

Wonderful Joe by Ronnie Burkett
Excerpts of reviews:

Liz Nicholls, 12thnight.ca
Posted on April 5, 2024

“Burkett and a cast of diminutive cohorts come this time with a real *play*, a funny, thoughtful, and deeply poignant one, that cuts to the heart of a multicultural city like the one we live in. It’s a beauty of a piece, in its generosity of spirit and affection for the urban demimonde, imaginative in conception and creation, and impeccable in design and craftsmanship”

Justin Bell, Edmonton Journal
Published April 05, 2024

“Ronnie Burkett’s latest work is a beautiful and intensely human show from the master of marionettes. The show is animated by Burkett’s incredible puppetry skills, a one-man show with a hundred different individuals hiding inside. But the most amazing part is the lifelike qualities of the puppets, his ability to move and manipulate them and bring them to life onstage.”

Janine Marley, A View from the Box
Posted October 10, 2024

“Ronnie Burkett is pulling on our heartstrings, as well as his puppets’ strings, with his latest creation Wonderful Joe. Burkett brings his unique blend of comedy and compassion to this awe-inspiring production, taking us on a journey with Joe Pickle and his colourful cast of neighbours. As side-splitting as it is tear-jerking, Wonderful Joe lives up to its name. “

Deirdre Kelly, Critics at Large
Sunday, October 13, 2024

“Wonderful Joe is a masterful blend of adult themes and childhood whimsy, a flight of fancy grounded in pressing social issues. It's a celebration of life on society’s margins and a reminder of the magic that can be found in the most unlikely places. Burkett once again proves himself a virtuoso of his craft, creating a theatrical experience that is at once thought-provoking, heartwarming, and utterly unforgettable. “

Ilana Lucas , Globe and Mail
Published October 10, 2024

“Wonderful Joe is a melancholy work with plenty of dark content – puppets aside, it’s not for kids – but the stars poke through, like the golden filaments of kintsugi that can repair a broken dish or broken heart.“

Glenn Sumi (Toronto Star)
Published October 10, 2024

“this show, not recommended for audiences under 16, is one of the most mature and moving works of Burkett’s career. At its heart, it’s about community, empathy and imagination. All things that help elevate the lives of average Joes everywhere. “