



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release
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Animating the Imagination

MINNETONKA – The Rimon Artist Salon Series presents *The Secret Life of Puppets: The Art of Rekindling the Kid in All of Us* at 1 p.m., Sunday, February 19, 2012, at Open Eye Figure Theatre (506 E. 24th St., Minneapolis). Puppet artist Shari Aronson, co-director of Z Puppets Rosenschnoz, joins master storyteller Carla Vogel in conversation about this playful and spiritual art form. Aronson will accent the discussion with demonstrations of the fluid magic of a puppet in motion. The Salon is co-sponsored by In the Heart of the Beast Puppet and Mask Theatre. Admission is \$10 (\$5 for youth under 18).

Shari Aronson is co-founder and co-director with Chris Griffith of Z Puppets Rosenschnoz which is based in the Twin Cities. She has an M.A. in Drama Education from the University of Arizona. Shari studied puppetry at Sandglass Puppetry Institute, physical comedy with Sigfrido Aguilar, and Theater of the Oppressed with founder Augusto Boal. Her plays have been produced by the Minnesota Jewish Theatre Company and Indiana's Bloomington Playwrights Project. Shari is a recipient of a McKnight Foundation screenwriting fellowship and a Minnesota State Arts Board Artist Initiative grant.

Carla Vogel is a highly acclaimed writer, storyteller, and educator. She has enchanted audiences of all ages in theaters, schools, community centers, and museums throughout the United States. Locally her work has been presented at the Minnesota History Center, Minneapolis Institute of Arts, Intermedia Arts, Kairos Dance & Theater Company, the Ordway Center for Performing Arts, and Children's Museum, among many venues. Carla's stories, noted for their wry wisdom, humor, and passion, are inspired by Jewish and family folklore.

The 2011-12 Rimon Artist Salon Series, sponsored by *Rimon: The Minnesota Jewish Arts Council*, an initiative of the Minneapolis Jewish Federation, presents cutting-edge interactive dialogues that delve into important and provocative issues facing our society and examines the critical role the arts play in understanding our world.

The Artists Salon Series is funded in part by the Tychman Shapiro Gallery of the Sabes JCC, the Leo & Lillian Gross Philanthropic Fund, and by appropriations from the Minnesota State Legislature with money from the State's general fund and from its arts and cultural heritage fund that was created by a vote of the people of Minnesota on November 4, 2008.

Tickets for the Salon may be reserved by contacting the Rimon office at 952-381-3449, rimon@sabesjcc.org, or online at www.rimonMN.org.

Tickets for Shari Aronson and Z Puppets Rosenschnoz's production of *Monkey Mind Pirates* at In the Heart of the Beast Puppet and Mask Theatre on February 18 & 19 are available 2-for-1 with the purchase of a ticket to the Rimon Artist Salon, *The Secret Life of Puppets*. For further information, call 612-721-2535, code word Rimon.

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