



## When the exception becomes the rule: Presenting TOHU's 13<sup>th</sup> season!

TOHU, stage of artistic prowess, has made the exception its rule. Through a rich collection of experience at a unique location, the public is invited to celebrate culture, environment and community involvement. TOHU's program is joyfully eclectic, and one thing remains: each event, show and exhibition extends an invitation to **EMBRACE THE EXTRAORDINARY**.

Montreal, August 23, 2016 ○ **THE THIRTEENTH SEASON** of **TOHU** has now been unveiled. Defined by **GREAT SHOWS** for both their magnitude and the interest they arouse, the new program will showcase the prowess of several contemporary circus companies, among the most acclaimed on the planet. Creators from Quebec, Switzerland, France, United Kingdom, Australia and, for the first time, Hungary, will perform their acts for Montrealers.

The 13<sup>th</sup> edition kicks off on September 15, 2016, with **L'HOMME CIRQUE**, marking the return of incredible Swiss circus virtuoso **DAVID DIMITRI** to Montreal. The North American premiere of stunning **NIGHT CIRCUS** by Hungarian company **RECIRQUEL BUDAPEST COMPANY** will follow, as will the world premiere of **RÉVERSIBLE**, the very latest creation of **Les 7 DOIGTS**. Then from France, **LE VIDE – ESSAI DE CIRQUE**, a breathtaking performance on a rope, and the second version of the **COUPS DE CŒUR** show produced by **TOHU**, **UNTIL THE LIONS** is the only performance of the great **AKRAM KHAN**'s last creation on a circular hall in America, and finally, **IL RITORNO** by cherished Australian company **CIRCA**!

This year again, must-see collaborations such as the ones of the **NATIONAL CIRCUS SCHOOL** and the **CIRCUS IMPROV LEAGUE** will be enjoyed by the audience. Last but not least, a vast family component will enrich the program. Here is a detailed look at a promising 13<sup>th</sup> season...

## GREAT SHOWS

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GREATEST ONE-MAN-CIRCUS, DAVID DIMITRI IS BACK IN MONTREAL!

**L'HOMME CIRQUE, by DAVID DIMITRI, Switzerland**

SEPTEMBER 15 TO OCTOBER 2, 2016, PRESENTED BY LA PRESSE+



**"DAVID DIMITRI DEMONSTRATED SKILLS OF MAGIC" — New York Times (USA)**

Let's imagine a whole circus show performed by a single person moving from different acts such as the tightrope, acrobatics, high wire, and even being catapulted by a real cannon: he is *L'homme cirque*! David Dimitri creates a sensational show, filled with prowess and comedy, surfing between tender moments and breathtaking performances. Following his incredible success at **MONTREAL COMPLÈTEMENT CIRQUE** in 2013, he is back at TOHU to install his small tent designed especially for the show. See you and your family under the small top!



AN AMAZING SHOW,  
IN THE GREAT CENTRAL EUROPEAN CIRCUS TRADITION

## NIGHT CIRCUS, by RECIRQUEL COMPANY BUDAPEST, Hungary

NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE, OCTOBER 12 TO 22, 2016, PRESENTED BY AIR FRANCE

**“RECIRQUEL GIVES A FRESH TAKE ON THE GENRE WITH NIGHT CIRCUS...  
NINE YOUNG ACROBATS COMBINE PROWESS, BEAUTY AND ELEGANCE ...”** — Le Parisien (France)

The visit of Recirquel, the very first Hungarian contemporary circus company, is a rare event in North America. In a beautiful and mystical theatrical form, *Night Circus* combines the prowess of young virtuoso artists—trapeze, contortion, clown arts, rope, Chinese pole, Cyr wheel and tight wire—and unites the poetry of acrobatics and the burlesque of clown arts. Accompanied by melodious piano notes and musical notes of Péter Sárík, fascinating and enchanting company Recirquel brings the audience to a world where emotions prevail over reason, for an unforgettable moment...

THE WORLD PREMIERE OF LES 7 DOIGTS' NEW CREATION!

## RÉVERSIBLE, by LES 7 DOIGTS, Québec

NOVEMBER 16 TO DECEMBER 30, 2016, PRESENTED BY TÉLÉ-QUÉBEC



**« UNE DES PLUS FAMEUSES COMPAGNIES DE CIRQUE DU MONDE. ILS ONT INVENTÉ UN STYLE. »** — Le Monde (France)

Through a keyhole, *Réversible* looks at the lives of eight men and women. On stage, walls dance and reveal what goes on behind closed doors. Les 7 Doigts invites the audience in a world where physical theater and circus coexist in perfect contemporaneity. Every moment, spectacular acrobatics, movements, words and body language await. In the wake of previous work, the renowned company continues, with *Réversible* and their usual high level of performance, its exploration of the undefinable and the universality in every human being. Let us reverse the world's evolution to create others, better ones. Because it's never too late to change, again and again...

