

Francine Côté - Teacher

Francine Côté is a clown/teacher/director from Montréal who has more than 25 years experience in the creation of comic, physical and clown characters. She has played on the International scene (Circus, Cabaret, Variety's, Festivals), taught in a diverse range of schools (National Theatre School of Canada, Ecole Nationale de Cirque, Ecole de l'Humour (Just for Laughs) and the University of Montreal), and has worked as a stage trainer for different companies (Cirque Éloize, L'Aubergine, En Piste...etc).

While touring with Le Cirque du Soleil in London and Paris in 1990 Francine met her partner in clown and life, James Keylon, this was the beginning of an international career as the duo, "Alfredo et Adrénaline". Pushing in the direction of the modern clown, but inspired by the traditional, these two lovable characters in the throes of their own "Battle of the Sexes" have touched thousands of spectators around the world.

The duo has played in Circus: Cirkus Knie (Switzerland), Cirque du Soleil (*Mystère* (Vegas) *Cirque Réinventé* (London, Paris), *Circus Benneweiss* (Denmark), *Weishnacthts Zirkus* (Freiberg, Germany) Cabaret/Theatres: Wintergarten (Berlin), Apollo (Düsseldorf), Teatro Zinzanni (Seattle, San Francisco), G.O.P. Variété (Hanover, Essen), Polygon (Zurich), Casino (Locarno, Switzerland), Freidrichsbau (Stuttgart), Luna Cabaret (Dortmund). They have also participated in various Festivals and Events: Festival du Cirque de Monte Carlo, Festival de Verona (Prix de Festival), G7 Conference (Halifax), and Festival of Clown (Barcelona)...and in 1998 they received the "Golden Noses Award" given to them by the family of Charlie Rivel in Copenhagen, Denmark. In the year 2000, Francine produced and directed a cabaret show with 15 artists, "Cabaret Nightclub".

She has developed a method of work and teaching of the Art of Clown for the professional milieu based on her extensive experience and training. Francine is also responsible for the artistic direction and training for Dr. Clown, a company that performs clown in the hospitals and secondary care facilities. She continues her collaboration with James Keylon and offers other services for professional artists (scenario structure, research of character, directing numbers and coaching).



Clown 1 - research of character

(artistic CV is needed for evaluation)

You don't create your clown; you simply let it out to live in front of others. A workshop for those who want to discover their clown character by working on: simplicity, sincerity, lightness and vulnerability of play. The art of Clown demands that the actor commits emotionally, with great generosity and knowledge of himself. The clown has to be able to laugh at himself before he can make others laugh. The work proposes a series of exercises that develop openness, pleasure, creativity and being able to listen to your own emotions and to the public.

Dates 4 Groups:

| | |
|---------------------------------|------------------|
| 12-13-14-19-20 Nov. 2007 | 12H30 to 5H30 PM |
| 28-29-30 Nov. and 4-5 Dec. 2007 | 4H30 to 9H30 PM |
| 13-14-15-20-21 May 2008 | 12H30 to 5H30 PM |
| 3-4-5-10-11 June 2008 | 12H30 to 5H30 PM |

25 hours

Price 375.00 \$

Clown 2 - partnership dynamics and physical play techniques

(Prerequisite- clown 1 & evaluation by teacher)

The workshop concentrates on the techniques of physical acting: learning to play with a partner, identifying the focus, the points of support and using your body in the play. Playing theatre is like playing sports: you do it with commitment, pleasure, lightness, momentum and precision.

The objective is to aid the actor in his sense of rhythm, humor, creativity and internal music. The great comics had in common a sense of timing and situation. The essential work lies in the emotional framework and the relationship/conversation with his character, partner and the public.

