



**Edit Jakab** with Lanyi Fruzsina

May 20 at 1:56pm · 🧑

Me and You addresses the issue of the integration of immigrants in Quebec. In its focus stands the question: WHAT MAKES A REAL QUEBECER? Yet another production of Talisman Theatre, whose mission is to produce English-language premières of contemporary Québécois plays in translation for English-speaking theatre-goers. *Moi et l'Autre* was awarded the Louise-LaHaye prize (2015) in recognition of excellence of a play for young audience.

Sincere acting, original and minimalist usage of space, props and costumes, the two young protagonists fills the theatre with realist magic while urging us to ponder the deeper meanings of our sense of self and that of others.

Synopsis: *Me and You* is a journey, across time, space, and cultural boundaries; it is a story about finding one's identity. It gives us an idea of the proliferation of Quebec's cultural minorities, while the play candidly addresses thorny identity issues. *Me and You* makes us re-evaluate constantly our understanding of our heritage. The play creates a world of deep emotions and brilliant humour.

The story begins in Laval. Talia, a recent Egyptian immigrant attending a high school, asks her best friend Julie how to become Quebecois. Julie, a Laval native, plays a key role in Talia's integration, to the point where she wants actually to be Julie. But when Julie dies in a car accident, Talia lives in denial and Julie gets a first-hand experience of the immigrant life.

JULIE: "Being Quebecois happens in the heart..."

TALIA: "Being Quebecois means whining about the winter, whining about the rest of Canada, whining about the Habs' coach..."

Co-author Pascal Brullemans presents the themes in the play : "What we discovered is that, in fact, having an identity problem is perhaps the most Quebec way of life! ...Ultimately, primary schools today are filled with immigrants and children of immigrants, reality changes" he continues, "The relation to the Other is not the same, but everyone still has to find a place."

*Me and You* is an explosive mix of great writing, inventiveness, fresh humour and human depth. It is a piece that celebrates the truest gifts of Theatre: magic and the power of imagination. Through the individual story of Talia, *Me and You* reverberates universally within all of us, bringing us back to that tragic-comic time of our life, when all we wanted was freedom from mom and dad, in order to find our voice and conquer the world. It is a celebration of friendship, contradictions, family and the uniqueness of each one of us; a wild ride in a Montreal where the word identity is pregnant with new meaning.

ACTORS • Mirian Katrib (Talia) • Kathleen Stavert (Julie)

TEAM • Lyne Paquette (Set Design), David Alexandre Chabot (Lighting Design), Fruzsina Lányi (Costume Design), Jesse Ash (Sound Design) Emlyn Vanbrundswaardt (Stage Manager) and Ülfet Sevdi (Dramaturg) .

*Me and You*

A Talisman Theatre production

From May 18-21, 2016 | Wednesday to Saturday, 8:00 pm. Matinee: Sat., May 21 at 3:00 pm

Playing at MAI (Montréal, arts interculturels) 3680, rue Jeanne-Mance

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