

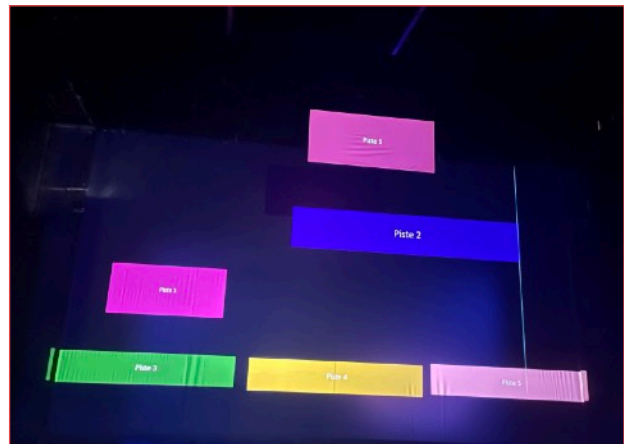
CATA P U L T E U Q O

Koinè : a new surtitling software tailored to the performing arts in the digital age!

Ottawa, November 11, 2025 – True to its commitment to making theatre accessible to everyone, Théâtre Catapulte is unveiling **Koinè**, a **brand-new surtitling software** developed in collaboration with the Université du Québec en Outaouais (UQO), Michèle Laliberté, and Nadia Baaziz. Designed specifically for the performing arts, Koinè will facilitate accessibility and the circulation of works across the country. Its **launch** will take place on **November 20, 2025, at 6:30 p.m. at La Nouvelle Scène Gilles Desjardins** in Ottawa, prior to the presentation of *Les ensevelies*, a play performed in French and surtitled in English to mark the launch of the software.

How can theatre performances be made more accessible, immersive, and modern? With Koinè, a brand-new surtitling software with a bilingual interface (French and English). Modern, flexible, and easy to use, Koinè will help make each performance unique and accessible for everyone, while also creating original and unforgettable performances.

The Koinè project was developed by Michèle Laliberté, professor of translation at UQO and specialist in theatre surtitling. She was assisted in the design of the software by Nadia Baaziz (professor in the Department of Computer Science and Engineering at UQO) and her students, François Prenoveau (software developer), and numerous collaborators from the performing arts community. Among other things, Koinè makes it possible to integrate images and videos into the surtitles and project them onto multiple screens or elements of the set with ease.



The launch of Koinè will take place on **November 20, 2025, at 6:30 p.m. at La Nouvelle Scène Gilles Desjardins (Ottawa)**. During the reception, a demonstration of Koinè's capabilities will be given prior to a performance of Caroline Bélisle's play *Les ensevelies* (at 7:30 p.m.), a co-production of Théâtre Catapulte (Ottawa, ON) and théâtre L'Escaouette (Moncton, NB). The English surtitling of the show will mark the first public use of the software in its final version.

Following this launch, Koinè will be available free of charge to the entire performing arts community in Canada. Users will also receive technical support for the first year of the software's availability. Versions with minor corrections will also be offered free of charge during this period.

Koinè's creation was made possible thanks to a grant from the Canada Council for the Arts and the collaboration of UQO and the firms Collab Machine and Gotologic, as well as the support of key partners: Théâtre d'Aujourd'hui, Ex Machina, Opéra de Montréal, and Festival TransAmériques (FTA).

- For more information about the software: <https://catapulte.ca/koine-surtitling-software/>
- To attend the launch on November 20, 6:30 PM : <https://catapulte.ca/nouvelles/2025/invitation-to-the-launch-of-koine/>
- For any questions or interview requests: communications@catapulte.ca and 615 562-0851 #222

Thanks to the [Canada Council for the Arts](#) for their support:



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CATAPULTE

About Théâtre Catapulte

Théâtre Catapulte dedicates its productions to the voices of women and artists from diverse minority backgrounds, showcasing stories and forms which are still rarely seen on our stages. The company aims to stimulate critical thinking and open dialogue on contemporary social issues. In close collaboration with La Nouvelle Scène Gilles Desjardins, it presents its own creations and those of other Quebec and Canadian companies to the general public and teen audiences in Ottawa-Gatineau. Its productions are also presented to Francophone communities across Canada.

catapulte.ca



History of the Koinè Project

The Koinè project was born out of the passion and expertise of Michèle Laliberté, a translation professor at UQO and specialist in theatre translation and audiovisual subtitling. During a training course on theatre subtitling organized by the European College of Literary Translators in Seneffe, Belgium, she deepened her knowledge in this innovative field.

Upon her return to Quebec, Michèle Laliberté incorporated this expertise into her *Text Adaptation course* and realized that not only was there no Canadian surtitling software specifically designed for live performances, but also that the tools available did not meet the ever-growing needs of users. Faced with this gap, she decided to take action. She contacted Théâtre Catapulte in Ottawa. As the company had been offering subtitled performances for over 10 years, it readily agreed to support the development of software truly adapted to the digital age and the needs of performing arts artists and technicians.

To carry out this initiative, Michèle Laliberté partnered with Nadia Baaziz, a professor in the Department of Computer Science and Engineering at UQO, and Collab Machine, a company specializing in digital collaboration solutions. Nadia Baaziz contributed to the analysis and specification of requirements as well as the verification and validation of the software. Technical development was handled by François Prenoveau of Gotologic, a Montreal-based software consulting company, who is the software's designated developer. Several students from UQO's computer science and engineering department also participated in the prototype testing phase, under the supervision of Nadia Baaziz.

Biographies



Michèle Laliberté, Ph. D.

Passionate about literature, music, theatre, cinema, linguistics, and translation, Michèle Laliberté has taught French, German, translation, literature, and cinema at several universities in Quebec and Vermont as a lecturer. A singer and musician, she created a Franco-German cabaret show in 1998 and performed regularly in Vermont accompanied by professional jazz musicians before accepting a position as a translation professor at the University of Quebec in Outaouais (UQO) in 2011. A specialist in interlinguistic adaptation, she has published several articles (and a book) on theatre translation, song translation, text adaptation, and multimedia translation (particularly surtitling for the performing arts). Her first novel, *Nativa*, published in 2021 by Sémaphore (Montreal, Quebec), is a story that remained in her heart and mind for several years, and whose first ten pages won her the UNEQ sponsorship competition in 2018.





Nadia Baaziz, Ph. D., Eng.

Nadia Baaziz has been a professor of computer engineering at the Université du Québec en Outaouais (UQO) since 2001. A member of the Multimedia Information Research Laboratory, she focuses her teaching and research activities on signal, image, and video processing, multimedia databases, and computer vision. She has also held various management positions at UQO and was a member of the Canadian Engineering Accreditation Board (2012-2015).



François Prenoveau

François Prenoveau has been a software developer for over 15 years. He has extensive technical expertise and has contributed to various innovative projects, such as the development of immersive video projection systems, the integration of interactive multimedia experiences, and the design of digital signage software.

