

Stephen Sim

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Introduction:

Stephen Sim is known for his work in improvisation and theatre. He started performing improv and comedy theatre in the early 90s and has turned internationally to critical acclaim. His latest projects include Pixels, an interactive collaboration of live improvised theatre and Virtual Reality creating a real-time animation show live.

While improvisation has been his primary art form he has also created other live shows, acted in plays, written and directed. He has written for CBC radio and voiced radio for CBC and UMFM. He has hosted many live events as an emcee. He has taught countless workshops and classes to all ages and to all experience levels.

Stephen Sim, a founding member of the duo CRUMBS, toured extensively throughout Canada and Europe bringing new formats and techniques to the professional international improv community. He has been fortunate enough to perform and collaborate with most of the major improv theatres in the world.

Live Performances (Created and Collaborations):

- “Pixels” and “Pixels and Friends” the real-time animation show blending improvisation and Virtual Reality (In partnership with FlipsideXR who developed the platform to animate in real-time)
- Virtual CRUMBS (live online steaming improv projects between Winnipeg and Berlin)
- Many “Writing and Improvisation” shows (a collaboration between The Winnipeg Writer’s Festival and the Winnipeg Improv Festival)
- Improvisation and Stand-up Comedy (various stand-up comedians having their material deconstructed live onstage)
- Improvisation and Storytelling (Dr. Joel Carter)
- Improvisation and Gaming (Dr. Ryan Clement)
- Lost in Translation/Perdu en quo? The French and English improvisation show about miscommunication (Winnipeg Improv Festival, Winnipeg Comedy Festival and La Lim)
- Improvisation and Visual Art (with Kal Barteski)
- Improvisation and Video (with various filmmakers including Sean Garrity) a format where scenes are improvised on video with in-camera editing and projected to a live audience as the show progresses.
- Improvisation formats created in collaboration with festival ensembles in Berlin, Ljubljana, Amsterdam, Vancouver, Toronto, Munich, Atlanta and other international festivals

Performance Festivals (Theatre and Improvisation):

- Winnipeg International Fringe Festival various shows (1993 - present)
- Edmonton Fringe Festival (1998, 2000 - 2006)
- Winnipeg Comedy Festival (2003, 2007, 2014 - 2018)
- Winnipeg IF... Improv Festival (2000 - present)
- Edmonton Improvaganza (2001 - 2011, 2013, 2015)
- Seattle International Improv Festival (1999 - 2001)
- Toronto Combustion Festival (2009)
- Berlin International IMPRO Festival (2001 - 2015)
- New Zealand Improv Festival (2010)
- Calgary Improv Festival (2010)
- Winnipeg Folk Festival (2004, 2012, 2014)
- Vienna Moment Festival (2003)
- FIFA World Cup of Improv Germany (2006)
- Slovenia International Improv Festival (2004)
- Wuerzburg International Improv Festival (2012, 2014)
- Atlanta Improv Festival (2010)
- Vancouver Sketchfest (2016)
- Red Deer Sketchfest (2016 - 2017)
- The Winnipeg International Writer's Festival (2017 - 2018)
- European Tours from (2001- 2016)

Teaching (Workshops and Masterclasses):

- Various masterclasses in improvisation (London, Berlin, Amsterdam, Tel Aviv, Istanbul, Vienna, Munich, Zurich, Stockholm, Oslo, Seattle, Toronto, Montreal, Edmonton, to name but a few)
- Various freelance improv and comedy workshops (1998 - present)
- Berlin International Improv Festival masterclasses (2010 - 2015)
- Berlin Week-long Improv Intensive (2010 - 2015)
- Vancouver Theatresports League Main Stage masterclass
- Un-Block (using improv to overcome writer's block) in collaboration with the Manitoba Association of Playwrights and at McNally Robinson
- Improv for Public Speaking at Creative Manitoba and McNally Robinson
- Improv classes at Prairie Theatre Exchange (Various classes 1999 - 2018)
- Improv Classes at Manitoba Theatre for Young People (2015 - present)
- Improv workshops for youth at high schools all across Winnipeg (1998-present)

Community Engagement and work with Youth:

- Canadian Improv Games (Various roles 1998-2018)
- Prairie Theatre Exchange (Various classes and programs 1999 - present)
- Manitoba Theatre for Young People (Various workshops 2015 - present)
- Art City Artist in Residence (January 2019)
- TEDxWinnipeg Steering Committee and Speaker Coach (2016 - present)
- Artist in School residency workshops 2020 - present at various schools in MB)

Speaking and Hosting:

- Professional Speaker Coach
- TEDxWinnipeg (Onstage Host 2016 - present)
- TEDxWinnipeg speaker (2014)
- TEDxMunich (2011 speaker/entertainment)
- CAPS Winnipeg (2015)
- Winnipeg Folks Fest Main Stage (Host 2014)
- TEDx University of Winnipeg (Host 2015)
- Hosting the Main Stage at the Winnipeg Fringe Festival (2012)
- Portage la Prairie Chamber of Commerce Awards Gala (2016 & 2017)
- Morden Chamber of Commerce Gala (2017)
- Onstage host at PechaKucha Winnipeg (2019 – present)

Producing/Artistic Director:

- Founder and Artistic Director the Winnipeg IF... Improv Festival (since 2000)
- Winnipeg Comedy Festival (Outreach Coordinator 2015-2016 and the Associate Artistic Director in 2016)
- Regional Director of the Canadian Improv Games in Manitoba (1998-2009)
- Artistic Director/President of the Manitoba Improv League (1998 - 2009)
- Producer/Director of several Fringe Festival shows (1996 - present)

Radio/Writing:

- CBC writer and producer of on-air splitters for DNTO (2008-2016)
- CBC writer and producer for the Comedy Factory various sketches from (2012-2015)
- Host/Producer of CRUMBS radio on 101.5 UMFM (2002-2015)

Marketing:

- The Winnipeg if... Improv Festival (2000 - present). Artistic Director overseeing the marketing plans and design strategy for the festival.
- The Manitoba Improv League (1998 - 2009). Running this High School improv program also had me overseeing the marketing and design for the program.
- The Winnipeg Comedy Festival (2015 - 2016). While working for the festival I was involved in helping with Marketing and was instrumental in executing online marketing and doing some graphic design.
- CRUMBS (1997 - 2016) Overseeing and executing all the marketing and design for the duo.
- Various Fringe Festival shows (1996 - present) I have been the producer and director on many Fringe Festival shows, also being in charge of the marketing plans and design of these shows.

Awards:

- World Champion for Team Canada at the FIFA World Cup of Improv in Germany
- Champion World Domination Theatresports Tournament in Edmonton
- Champion VTSL International Theatresports Tournament in Vancouver
- Toronto Catch 23 Tournament Champions (2005, 2008)