



KID

koala

SATELLITE

THURSDAY, MAY 2, 7:30 PM

FRIDAY, MAY 3, 8 PM

SATURDAY, MAY 4, 8 PM

CURRENT ARTSPACE + STUDIO

ROBOT DANCE PARTY

SATURDAY, MAY 4, 10 AM & 2 PM

SUNDAY, MAY 5, 2 PM

CURRENT ARTSPACE + STUDIO

SATELLITE CREDITS

Eric San, Musician / Composer

Felix Boisvert, Musician / Turn Table
Conductor

Karina Bleau, Chemical Puppeteer

Brian Neuman, Production / Tour Manager

ERIC SAN (or DJ Kid Koala as he is known) is a master of pushing the boundaries of turntable artistry to incredible effect. In his first visit to Carolina Performing Arts, he puts the imaginative style for which he is renowned on display with two unique experiences.

During *Satellite*, audience members are seated at stations equipped with a turntable, effects box, and a small crate of color-coded vinyl records. Through subtle lighting changes in the room, the audience is cued to play along with DJ Kid Koala, who leads them from his DJ booth.

The idea for *Satellite* emerged from Kid Koala's *Music To Draw To* series, where he would spin calming music for people to draw or write to, creating a powerful creative energy in the room. He wanted to create an experience that was "deliberately slow, meditative, emergent, and creative, where everyone in the room contributed in a small way to create the music."



The audience is an integral part of the show, accompanying Kid Koala to create an “ambient vinyl orchestra,” melding their individual strains into a fluid body of sound. The goal? To have 50 harmonized turntables create a unique, uplifting, dynamic evening of light and music. Over the course of the evening, the ambient music reveals a lyrical narrative revolving around an idea of a couple in the not-so-far future who are separated when one of them decides to fly to another planet, and is unable to return.

In contrast, *Robot Dance Party* is a high-energy celebration where donning a costume and dancing is not only encouraged, but practically mandatory. Known for creating joyous, absurdist atmospheres, Kid Koala has taken the idea of a dance club and turned it on its head: inviting families to bring their young children for an afternoon of decorating cardboard boxes to look like robot costumes and then taking them for a spin on the dance floor while he DJs a kid-friendly set. ■

Kid Koala is a world-renowned scratch DJ, music producer, and an award-winning graphic novelist. He has released four solo albums on Ninja Tune, including *12 Bit Blues*. He has collaborated with groups such as the Gorillaz, Deltron 3030, and The Slew, and toured with the likes of Radiohead, the Beastie Boys, A Tribe Called Quest, and The Preservation Hall Jazz Band. He has contributed to scores for the films *Shaun of the Dead*, *Scott Pilgrim vs. The World*, *Looper*, and *The Great Gatsby*, and composed music for The National Film Board of Canada, Cartoon Network, Sesame Street, and Adult Swim. His commissions include music for runway shows for Belgian fashion designer Dries Van Noten. Kid Koala’s unforgettable live shows range from silly touring turntable “carnivals” like *Short Attention Span Theater* (featuring turntable bingo) and *Vinyl Vaudeville* (including puppets and dancers) to quiet-time events like *Music To Draw To*, his *Space Cadet Headphone Experience*, and most recently, *Nufonia Must Fall Live*.

Satellite Collaborators

Ryhna Thompson, producer, has been in the cultural and creative industries for the last two decades. Under the banner of her company Envision Management & Production, she has worked with internationally-known, boundary-breaking artists rooted in music, such as Kid Koala, Bell Orchestre, and Amon Tobin, amongst many others. Her artists have opened tours for Radiohead, Arcade Fire, Jack Johnson and performed in venues such as Madison Square Gardens and Hollywood Bowl. Always keen to contribute to her communities, Ryhna served for many years as President of the Music Managers Forum Canada. *Nufonia Must Fall Live* is her latest work as a multi-disciplinary producer, working alongside longtime collaborator, Kid Koala.

Karina Bleau, puppeteer, has been developing an art practice that melds sculpture, film, and the puppeteering arts since 2001. In conjunction with her practice, she co-directs an interdisciplinary research space which promotes the in-depth study of marginal artistic practices and is dedicated to teaching her art to young people. Her work has been shown at home and abroad, and she premiered her most recent show, *Sacré sucre*, in 2016 at the Théâtre les Écuries in Montréal. She contributes to the practices of artists whose work resists disciplinary boundaries, such



as the inuit circus artist Guillaume Saladin (Artcirq), the electroacoustic artist Félix Boisvert, the puppeteer Justine Macadouz (France/Quebec), the Théâtre Incliné (Fils Blanc) and the geopoet Jean Morrisset. In 2004, she received the international Arlyne award for puppet design.

Félix Boisvert, puppet designer, puppeteer, has worked as a multidisciplinary artist (puppet theatre, music, technological arts, and dance) for the following productions: *Concerto au sol* (2014), *Lune et l'autre* (2009), *Pas à pas* (2006), *Manu danse* (2005). He is also a music teacher, mainly of the Fonofone, an instrument he helped to develop, and with which he tours schools across the province of Quebec. He collaborates with many artists and companies hailing from the varied disciplines of circus arts, puppet theatre, film and dance, including Kid Koala (*Nufonia Must*

Fall Live). He co-directs a newly-built creation and experimentation space for the in-depth study of multidisciplinary practices.

Brian Neuman is an established tour and production manager based in Montreal, QC. He co-founded and ran the local promotion outfit Blue Skies Turn Black for over ten years, as well as owned and operated a successful music venue. Brian has booked and promoted hundreds of shows with artists such as Arcade Fire, Modest Mouse, Sufjan Stevens, Mastadon, Iron and Wine, Death Cab for Cutie, John Waters, and many more. During his time at Blue Skies Turn Black, the company was voted “Best Local Promotor” in Montreal for eight consecutive years. He has since turned his expertise to managing production and tour logistics for artists such as Timbre Timbre, Patrick Watson, and many others.