Dates 3 Groups:

| | |
|------------------------------|------------------|
| 16-17-18-23-24 October 2007 | 12H30 to 5H30 PM |
| 18-19-20-26-27 February 2008 | 12H30 to 5H30 PM |
| 10-11-12-17-18 March 2008 | 4H30 to 9H30 PM |

25 hours

Price 350.00 \$

Clown 3 - rhythms and canvas work

(Prerequisite - clown 1 & 2 & evaluation by teacher)

The research of the character and the technique of exchange between partners continues in Clown 3. This workshop focuses on using what we have learned into a creation context. We will go deeper into the technique of physical theatre : "emotion/movement/text" and learn how to simplify the canvas so the clown can breathe and stay in the moment.

We approach these questions: How to use what we have found ? How to bring the joy each time ? How to establish a relationship between partners ? How to identify the emotional rhythms? How to go forward into the scenario ? Why Coaching and not directing ? The workshop also offers a taste of coaching in partnership.

Dates 1 Group:

| | |
|---------------------------|------------------|
| 22-23-24-29-30 April 2008 | 12H30 to 5H30 PM |
|---------------------------|------------------|

25 hours

Price 350.00 \$

Clown 4 - method of creation

(Prerequisite - Clown 1, 2 & 3 & evaluation by teacher)

This workshop is conceived for those who wish to go further into the creation, character work and the partnership dynamics. The workshop will consist of exercises of more complicated rhythms, working with several rhythms at one time, going deeper into the physical acting techniques and methods of working a structure. We clarify the game Minor/Major and questions of relationships (White & Red). Through the exploration of short numbers, we will learn about improvisation, rehearsal and creation with different partners.

Dates 1 group:

18-19-20-25-26 September 2007 12H30 to 5H30 PM

25 hours

Price 350.00 \$

Bouffon

Artistic CV is needed for evaluation.
Participants must be in good physical condition.

The King's jester (bouffon du roi) made the court laugh spitting out the truths of society. Bouffon is essentially a work of parody. It asks from the actor to laugh at the parodies of life. The parody is situated between imitation and critique, it's a reflection of our society. There is, in these characters an element of social commentary, of being outside of society to be able to comment on it. The second aspect in bouffon is the work of the chorus, developing the actor to be able to support theatrically his colleagues. This chorus is his family. The bouffon finds his strength and audacity surrounded by this family. The third objective is to work on the design of the character, the physical allure, the attitude and the intensity of the eyes.

Dates 1 Group:

8-9-10-11 April 2008

1H00 to 5H00 PM

16 hours

Price 250.00 \$

Initiation to Clown

(Open to everyone. No CV require)

This workshop has been created for those who have little or no professional experience but have a personnel interest in Clown work. Initiation to Clown is an introduction of Francine Côté method that focuses on; commitment, simplicity, honesty and joy through exercises. We will explore the basics of physical theatre and begin a research of your clown character. For this workshop, Francine Côté will be assisted by Geneviève St-Denis.

Dates 1 group:

12-13-19-20-26-27 January 2007 12H00 to 5H00 PM

30 hours

Price 450.00 \$

Inscription

With the exception of Initiation to Clown these are professional workshops offered only to artists with training in Theatre, Clown, Circus, Dance or the equivalent experience.

1. Contact us for an evaluation of your experience and training at: info@formationclown.com
2. Send the first payment (non-transferable and non-refundable deposit) of \$125.00 by cheque or money order in the name of Francine Côté, dated the day you send it. With the cheque please send us your [complete mailing address, telephone number, e-mail address.](#)

Send your deposit to:

5282, 6^{ième} avenue

Montréal, Québec, H1Y 2P6

Contacts:

Francine Côté (514) 815-3269 or her assistant:

Geneviève St-Denis (514) 969-5342

3. **The rest of the payment must be received on the first day of the workshop.**

*It must be noted that a workshop could be cancelled if there are insufficient students. Minimum 8 participants, maximum 12 participants

New workshops : Mime Illusion with James Keylon and Slapstick. Visit our website for information

2007-2008

Workshops

Francine Côté
'Adrenaline'



Clown &
Physical Theatre
Coaching

Contact : Francine Côté
www.formationclown.com
info@formationclown.com