A POWERFUL UPSWING TO  
THE BREATHTAKING FEELING OF BEING ALIVE!

## LE VIDE - ESSAI DE CIRQUE, France

FEBRUARY 9 TO 13, 2017



· CORDE LISSE  
· DÉROUANT ET AUDACIEUX

**« UNE PERFORMANCE ARTISTIQUE RADICALE. »** — Télérama (France)

*Le Vide* features rope virtuoso Fragan Gehlker performing stunning acrobatics...19 metres above the ground! Along with his partner Alexis Auffray, master of sounds, stage hand and violinist, the aerial acrobat offers an emotional and spectacular performance, uniquely original, which explores absolutes and their paradoxes: slow and fast, continuity and intermission, control and freedom. All of it filled with comedy and poetry. A show that has already had a great deal of attention in Europe!

THE BEST OF LOCAL AND INTERNATIONAL CIRCUS!

## COUPS DE CŒUR, by LA TOHU, Québec

PRESENTED AS PART OF MONTRÉAL EN LUMIÈRE, FEBRUARY 22 TO 26, 2017



· GALA  
· UNIQUE ET MÉMORABLE

After the tremendous success of the 2015 edition, the *Coups de cœur* series is back at it in the circular hall. The show, inspired by the mechanics behind a gala, cabaret or variety show, celebrates and showcases the local and foreign artists behind the performances. A unique opportunity to experience high level contemporary circus disciplines!

ONLY NORTH AMERICAN CIRCULAR HALL PERFORMANCE OF AKRAM KHAN'S LAST PIECE!

## UNTIL THE LIONS, by AKRAM KHAN COMPANY, United Kingdom

MARCH 17 TO 25, 2017, CO-PRODUCED WITH DANSE DANSE



· DANSE CONTEMPORAINE  
· ÉPIQUE

**“UNE ŒUVRE PALPITANTE ! LE TALENT DE RACONTEUR DÉJANTÉ DE KHAN À SON MEILLEUR.”** — Time Out (United Kingdom)

The circular stage of TOHU turns into a shrine for legend with Akram Khan's *Until the Lions*, especially created for a 360-degree stage. The dancer and choreographer revisits *Mahabharata*, the Hindu mythical story adapted with the help of poet Karthika Nair. Accompanied by four musicians and two dancers, *Until the Lions* showcases the unique style of Khan, commingling kathak, a traditional Indian dance form, with contemporary dance, his distinctive feature.

A QUÉBEC FAVOURITE  
BACK WITH A CIRCUS OPERA!

## IL RITORNO, by CIRCA, Australia

NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE, APRIL 25 TO 29, 2017



« I'VE SELDOM SEEN SUCH GRIEF ON STAGE » — The Guardian (United Kingdom)

The love story between Montreal and Australian company Circa continues with *Il Ritorno*, uniting acrobatic art and baroque opera. Retelling Monteverdi's *Ulysse*, this new show devotes over 75 tensed minutes to burning issues such as migration and exile. *Il Ritorno* talks about pain felt by bodies being pushed to their limits as well as the explosive signature strength of the company's acrobats. We hold our breath from such boldness, power and beauty.

THE ENTHUSIASM OF THE NEXT GENERATION!

## THE NATIONAL CIRCUS SCHOOL, Québec

TWO ALTERNATING SHOWS, MAY 23 TO JUNE 4, 2017



« COMME TOUJOURS, LA MAÎTRISE DE CES APPRENTIS À PEINE SORTIS DES BANCS D'ÉCOLE LAISSE PANTOIS. » — Le Devoir

Big incubator for talents, the National Circus School gives you a unique opportunity to enjoy the future generation of circus performers in action. Enchantment and emotions await as you see daring young artists perform in their first professional show! Before joining the most prestigious companies in the world, circus artists from the 2017 promotion unveil the results of several years of training.

## OTHER MUST-SEES: EVENTS

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DISCOVERING A HUNDRED LOCAL ARTISTS FROM EVERYWHERE!

## NULLE P'ART AILLEURS, by DIVERSITÉ ARTISTIQUE MONTRÉAL

SEPTEMBER 16 TO 18, 2016

To mark the 10-year anniversary of Diversité artistique Montréal (DAM), TOHU and the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts come together to present *Nulle p'art ailleurs*, a celebration that showcases 28 nationalities through the talents of around a hundred Quebec-based artists. Acrobats, visual artists, musicians and dancers will seize TOHU's big hall, while 300 pieces by 55 artists will also be on display. Three days filled with multidisciplinary performances, conferences, meet-and-greet with the artists, guided tours, street artists, as well as many workshops for the whole family.

