# Tibert le voyageur



## THE STORY



Raised in a Franco-Manitoban Métis family, Rob Malo, also known as TiBert le Voyageur is a storyteller, author, stage performer, poet, and community builder who shares his passion for history and culture with people of all ages. Recognized by Storytellers of Canada as being a Master Storyteller, Rob draws on his background as an Educational Programs Developer at the Manitoba Museum and as a Professor in the Tourism Department of l'Université de St. Boniface to delight audiences through storytelling, music and song. Rob has been awarded Certificates of Excellence from Interpretation Canada for both TiBert le Voyageur live presentations and digital educational tools.



TiBert le Voyageur is at once a historically based character, a living role model, and a cartoon hero; he simultaneously captures the imagination of spectators of all ages. An engaging mixture of juggling, storytelling, improvisation, humour, interactive plays, sing-a-long songs, historical musical instruments, traditional costuming and props, beat boxing, in either or both Canadian official languages describes a TiBert show. The audience is engaged in a shared experience from which a common Canadian identity is created and cherished for a lifetime.



# THE PERFORMANCES & PROJECTS

- 2012 to present Thousands of workshops and assembly shows in both official languages in **schools across Manitoba**, **New Brunswick and Ontario** for over 100 000 spectators and participants.
- 2019 **Storytellers of Canada Conteurs du Canada** Bilingual Masterclass workshop trainer and showcase storyteller during national conference in Fredericton NB.
- 2019 Salon du livre Manitoba Storytellng show and evening poetry cabaret guest.
- 2019 Manitoba Arts Council Assessor for artistic grant proposals.
- 2019 **Direction des ressources éducatives du Manitoba (DREF)** Licence purchase of the TiBertvoyage.ca educational website for Manitoba teacher members of the DREF.
- 2019 **Ice River Films** Video production of poem 'Ode to Langside' distributed by **Bell MTS**.
- 2019, 2018, 2017, 2016 **St.Pierre-Jolys Museum Sugaring Off Festival** Host, storyteller and performer for school and public programs.
- 2019, 2018, 2015, 2014 & 2013 **Festival du Voyageur** Bilingual interpreter, host, storyteller and performer for school and public programs.
- 2019, 2018, 2016, 2015 & 2014 Canadian Museum for Human Rights Regular guest Storyteller. Host of the in 2015. Host, poet and storytelling during Canopy Stage during the 2014 RightsFest museum opening ceremonies.
- 2018 **Union Nationale Métisse Saint-Joseph du Manitoba** Commissioned bilingual poem for the oldest ceremony in Manitoba celebrated yearly, the Commemoration of Louis Riel's tombs.
- 2018, 2017, 2016, 2015, 2014, 2013 **Winnipeg Fringe Theatre Festival** \*\*\*\* TiBert is Back! (2018), \*\*\*\* Slam! (2017), \*\*\* Inspired by the Museum (2016), \*\*\* Poetry in the Gardens (2015), \*\*\*\* TiBert Kitchen Party! (2014), \*\*\* The Imaginary Canoe Ride! (2013).
- 2018 Folklorama Family show during Folklorama Kick-Off Celebrations.
- 2018 National Indigenous People's Day Kenora 2 high energy kids shows.
- 2018, 2017 **Winnipeg International Children's Festival -** High energy stage show and Storytellers of Canada stage.

## **REVIEWS AND AWARDS**



Fringe finds: 6 top picks from opening weekend of the Winnipeg Fringe Festival

Rob Malo's TiBert Is Back! is so good, you may be inspired (like our reviewer) to write a chant to sing its praises. (tibertlevoyageur.com)

#### TiBert Is Back! ★★★★

In place of reviewing TiBert le Voyageur's show, I have elected to create a song.

I have no musical training. There is not a tune to sing this to. I don't speak French. But it's what my daughter would do. So here, now, is my Chant for TiBert:

He's great with kids and juggling, too!

TiBert! TiBert!

He'll teach you how to drive a canoe!

TiBert! TiBert!

We'll play the spoons and dance a jig!

TiBert! TiBert!

With TiBert our fun will always be big! (I'm going to work on this line some more)

It's TiBert Le Voyageur!

Who wants to be in a York boat race?

TiBert! TiBert!

Or play the harp inside your face?

TiBert! TiBert!

He makes every kid a part of the show!

TiBert! TiBert!

When it's all over you won't want to go!

It's TiBert Le Voyageur!

It's TiBert Le Voyageur!

C'EST TIBERT LE VOYAGEUR!

Reviewed by Kelly Stifora





# TiBert is back! (The Bison Hunt)



Free Press Rating:

Winnipeg storyteller Rob Malo is a fantastic voyageur, giving his young audience a fun-filled history lesson during 45 minutes of interactive play and joie de vivre.

