



SEPT, 2018  
FOR MORE INFO, PHOTOS, INTERVIEWS  
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The Cultch presents

# A Brief History of Human Extinction

Produced by Upintheair Theatre (Vancouver), Created by Jordan Hall and Mind of a Snail

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**WHEN:** Oct 10-20, 2018

Oct 10, 8PM: Preview

Oct 11, 8PM: Opening

Oct 12 – 13, 16 – 20, 8PM

Oct 14, 2PM

**WHERE: HISTORIC THEATRE**

1895 Venables St.

**TICKETS:** Tickets from \$24. Single tickets on sale now through The Cultch's Box Office: 604-251-1363 or [tickets.thecultch.com](http://tickets.thecultch.com).

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***A Brief History of Human Extinction* is the exciting new sci-fi love child of innovative Vancouver creators, Jordan Hall, Mind of a Snail Puppet Co., and Upintheair Theatre.**

(Vancouver, BC) – The Cultch is thrilled to present the world premiere of *A Brief History of Human Extinction*, a new sci-fi thriller created by Jordan Hall and Mind of a Snail Puppet Co., produced by Upintheair Theatre, Oct 10-20, 2018, at the Historic Theatre.

2178. A creeping fungal plague has rendered the surface of the planet uninhabitable. Trapped inside a retrofitted scientific facility, the last woman (Lisa C. Ravensbergen), man (Daniel Martin), and otter(!) on earth prepare for the launch of the Ark—a ship that will carry our planet's genetic legacy to a new home. With the fate of the human species in the balance and tensions mounting, a series of strange occurrences reveal a terrifying possibility: there's something alive outside the facility, and it would very much like to come in.

Exploring questions about our human nature, our culpability in the destruction of our earth, and our undying ability to hope for better things, award-winning playwright Jordan Hall (*Kayak, How to Survive an Apocalypse*)—no stranger to plays about environmental disaster—traverses some of her favourite themes in *A Brief History of Human Extinction*. Collaborating with Mind of a Snail Puppet Co, a company known for its quirky and stylistic productions, and award-winning company Upintheair Theatre, celebrated for their envelope pushing work, *A Brief History of Human Extinction* combines puppetry and live action, and invites you on a fun and fraught adventure; the last anyone will ever have...

“[Mind of a Snail Puppet Co. is] A Vancouver duo of apparently limitless imaginative powers”  
— Edmonton Sun

“Jordan Hall is smart”— Colin Thomas

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Director: **Tamara McCarthy**

Performers: **Stephanie Elgersma, Jessica Gabriel, Daniel Martin, Dave Mott, Lisa C. Ravensbergen, & Chloe Ziner**

Puppetry Design: **Stephanie Elgersma**

Shadow Puppetry & Projection Design: **Jessica Gabriel & Chole Ziner**

Scenic & Lighting Design: **Jerguš Opršal**

Performance Composing & Sound Design: **Nancy Tam**

Costume Design: **Chantal Short**

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## **ABOUT UPINTHEAIRTHEATRE**

Upintheair Theatre was formed by Daniel Martin and David Mott in 1999. Upintheair is a key institution in the Vancouver and Canadian theatre ecology through its work with emerging artists, initially through the *Walking Fish Festival* (2003-2010), and for the last six years as the producers of the *rEvolver Festival*. *rEvolver* is an incubator of new work with a focus on formal innovation, supporting emerging and early-mid career theatre makers at transformative junctions in their careers.

In addition to their work nurturing the next generation of performing artists, Upintheair maintains a lively creative output of their own. Last seen on the Cultch stage in 2013 with *Inside the Seed*, each of their last three productions (*Seed*, *The North Plan*, and *The City and The City*) has been nominated for an Outstanding Artistic Achievement Jessie Award. They have produced shows in theatres, parking lots, abandoned warehouses, and campervans. *A Brief History of Human Extinction* is their first foray into the world of puppetry.

## **ABOUT MIND OF A SNAIL PUPPET CO.**

Mind of a Snail is a shadow puppetry duo currently based out of Vancouver BC. Since 2003, Chloé Ziner and Jessica Gabriel have been developing a multilayered style of visual storytelling using overhead projectors as their main light source. Their performances play at the intersection of puppetry, visual arts, clowning & music. As artistic collaborators, they are interested in exploring beyond the boundaries of traditional theatre, and creating magical immersive experiences for their audiences. Mind of a Snail's shadow theatre is like an early animation created live before your eyes.

## **ABOUT THE CULTCH**

Since 1973, The Cultch (formally the Vancouver East Cultural Centre) has been one of Vancouver's most diverse and innovative arts and cultural hubs. The organization operates three theatrical venues, a gallery, and various ancillary spaces in the heart of East Vancouver. The Cultch offers dynamic contemporary programming in theatre, dance, music, and the visual arts, bringing world-class cultural presentations to thousands of citizens each year through its own programming and through providing rental opportunities for community users. Our purpose is to provide a venue for performance that serves a diverse and engaged public and provides space for artistic experimentation and development, building an audience for local companies and presenting cutting-edge national and international work.