

PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release



Balancing tradition and creativity: Introducing TOHU's 12th season!



Montreal, August 25, 2015 – Continuing the tradition of presenting well-known artists and introducing new ones, today **TOHU** is unveiling its **12th season**. It will be featuring performances from creators whose work has fascinated TOHU's team from the very beginnings, as well as new talent met on recent travels. One theme unites this season: the fusion of genres—an invitation extended to all of Montreal's artistic communities. TOHU's doors open wide for dancers, actors and visual artists, notably with **TRIPTYQUE**, a world premiere from *Les 7 DOIGTS DE LA MAIN*, Australian company **CIRCA**'s **THE CARNIVAL OF ANIMALS**, **CARNAGES** by *L'ENTREPRISE*, the Quebec premiere of *L'IMMÉDIAT* from French artist **CAMILLE BOITEL**, and **JAMIE ADKINS**'s **CIRCUS INCOGNITUS**, back by popular demand.

Once again this year, we are excited to collaborate with the **National Circus School** and *Les Improdits* with the *IMPRO CIRQUE* tournament. We are also proud to introduce a selection of presentations the whole family can enjoy. Take a look at what's in store this season...

MAIN SHOWS

THREE PERFORMANCES WHERE CIRCUS AND DANCE MEET!

TRIPTYQUE, by *LES 7 DOIGTS DE LA MAIN*, Quebec

A WORLD PREMIERE, FROM OCTOBER 14 TO 25, 2015, PRESENTED BY AIR FRANCE

“One of the most famous circus companies in the world” – LE MONDE

Exploring the ties between dance and circus arts, Samuel Tétréault, co-founder and co-artistic director of *Les 7 doigts de la main*, teams up with three contemporary choreographers—Marie Chouinard, Victor Quijida and Marcos Morau. Made up of three works that incorporate different creative universes, *Tryptique* combines body fluidity, acrobatic genius and the language of choreography. The final piece combines different circus disciplines and introduces the real and imaginary destiny of eight performers who are caught between the paradox of dreams and reality, gravity and lightness. A spectacular combination!

WHEN CLOWNS TAKE CENTER STAGE, THE AUDIENCE IS ALWAYS KING!

CARNAGES, by *Compagnie L'ENTREPRISE*, France

NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE, NOVEMBER 3 TO 8, 2015

"One hour and 20 minutes of power that will have you grinding your teeth and exploding into laughter" – ZIBELINE (France)

Over and above red noses, oversized shoes, crazy colours, and painted mouths, clowns practice an art form that combines poetry and tragedy, engaging in many different kinds of humour—from the dark to outright hilarious. This theatrical performance showcases an entire clown repertoire—from traditional clowns to circus performers and music-hall entertainers... Surrounded by partners who've been with the company since its beginnings in 1986, playwright and director François Cervantes takes a loving look at the world of clowns. The rich heritage of this art form comes to life before your very eyes.

HOLIDAY ENTERTAINMENT THAT WILL BRING A GLOW TO YOUR CHEEKS!

Carnival of the Animals, by CIRCA, Australia

FROM DECEMBER 15, 2015, TO JANUARY 3 JANVIER 2016, PRESENTED BY RADIO-CANADA

"An incredibly engaging, funny, family-friendly show" – THE DOMINION POST (New Zealand)

Ask any child and they'll tell you: Zebras juggle, kangaroos jump high as the clouds and felines can dance! The set design changes before your very eyes to bring you to the depths of the ocean and the highest reaches of the sky, where acrobats dazzle us with incredible feats and aerial wonders. The perfect blend of circus, physical theatre, multimedia, and music, this joyous carnival is celebrated around the world for the demanding, creative work of director Yaron Lifschitz. Inspired by a piece of the same name by composer Camille Saint-Saëns, this performance from Australian company Circa is a great gift for the whole family!

A CONTEMPORARY CIRCUS EXTRAVAGANZA!

L'IMMÉDIAT, by CAMILLE BOITEL, France

A QUEBEC PREMIERE, FROM FEBRUARY 16 TO 21, 2016

"Magical and stunning" – LE POINT (France)

In the midst of a hodge-podge of odd objects, the body of a man begins to move, contort, stumble, and stand—only to collapse. Pretending to lose control, six performers move with acrobatic fluidity between elements that continuously fall and break. *L'Immédiat* is a combination of circus, dance and theatre, where the action unfolds like clockwork, following its own madcap logic.

ENCHANTING THE HEARTS OF YOUNG AND OLD ALIKE!

CIRCUS INCOGNITUS, by JAMIE ADKINS, Quebec

SPRING BREAK ENTERTAINMENT, FEBRUARY 29 TO MARCH 5, 2016, PRESENTED BY LA PRESSE +

"Infinitesimal acts imperceptible genius" – THE NEW YORK TIMES (U.S.)

