

The Collector of Lies tells a story of a reclusive woman who spends her days organizing and cataloging mysterious objects that arrive in the mail. Next door, a shady pilot struggles with his own deceit and tries to hide the evidence that later links him with his neighbor. The past that now lives between the walls in their rooms, reveals itself from time to time.

In part two, the reclusive puppet discovers elephants living between her walls and in the depths of her collection. She follows the elephants where a strange world is revealed. The performance uses live-feed cameras the tiny puppet sets mixed with life-size puppets.

Special thanks to Jane Henson, Jeffery Price, the support of The Jim Henson Foundation, the wonderful Z. Briggs, The Puppet Lab at St. Ann's Warehouse, Ruth Moe, Joy Tomasko, George Ferrandi, Jason Leggiere, Craig Stokle, Stefanie Koseff, Matt Acheson, Tom Lee, Retta Leaphart, Cory Antiel, Amanda Villalobos, Stefanie Koseff, Yoko Myoi and Michelle Harris.

Laurie O'Brien - Director

Erica Frank - Costume Designer/Puppet fabricator and Puppeteer
Ray Sun - Video Designer

Amanda Villalobos - Puppeteer

Louiza Collins - Performer/Puppeteer

Joshua Langman - Lighting Designer

Roxy Mt. Joy - Puppeteer

James Simmons - Puppet idea development

Michael McHam - Music

Laurie O'Brien is an artist working in video, installation, animation, performance and puppetry. Her work is inspired by the outdated, the hand-made and the mechanical combined with the digital. She is particularly interested in dual identities, alternate worlds and our attraction to deception. She recently directed a puppet play The Architecture of Great Cathedrals by Erik Ehn at La Mama in November 2012. She was a recipient of the Henson Foundation Seed Grant for The Collector of Lies that performed at the Labapalooza Festival and at Wayfarers in 2012. She is a Princess Grace Award recipient in theater. She received her MFA from CalArts. She is currently a Visiting Assistant Professor of 4D Design (time-based art) in the Photography Department at RIT in Rochester, N.Y.

Ray Sun Ruey-Horng is a video artist who specializes in time-based media work in conjunction with live performances. His works have been presented in galleries, theaters and opera houses in Canada, France, Germany, Taiwan and United States. Sun's installation and video works focus on human perception, memories and the uncanny experiences in our daily lives. His recent theatrical video design works include: Rocky das Musical, directed by Alex Timbers, TUI Operettenhaus. Heidi Duckler Dance Company, Kiss n' Ride, LAX Flyaway Terminal. Emptied Memories, Directed by Chou Tong-Yen, Sung Shan Cultural Park Taipei. The Builders Association, House/ Divided, directed by Marianne Weems, Baryshnikov Arts Center. Soul Leaves Her Body, directed by Peter Flaherty, Here Arts Center and EMPAC. The Turn of the Screw, Directed by Kelly Robinson, the Banff Centre. Shakespeare's wild sisters group, Avignon Off 09': Remix- Hsu Yen-ling x Sylvia Plath, directed by Baboo Liao, Au Théâtre de la Condition des Soies. www.raysun.cc

Erica Frank is a costume and puppet designer of theatre, film, television and music video production. She is a Costume Designer, Shop Supervisor, and Professor of Film and Theatre at the University of Toledo, Ohio. In the next year she is very excited to be focusing on teaching and directing the technical and performative aspects of puppetry. Her most previous work includes, Costume Design for the feature film, Breaking at the Edge, Assistant Designer on the 20th Century film The Watch, Specialty Costume Crafter for NBC's Revolution, and a the Tailor/Set Costumer on the 2011 feature film, The Hunger Games. In addition to having held ever job in the Costume Department, she also has had own boutique studio on the LES of NYC. Erica Frank is a member of the CDG 892, and the Studio Mechanics 491. She has a BFA from Parsons School of Design, and an MFA from California Institute of the Arts. Learn more about Erica and view her portfolio of work on her web site: ericafrankdesign.com

Amanda Villalobos is a puppeteer artist based in New York City. She has worked on and off Broadway with theater artists Theodora Skipitares, Lee Breuer, Basil Twist and Sibyl Kempson. For her own puppetry work she has received two Henson Grants and a residency at the Henson Carriage House. She is delighted to be working with Laurie on this piece again.

Louiza Collins has a BFA from the California Institute of the Arts. New York City credits include Office Hours by A. R. Gurney, and Unum by Will Eno at The Flea Theater, FOREPLAYS (I, III), Hangman School for Girls, and Cause of Failure with FullStop Collective, Arcane Game at Incubator Arts Project, 3 Sisters directed by Fernando Parra-Borti, and Architecture of Great Cathedrals with Laurie O'Brien at LaMama.

Joshua Langman (lighting designer) is a student at Sarah Lawrence College, where he studies theatre, visual arts, and whatever other classes he feels like crashing. He has held just about every production position in the theatre, with the exception of costume designer — and for that we should all be eternally grateful. Josh is a professional graphic designer (www.jltypographicdesign.com), whose latest project involves applying the techniques of traditional book production to e-readers, and thereby destroying them in the process (www.perksofprint.com). He is very glad to be joining Laurie and the rest of this production team in working on this piece. Enjoy!

James Simmons is thrilled to work with Laurie again! As a performer and playwright his work has been seen at LaMaMa, Atlanta's Horizon Theater, The Virginia Stage Company, St. Anne's Warehouse, Dixon Place, and Fresh Kills Park. Currently, he is creating a play about outsider artist, James Hampton. He earned his MFA in Theater from Sarah Lawrence College where he won the Tony Kushner Scholarship for playwriting and the Louise Stevens Bryant Fellowship.

Roxy MtJoy is a director, playwright, and designer based in New York City. Her work has been seen at The New OHIO Theatre, the Hollywood Fight Club Theatre, Florida Studio Theatre, the Midtown International Theatre Festival, SLUT Theatre Festival, and Second Stage, among others. Roxy is an alum of the Upright Citizen's Brigade and has performed long-form improv at the Los Angeles Comedy Festival, iO West, the Del Close Marathon, and the Sarasota Improv Festival. She was a finalist for the Director's League Fellowship and the Manhattan Theatre Club Directing Fellowship. Roxy holds a B.A. in Theatre from Randolph-Macon Woman's College and an M.F.A. from Sarah Lawrence College.

This presentation has been made possible through support by The Jim Henson Foundation. *The Collector of Lies* received a 2011 Seed Grant.