As in past fringe shows (2014's TiBert Kitchen Party and 2016's Inspired by the Museum), he draws on his Métis roots and experience as a tour guide at the Manitoba Museum to take the

small fry on an imaginary canoe ride, incorporating an easy blend of French of English as they paddle off to Lake Winnipeg.

Kids join Malo onstage to engage in a race with York boats, a buffalo hunt and a wedding party, during which they learn to play spoons, jig and tie a sash, among other special skills. It's a rollicking good time had by all! — Pat St. Germain

### **PRESS**

The Metro

#### Graphic novels an educational tool

#### TiBert le voyageur heads to Comics Fest

By: Alana Trachenko

Posted: 07/4/2016 11:29 AM

Rob Malo has a passion for oral history, but he said translating his work into a graphic novel— with collaboration from his team—has been the biggest step in making *TiBert le voyageur* an educational resource.

The writer and content developer works with artistic director Ron Lamoureux, graphic designer Christian Miranda, and artist and translator Hélène Roy, to bring to life a story of Manitoban history and culture geared towards students and teachers.



#### ILLUSTRATION BY CHRISTIAN MIRANDA

Rob Malo, Ron Lamoureux, Christian Miranda and Hélène Roy will be presenting their graphic novel, TiBert le voyageur at Prairie Comics Festival on July 30.

The group will be attending the Prairie Comics Festival on July 30 at the Millennium Library.

"The graphic novel works as a teaching tool, so we've got the artwork as a storyboard and we've got the option to add on the bubbles, so a teacher can add on

the bubbles in French of in English, and hopefully other languages with time," the West End resident said.

# The Metro West End resident offers novel approach to education



By: Jennifer McFee
Posted: 02/22/2016 11:57 AM | Comments: 0

Teachers now have one more way to bring Canadian history to life through a format that's sure to capture their students' attention.



Educational program developer Rob Malo launched a new graphic novel website www.tibertvoyage.com on Feb. 15, bringing French culture to the masses on Louis Riel Day.

SUPPLIED PHOTO Rob Malo and his graphic novel counterpart.

Malo, a 14th-generation French Canadian, shares his culture through music, storytelling, song and poetry. At schools and special events, he transforms into his character TiBert le Voyageur to create a memorable experience for his audience.

"I saw that there was a really big demand for the French Canadian voyageur in the schools. Some of the Anglophone curriculum is about understanding our francophone identity, but we're sometimes talking to kids who've never even met a francophone. I thought that teachers probably have a tough time teaching that," said Malo, a West End resident.

"The demand is huge. Teachers also were looking for some kind of downloadable sheets or activities they could do with their students, which I was providing with my presentations."

To help meet the ongoing demand for teaching resources, Malo worked with a multimedia specialist, Ron Lamoureux, and an artist, Christian Miranda, to design the online graphic novel, which is based on one of his stage stories. The website is geared towards Grade 4, 5 and 6 Manitoba social studies curriculum, featuring worksheets, audio clips, video clips and 300 hours of lesson plans.

"Our goal from the beginning was just to get the culture in the schools. I come from a teaching family, so I've seen my sisters and my mom deal with burnout because of lack of support. I want to give teachers an opportunity to have good materials developed for Manitoban children because right now they're looking all over the place for good multimedia resources," Malo said.

#### Les voyageurs, vus comme jamais encore

Robert Malo a souvent campé TiBert le Voyageur pour un public scolaire. Désormais, son personnage est aussi un héros de bandes dessinées, qui existe aussi sur un site web interactif. Une initiative conçue pour fournir du matériel pédagogique de qualité aux enseignants.



Photo: Unine Banuaud Robert Malo: « Au dernier Comic Con, j'avais un kiosque avec Christian Miranda. Des jeunes passaient et nous disaient "Wow, cool, man! A Voyageur!"»

Robert Malo ne peut pas s'empêcher de sourire. « Je n'ai jamais pensé que je verrais mon visage dans une bande dessinée. Je ne ressemble en rien à un superhéros! »

N'empêche que TiBert le Voyageur, personnage créé par l'interprète professionnel

en 2012, est désormais le principal personnage d'une bande dessinée unique en son genre. Et d'un site web (1) qui fournit une plateforme interactive pour les élèves et du contenu pour les enseignants de sciences humaines.

- « Il y a une pénurie de matériel pédagogique sur les Voyageurs. Au point où j'ai préparé des feuilles que je distribuais après mes présentations, pour mieux renseigner le public. Je m'étais inspiré des programmes d'étude du ministère de l'Éducation, ainsi que du matériel développé par ma mère, Luce Malo, qui est enseignante à la retraite.
- « Je savais que l'information était solide et que mes feuilles étaient bien faites. Ce que je ne savais pas, c'est que des enseignants les téléchargeaient de mon site web! Quand je l'ai appris, j'étais étonné. »

Ron Lamoureux l'était aussi. En 2014, après une présentation de Robert Malo au festival Fringe, l'ancien enseignant a approché l'interprète, en lui suggérant qu'il devrait plutôt vendre son matériel.