This piece by Jamie Adkins—former member of *Cirque du Soleil* and *Cirque Éloïze*—is back by popular demand! Rediscover the story of an ordinary man who has a message to share, but can't seem to do it. Using a narrative soundtrack of silence filled with acrobatic feats, Adkins takes us through a series of impossible and uproarious adventures—with surprising results! The celebrated clown-acrobat-juggler-illusionist-tightrope-walker attempts to win the audience over in this one-man show of pure enchantment.

THE NEXT GENERATION IS READY!

National Circus School, Quebec

TWO ALTERNATING SHOWS, FROM MAY 31 TO JUNE 12, 2016

“The next generation has reached great heights!” – LA PRESSE

The 2016 National Circus School graduates are bursting with enthusiasm and have only one goal in mind: to wow you with their talent. This performance is the highlight of their training, showcasing the students’ versatility, creativity and performance in a frenzy of irresistible energy! Before they head off to join the ranks of the most famous circuses in the world, you have a chance to see their circus talents for yourself—from juggling to hand-to-hand acts, aerial straps, tightrope walking, hoops, fixed and swinging trapeze, Cyr wheel, balance, and teeterboard!

Other Must-Sees

NEW AT TOHU!

COUPS DE CŒUR

FROM FEBRUARY 25 TO 27, 2016

TOHU invites you to join us for our first ever *Coups de coeur* series. Presented as a selection of pieces seamlessly strung together, this is the perfect opportunity to take in top-notch performances while discovering the many disciplines of the modern circus. Come see works created by circus performers from various companies, each one bursting with creativity and a true master of their art. Great moments, and an unforgettable evening!

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND!

L’IMPRO CIRQUE Tournament, by LES IMPRODUITS

APRIL 28 TO 30, 2016

After last year’s resounding success, circus performers from here and around the world face one another in a combat of... pure genius! Who’s up to the challenge—and who will be declared the winner? Circus arts, theatre, dance, improv—anything’s possible. A real circus happening!

MATTHIEU RICARD, CONFERENCES

October 29 and 31, 2015

For the fourth year in a row, Buddhist monk Matthieu Ricard returns to TOHU, this time with two conferences and two meet-and-greet events benefitting victims of the Nepal earthquake. In the first event—“[Advocacy for Altruism, Advocacy for Animals](#)”—Matthieu talks to us about the power of kindness. In “[Introduction to Meditation](#),” he reveals the fundamental principles of meditation. These two conferences are preceded by a benefit meet-and-greet: on October 29, a Happy Hour with journalist and presenter Isabelle Maréchal and, on October 31, a lunchtime conversation will be held between Nicole Bordeleau—Quebec expert on stress management and the art of well-being—and Matthieu Ricard. Profits go to *Fondation Karuna-Shechen Canada*.

Children’s Shows for the Whole Family

ROMEO AND JULIET REVISITED BY CHOREOGRAPHER HÉLÈNE BLACKBURN!

SYMPHONIE DRAMATIQUE, by CAS PUBLIC, Quebec

SEPTEMBER 17, 2015, 10 AND UP, FREE

The classic story of Romeo and Juliette gets a modern makeover! Choreographer Hélène Blackburn, a guest collaborator from the National Circus School, spent 10 weeks creating this performance, including a residency at TOHU. In this version, 8 dancers embody the enamoured couple in a muscular performance. The result is a contemporary look at this mythic couple.

REMOUS REMIS, by LA MARCHÉ DU CRABE, Quebec

MARCH 1 TO 5, 2016, 3 TO 12 YEARS OLD, PRESENTED BY LA PRESSE +

Spectators walk into an area next to where Circus Incognitus is set up, sit down on cushions and enter the universe of *Remous Remis*... This small acrobatic theatre navigates the challenges of the relationship between brother and sister. Something to inspire your littlest ones during spring break!

A JOURNEY TO THE HEART OF AFRICA!

BOABAB, by LE THÉÂTRE MOTUS, Quebec

MARCH 24 TO 28 2016, 4 AND UP

In the middle of an African drought, a small boy emerges from the nut of a baobab tree to bring the village back its water source. Storytellers, musicians and marvelous animals dance to the rhythm of African songs and drums to bring you an unforgettable journey and a magical celebration!

CROQUE-SPECTACLE!

Two shows are on the agenda for this year's 3rd edition of the delicious family event! Buy your breakfast and stay for the free shows!

LES BROS, by LES FOUTOUKOURS, Quebec

APRIL 8 AND 9, 2016, 5 AND UP

Follow the adventures of a clown duo who are as improbable as they are inseparable—for young and old alike. Will they find harmony on their travel adventures?

