, most artistically daring theater company in town, and one of the smartest..." - Jeff Grygny, playonmke.com

"As Quasimondo regularly reminds us, nothing is ever quite what it seems to be on the surface of everyday life." - Mike Fischer, Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

"a...tour de force of the highest artistic integrity." - Jeff Grygny, playonmke.com

"amazing and ambitious" - Mike Fischer, Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

"extraordinary...I was continually fascinated, sometimes mystified, sometimes frighteningly connected." - John Schneider, Shepherd Express

"delightful to watch"... "thought-provoking"... "Creativity is aplenty..."
- Jean-Gabriel Fernandez, Shepherd Express

"There's an impressively playful stylistic balance...that keeps it all slicing swiftly from movement to movement in moment after moment of magic."
- Russ Bickerstaff, The Small Stage