

# CAMILLE

## An immersive experience *beyond sight*

« *Interdisciplinary and inclusive, sensorial and therapeutic* » Le Devoir



Credit for all photos: Laurence Gagnon Lefebvre

**What story does a space tell if it is not seen but experienced?**

**What messages do gestures convey when they are not seen but felt?**

**Camille** is an immersive interdisciplinary piece that gives no visual input to its audience. The spectator is guided by the performer through a multisensory set as the story unfolds...

After his close friend Camille's departure, Pierre explores her absence and revisits memories that take shape through texture, movement and sound. The different tableaux, both realistic and abstract, shed light on Pierre's journey as he faces the challenge of forging connections with new people. The spectator follows the protagonist through a landscape of emotions in which the intimate becomes tangible.

*"This project was born from a need to create a show that would be accessible to both audiences who have their sense of vision as well as to people who live with a visual impairment."*

**Audrey-Anne Bouchard – Creator**

Conceived for and with an audience living with visual impairments, ***Camille*** is a **multisensory experience, accessible to all**, that invites **six spectators at a time** into a space of discovery and encounter. Inspired by people living with vision loss, who use touch to connect with others; the performers interact with the audience through the sense of touch fostering closeness. **Note that spectators with vision or partial sight must wear a blindfold for the entirety of the performance**

Montreal-based interdisciplinary artist **Audrey-Anne Bouchard** has used her impairment as inspiration for developing a new artistic form. The outcome of three years of research, *Camille* was developed and created by **Audrey-Anne Bouchard** in collaboration with **Joseph Brown, Marijoe Foucher, Laurence Gagnon Lefebvre, Laurie-Anne Langis** and **Marc-André Lapointe**.



# A successful premiere

“Never in my life have I experienced anything that intense”<sup>1</sup>.

**Luc Fortin** | Radio critic - CANAL M - Spectator living with complete vision loss.



*Camille* was presented for the very first time at MAI (Montréal, arts intercultural) in French from September 4th to 22nd 2019. The 24 sold-out performances welcomed 23 Blind spectators, 11 partial-sighted spectators, 110 spectators with good sight who wore a blindfold throughout the experience, and three eye-seeing dogs.

## People have said...

“It is an experience like none other as you learn to trust your guide, the space you are in and completely become immersed in the story»

**WENDY SINGER** | **INSPIRATIONS MAGAZINE** Fall 2019, Vol 6, No. 1, p.5

“We leave the room sincerely appeased because we have left our eyes out of the equation for an hour, but also with the feeling of being more alert, more balanced, and more complete.”<sup>2</sup>

**CHRISTIAN ST-PIERRE** | **Le Devoir**

“It’s refreshing and hopeful to see such innovation and inclusion for the live theatre experience.”

**SARAH DESHAIES** | **CULT MTL**

"This hymn to human kind plays on the fragility of our senses and reveals its truth, but also its strength."<sup>3</sup>

**LÉA VILLALBA** | **Independent Journalist**

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<sup>1</sup> [Les enjeux de l’accessibilité avec Luc Fortin](#)

<sup>2</sup> [«Camille»: plongée dans un théâtre intérieur](#)

<sup>3</sup> [Camille: Un rendez-vous au-delà du visuel - Sensibilités accrues](#)

# Important info

**Camille: un rendez-vous au-delà du visuel**

**2019 Creation in French – soon *available in English* - Translation by Alexis Diamond**

**Length:** 60 minutes (Additional 30 minutes of preparation time for the audience prior to the experience and 30 minutes after the experience for debrief is also recommended).

**Cast:** 6 performers – 1 stage hand – 1 sound operator – 1 cultural mediator

**Website:** [www.audeladuvisuel.com](http://www.audeladuvisuel.com) - fully accessible to spectators living with vision loss.

## Credits

### *Camille*

An immersive performance  
conceived by:

**Audrey-Anne Bouchard**

In collaboration with:

**Joseph Browne, Marijoe**

**Foucher, Laurence Gagnon**

**Lefebvre, Laurie-Anne**

**Langis et Marc-André Lapointe.**



### Creative Team

Direction: **Audrey-Anne Bouchard**

Choreography and Development of the Performer-Spectator Physical Guidance: **Laurie-Anne Langis** in  
collaboration with **Marijoe Foucher**

Text: **Audrey-Anne Bouchard** and **Marc-André Lapointe**

Performer-guides: **Marijoe Foucher, Laurie-Anne Langis,**

**Marc-André Lapointe, Sarah Leblanc-Gosselin, Olivier Rousseau, Guenièvre Sandré**

Set and Costume Design: **Laurence Gagnon Lefebvre**

Sound Design and Music: **Joseph Browne**

Technical Direction and Stage Hand: **Étienne Mongrain Vaillancourt**

Sound Operator: **Samuel Boucher**

Collaborator: **Denise Beaudry**

Directing Advisor : **Arianna Bardesono**

Script Development Mentor: **Pascal Brullemans**

Dramaturgical Advising at the Centre des Auteurs Dramatiques (CEAD) supervised by **Émilie Martz-Kuhn**

Production team

Producer: **Audrey-Anne Bouchard**

Production assistance and Communications: **Shayne Lovsin-Couture**

Production assistance and Public development: **Laurie-Anne Langis**

Press relations : **Raison d'être Média**

Social media : **Marc-André Lapointe**

Photos : **Laurence Gagnon Lefebvre**

Development consultation : **Valérie Cusson - Cusson Management**

Cultural Mediation: **Anne-Sophie Tougas**

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Montreal Arts Council

MAI (Montréal, arts interculturels)

Le Regroupement des aveugles et amblyopes du Montréal métropolitain (RAAMM)

matralab Research space

L'Arrondissement de LaSalle

Teesri Duniya Theatre

Ekloweb Design