LES 4 SAISONS, by LES PETITES TOUNES, Quebec

APRIL 10 AND 11 2016, 2 AND UP

Les Petites Tounes is a band made up of cheerful fellows who will introduce young and old to a whole gamut of musical styles. Big rock tunes for little ones... who will ask for more!

IMMIGRANT DE L'INTÉRIEUR, by DYNAMO THEATRE, Quebec

APRIL 24 AND 25, 2016, 6 AND UP, FREE

A theatre of movement inspired by the stories of young people (and not so young people) who have lived as migrants. Created in collaboration with *Teatro O Bando* from Portugal as part of Boomerang – Traces of Property and Hope, this piece is the result of over 80 workshops offered in three elementary schools in the Villeray-Saint-Michel-Parc-Extension neighbourhood. This solo show is put on by Yves Simard of *Dynamo Théâtre* and directed by Jacqueline Gosselin.

Cultural Programs

Eight exhibitions will follow throughout the season

HAITI will be honoured with three exhibitions: **SAN LIMIT** by *Casque noir*, from November 3 to August 31, outdoor exhibit; **LES NEZ DE CLOWN? un soleil en plein milieu du visage** by *Clowns sans frontières*, from November 3 to January 3, Espace Cascades; and **CAVES OF HAITI**, between *Imaginary and Realities*, by the *Association Hommes des cavernes*, from March 23 to May 8, Espace Cascades.

Other exhibitions: **éTERREnelle**, by Michel Gautier, January 8 to February 20, Espace Cascades; **DAM S'EXPOSE!** by *Diversité Artistique Montréal*, September 30 to October 31, Espace Cascades; **LES ARTISTES À L'ŒUVRE**, by *Toulouse Lautrec à Riopelle*, from the Jacob-William Collection, May 11 to July 24, Espaces Cascades.

And that's not including the 3 days of celebration at our next **FALLA**, the unfurling of kites at **GRAIN DE CIEL**, the 7th edition of **MONTRÉAL COMPLÈTEMENT CIRQUE**, TOHU's **NUIT BLANCHE, FENÊTRE** by **LES IMPROBABLES** during *Journées de la culture*, and numerous guided tours for all tastes and ages!

Find full details at TOHU.CA

Tickets for **TRIPTYQUE** and **MATTHIEU RICARD** are now on sale online at TOHU.CA, in person at the **TOHU ticket office** at 2345, JARRY Street East, MONTRÉAL or **by phone** at 514-376-TOHU (8648) or 1-888-376-TOHU (8648). The ticket office is open every day from noon till 5 p.m.

Subscription / Why become a *Mordu*?

- Exclusive presale from August 25 to September 26 at 9 a.m., when the general public can purchase tickets
 - 25% off all 2015 - 2016 season shows and the 7th edition of *MONTRÉAL COMPLÈTEMENT CIRQUE*
 - Discounts at cultural partners
 - And more...

French Riviera Chic Contest

Become a *Mordu* before September 26 for a chance to win a trip for two to Nice!
Flight and accommodation included. Approximate value \$7,100. Certain conditions apply. Rules: TOHU.ca
Contest courtesy of Air France, in collaboration with The Negresco Hotel, Atout France, the France Tourism Development Agency and the Office du Tourisme et des Congrès de Nice Côte d'Azur.

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LOCATED AT THE HEART OF THE *CITÉ DES ARTS DU CIRQUE*, TOHU IS A MAJOR HUB FOR THE DISSEMINATION, CREATION, EXPERIMENTATION, AND CONVERGENCE OF CULTURE, ENVIRONMENTALISM AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT IN NORTH AMERICA.

TOHU HAS CONTRIBUTED TO MONTREAL'S ACENSION AS AN INTERNATIONAL CAPITAL FOR CIRCUS ARTS WHILE BECOMING AN EXAMPLE FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT THROUGH CULTURE.

TOHU IS FINANCED IN PART BY THE GOVERNMENT OF QUEBEC, THE *CONSEIL DES ARTS ET DES LETTRES DU QUÉBEC*, THE CITY OF MONTREAL, CANADIAN HERITAGE, AND THE *CONSEIL DES ARTS DE MONTRÉAL*. TOHU ACKNOWLEDGES THE VALUABLE CONTRIBUTIONS OF RADIO-CANADA AND *CIRQUE DU SOLEIL*, OUR MAJOR PARTNERS, AND AIR FRANCE, OUR OFFICIAL CARRIER. WE ALSO THANK UNIBROUÉ, KEURIG CANADA, TD FRIENDS OF THE ENVIRONMENT FOUNDATION, CASCADES, THE CAISSES DESJARDINS MOVEMENT, AS WELL AS THE STM, BCF S.E.N.C.R.L., UNIVINS, AND OUR MEDIA PARTNERS, LA PRESSE AND COGÉCO MÉTROMÉDIA.

Source: TOHU

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