Inspiré, Robert Malo s'est mis à repenser son matériel, et à le développer en fonction des besoins des salles de classe du 21e siècle.

Par la suite, en août 2015, Robert Malo a participé à la Fosse aux lions, cette compétition d'entrepreneurs organisée par le Conseil de développement économique des municipalités bilingues du Manitoba

(CDEM). L'interprète n'a pas gagné, mais il a toutefois attiré l'attention de la Banque de développement du Canada.

« Dès septembre, je concrétisais mes idées, grâce à l'appui financier de la BDC. J'ai fait appel à l'expertise pédagogique de Ron Lamoureux et au talent exceptionnel de Christian Miranda, un jeune artiste et dessinateur originaire des Philippines. L'idée était de créer des bandes dessinées. Mais surtout, un site web très interactif. »

Résultat : un site web qui est à la fois « une belle galerie d'art », et source d'une brochette d'activités interactives pour les jeunes.

- « Le but est d'enseigner l'histoire, mais en cherchant une émotion chez les utilisateurs. Avec Christian Miranda, Ron Lamoureux et moi, on a réussi à développer une bande dessinée vraiment professionnelle, avec des dessins frappants. J'étais convaincu que les jeunes la trouveraient très engageante. Mais je voulais les plonger dans les aventures de TiBert, en les invitant à y participer.
- « Un matin, l'idée m'est venue sous la douche. "Et si on enlevait les bulles de dialogue..." C'est ce qu'on a fait. Maintenant, les jeunes peuvent s'inventer une histoire de TiBert à partir des images. Ils peuvent ajouter leurs propres dialogues, en écrivant en français, ou en anglais, et à leur niveau. C'est idéal pour toutes sortes de contextes pédagogiques. Un enseignant des sciences humaines dans une école anglaise, mais qui enseigne le français de base, pourrait utiliser le site dans sa salle de classe, ou encore les bandes dessinées imprimées. »

Le site web propose également une variété d'outils conçus pour les enseignants. « Ce sont des appuis. Mon but n'est évidemment pas de pas de remplacer l'enseignant, mais de l'aider, en combinant ordi, l'Internet et tableaux de classe intelligents. »

L'approche semble être appréciée. Trois écoles de la Division scolaire de St. James-Assiniboia ont testé le matériel et le site web en février, avec des résultats favorables. « La division scolaire assumera une partie des frais d'achat des matériaux et d'utilisation du site web pour les enseignants et les écoles intéressées.

« C'est très encourageant. Je veux servir les enseignants du Manitoba et l'Ouest. Et je veux continuer de développer d'autre matériel pour le site. On a quatre aventures de TiBert. Je compte en ajouter d'autres et concevoir des nouveaux récits où mon personnage ne figure pas. » - Daniel BAHUAUD

# **TEACHERS**



"Rob Malo has no problem relating to kids, or making our early history come alive. If anything, we could have more time with him in order for him to share more of his skill knowledge and expertise."

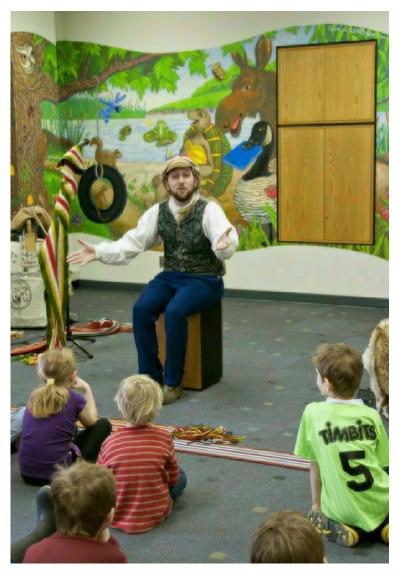
Janet Cassel, Grade 4/5 Sansome School "This artist reinforced the fact that cross-curricular integration is possible with the right themes and activities. I will reinforce the concepts presented by TiBert."

P. Bohemier, Grade 4 É cole Robert Browning

"Rob is a very talented and confident artist. The students absolutely love him and he is well respected by staff and students alike. He was clear with his expectations and the students were highly engaged and enjoyed participating. It was absolutely a joy to work with TiBert le Voyageur!"

Andrea Nielsen, Grade 3 Bannatyne School

"I could use him in my class on a regular basis!" Scott Mikkelson, Grade 5 Phoenix School



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