THE CHANCE TO WITNESS THE CREATIVE PROCESS OF A SHOW!

## JOURNÉES DE LA CULTURE,

## Et si Roméo et Juliette... by DYNAMO THÉÂTRE

SEPTEMBER 30, OCTOBER 1<sup>ST</sup> AND 2, 2016

In residency with TOHU, the acrobatic movement theater and clown acts DynamO Théâtre begins the second stage of research for its future William Shakespeare inspired show, *Et si Roméo et Juliette...* The three-year long project involves updating and translating into acrobatic movements, and only a few words, the very essence of a great work for the enjoyment of a young audience aged 8 and up. As part of the Journées de la culture, the company unveils to the public part of its work towards the end of its creative process. A whole day to take part in circus workshops and clown acts, visit TOHU and the SMEC, or experience our amazing exhibitions!

**QUÉBECOR PRESENTS THE TOHU CUP: THE CLASH OF GENERATIONS**

## **THE TOHU CUP, by THE LIGUE NATIONALE D'IMPROVISATION (LNI)**

**NOVEMBER 3, 2016**

After two successful demonstrations proving that actors are better at improv than comedians(!), the TOHU Cup is back at it again this year, this time looking for answers to an important new question: which generation best masters the art of improvisation! Four teams of LNI improv performers representing different generations—including masters of their kind—will battle for the much-coveted TOHU Cup. This memorable night also serves as the annual fundraising event in support of the LNI. Sensations, enthusiasm and pleasure await! Corporate tickets, which include meals and beverages, are also on sale for \$300 each.

**BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND!**

## **CIRCUS IMPROV LEAGUE, by LES IMPRODUITS**

**APRIL 21-22, 2017**

The Circus Improv League is a show that combines circus disciplines, improv, theater, dance and movements. Each match has two teams of five players facing each other: an acrobat, a juggler, a contortionist, an aerial performer and a LNI comedian. To win, teams must create spontaneous skits where technique and level of performance are as important as style and originality! All, of course, while keeping the given theme in mind. After each performance, the audience is asked to vote for the winning team...

**EDUCATIONAL, FUN AND ECO-FRIENDLY ACTIVITY!**

## **THE SPRING BUZZ**

**MAY 2017**

TOHU invites the public to explore the world of buzzing urban bees! The event is also an opportunity to take part in a fun-filled collective cleaning operation around the Saint-Michel Environmental Complex in order to help improve their living space. The expert guide squad will take visitors through the pollinating trail, get them to explore the hives, as well as take part in various original workshops for a “buzzy” educational, fun and eco-friendly day! Snacks and prizes for everyone taking part in the chores.

**AN 8<sup>TH</sup> EDITION NOT TO BE MISSED!**

## **MONTRÉAL COMPLÈTEMENT CIRQUE**

**JULY 6 TO 16, 2017**

Created by TOHU, MONTRÉAL COMPLÈTEMENT CIRQUE takes over the city for the eight consecutive year! This festive and immersive event occupies every show venue in the city, transforming Saint-Denis Street and Place Émilie-Gamelin, in the Quartier des spectacles, in an open sky circus ring. The event is characterized by its original program, an exceptional level of performances that make the audience experience a wide range of emotions. A unique opportunity to celebrate the circus inside and out, with many different activities for every taste!

**A FIERY FIESTA SET TO THE RHYTHMS OF THE WORLD!**

## **LA FALLA**

**AUGUST 2017**

FALLA is a not to be missed three-day Montreal fiesta filled with celebration, outdoor concerts and family activities. What better than a world music happening to cap off the summer! The 2017 edition will be part of Montreal's 375<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations. At the beginning of summer, the audience is invited to visit [www.tohu.ca](http://www.tohu.ca) to find out about the program.

