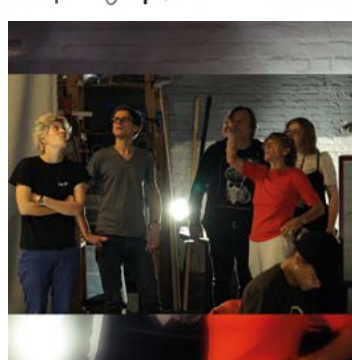


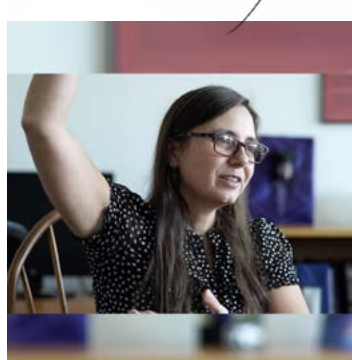
In September 2022, the company Yōkaï took a trip to the United States to carry on the research program *Réveil Invisible (Invisible Awakening)* initiated in 2021 and meet with key practitioners working in hidden animation in New York and Los Angeles. Read the travelogue.

From September 5th to 14th : New-York



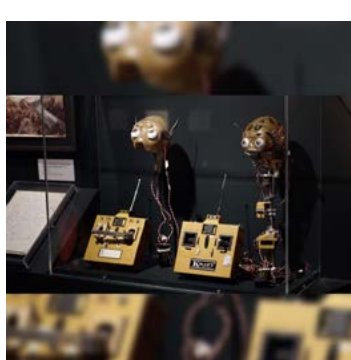
Hanne Tierney

We were delighted to meet with Brooklyn-based puppeteer Hanne Tierney. We toured her FiveMyles gallery and talked about the possibilities offered by string manipulation. The conversation focused on the visible and the invisible, fantasy and audience response.



Jim Henson Foundation

A momentous and invaluable meeting with Cheryl Henson, President of the Jim Henson Foundation and daughter of Jim Henson, and Lindsay "Z" Briggs, Foundation Manager and puppeteer. We talked about the legacy of Jim Henson, illusion on stage in puppetry as well as memories of a workshop at the Institut International de la Marionnette in 1987.



Museum of the Moving Image

We spent a day at the MOMI – Museum of the Moving Image in New York – to see several manipulation devices developed by Jim Henson for movies including *Labyrinth* and *Dark Crystal*. We were also able to explore archives containing storyboards and shoot sketches for television and film. A fascinating visit.



La Mama - Experimental Theatre Club

Back from the La Mama theater where we had an invaluable and illuminating conversation with Denise Greber about how US puppeteers approach illusion on stage and creative research. We were both impressed by and amazed at the archival treasure trove of this incredible place.

▶ New-York on video!

From September 15th to 25th : Los Angeles



Jim Henson's Creature Shop

We had been eagerly waiting for this: an afternoon to meet with Animatronic Supervisor John Criswell and Creative Supervisor Peter Brooke at Jim Henson's Creature Shop. We were so fortunate to be able to exchange ideas, tour the workshop and get feedback from these masters on what we've been developing for the research program *Invisible Awakening!*

There are milestones in one's life and career path. This one is undoubtedly one of them.



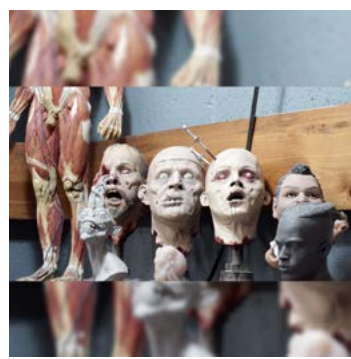
Universal Studios

A day to rub elbows with special effects live at Universal Studios Hollywood. Here, cinema happened with no screen, which is fitting food for thought as we pursue how the film set can translate to the stage. Another way to experience the "spectacular" halfway between these two worlds.



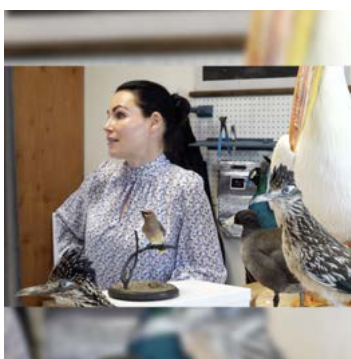
Loïc Zimmermann

An exciting evening with Loïc Zimmermann, filmmaker, photographer as well as VFX art director and design supervisor whose movie credits include *Godzilla : King of the Monsters*, *Ghost in the Shell*, *Guardians of the Galaxy*, *Underworld*, *Harry Potter*, *True Grit*, etc. A discussion on how work methods and creative processes in film can enrich the performing arts and vice versa.



Schell Sculpture Studio

A moment in the creative life of FX sculptor and visual artist Jordu Schell. We got a chance to watch his work process and discuss special effects treatment in theater and film.



Allis Markham

To wrap up our trip, we met with Allis Markham, one of the best taxidermists in the world and founder of Prey Taxidermy. We talked about what binds us so strongly and singularly to the living and the reanimated. We were deeply touched by her interest in our creative process and her generosity in sharing her work methods. Thank you Allis for these invaluable insights.

▶ Los Angeles on video!



The *Invisible Awakening* research trip to the USA is supported by :