



Harlequin (George McFaul) juggles; game is life and death  
... *Juggler on a Drum* is a show from Calgary's *One Yellow Rabbit*

## Yellow Rabbit comes to play

By LIZ NICHOLLS  
Journal Staff Writer

If there is a troupe at the Fringe that knows, deep down, what to make of the event, it's surely *One Yellow Rabbit* (OYR).

The only assumptions you can safely make about a show by the Calgary collective is that it will be (a) thoughtful and (b) eager to toss some new theatrical ball into the air.

I have seen Rabbits juggle, dance, ride unicycles, wear masks, tell stories. In *Juggler on a Drum*, at Chinook Theatre, they do all of these things. All in the service of a richly textured weave, as the tale of Dr. Norman Bethune — juggler *par excellence* of life and death and bravura no-net performer on the tightrope between safeties — emerges.

"To make a juggler, you need a sun and a moon. . . Make sure to include a drum."

A Harlequin angel of death and her fantastic disciples filter in and out of a love story, Bethune and his wife — a very moving love story, I might add.

As usual, OYR lavishes attention on the theatrical world it creates, and the physical beauty of the staging. Scenes unfold in front of (and behind) a round screen — and the projection effects range from sepia photo to daguerrotype to exquisite watercolor. I couldn't take my eyes off the show.