## **KIDS FALLA... ALL YEAR ROUND!**

**EVERY 1<sup>ST</sup> SATURDAY OF THE MONTH AS OF OCTOBER 1<sup>ST</sup>, 2017**

The creative instinct of young FALLA enthusiasts will surely get a boost of energy! From October to May, workshops combining plastic arts, storytelling and music will have the 3 to 12-year-olds explore diversity as well as stories that make Montreal. Hosted by artist Delphine Arnaud, it's a fun way to celebrate Montreal's 375<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

## OTHER MUST-SEES: KIDS EVENTS

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JACQUES PRÉVERT CELEBRATES CHILDHOOD: STORIES IN WORDS, STEPS AND MUSIC

### L'ÉCOLE BUISSONNIÈRE, by PPS DANSE EN COPRODUCTION AVEC DANSENCORPS

OCTOBER 27 TO 30, 2016, FOR EVERYONE, FAMILY

*L'école buissonnière* drops by the schoolyard and the classroom to celebrate the playful, the poetry and the difference. The show, inspired by the poetic world of Jacques Prévert, combines dance, theater and music. With a vibrant game-inspired choreography performed to a dynamic original music, *L'école buissonnière* wins all hearts and captivates the senses through a series of songs celebrating childhood and its lively imagination. Open your heart, ears and eyes to these fabulous tales and celebrate the world of children!

### CROQUE-SPECTACLE!

FOURTH EDITION OF THIS DELICIOUS FAMILY ACTIVITY. START THE DAY BY ENJOYING BREAKFAST AND A FREE SHOW.

#### TENDRE, by CRÉATIONS ESTELLE CLARETON

MARCH 31 AND APRIL 1<sup>ST</sup>, 2017, AS OF 4 YEARS OLD, FREE

Two eccentric characters with clashing personalities finds themselves "elastically linked". Forced to live side by side, they have no other choice but to... adapt to one another, and deal with this unsettling situation, both touching and funny. An enjoyable experience for the whole family, at the crossroad of dance, theater and clown arts.

#### LE MERVEILLEUX VOYAGE DE RÉAL DE MONTRÉAL, by LE THÉÂTRE DES BOUCHES DÉCOUSUES

APRIL 2-3, 2017, AS OF 5 YEARS OLD, FREE

Follow Réal, the misbehaving little rascal, as he goes through an incredible journey which will take him from an alley in Montréal to the sea, to Bonaventure, passing through Lake Saint-Pierre, Métabetchouan and Manicouagan. Both educational and enjoyable, *Le merveilleux voyage de Réal de Montréal* is a highly visual play, featuring hand and shadow puppets, that leaves plenty of room to the imagination. Filled with comedy and emotion, the colourful and expressive story bursts with expressions that will surely entertain children and parents alike.

KITES FLYING ABOVE TOHU AND THE SAINT-MICHEL ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLEX!

### GRAIN DE CIEL

JUNE 3-4, 2017

A large family gathering where wonder and enchantment await, *Grain de ciel* is the biggest kite party in Montreal. And to better express the excitement, the thrilling activities can only be surpassed by the friendly atmosphere... Young and old will be amazed by the acrobatic demonstrations of professional kite flyers from everywhere, as well as kite-making workshops and circus initiation.

## CULTURAL PROGRAM

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### SEVEN EXHIBITIONS WILL SUCCEED ONE ANOTHER ALL THROUGH THE SEASON

#### TROU DE MÉMOIRE : LA MANŒUVRE

by Alain-Martin Richard, August 10 to October 2, 2016,  
presented in collaboration with the City of Montreal's Public Art Bureau

#### HAÏTI : LES YEUX DU CIEL

by Daniel Desmarais, continuous as of September 15, 2016

#### TRIPTYQUE

by Chadi Ayoud, October 5 to December 4, 2016

## AU FIL DE L'ESTAMPE

by Julie Desquand, December 7, 2016 to February 5, 2017

## EXPOSITION NUMÉRIQUE

with the collaboration of CHROMATIC, February 9 to March 12, 2017

## TECOCUAHUITL : L'AXE DU MONDE

by Dinorah Catzalco, March 15 to May 7, 2017

## LE PARCOURS D'UNE ŒUVRE

DIGITISATION PROCESS OF THE JACOB-WILLIAM COLLECTION, May 10 to July 23, 2017

## QUEL CIRQUE! FONDS JACOB-WILLIAM

Continuous permanent exhibition

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And on top of all that, let's not forget TOHU's **NUIT BLANCHE** and **SOIRÉE-BÉNÉFICE**, the **SANS FILET** events, as well as a special opportunity to admire artists experimenting with cool acts, activities and workshops during **SPRING BREAK**, the fabulous festival for little ones by **LES PETITS BONHEURS** and the numerous guided tours for every taste and all ages!

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**ALL THE DETAILS ON THE WEBSITE: [TOHU.CA](http://TOHU.CA)**



**TICKETS ARE ON SALE NOW: ONLINE AT [TOHU.CA](http://TOHU.CA)**  
**IN PERSON** AT TOHU'S BOX OFFICE, 2345 JARRY EAST, MONTREAL  
**BY PHONE** AT 514 376-TOHU (8648) OR 1 888 376-TOHU (8648).  
BOX OFFICE ARE OPEN DAILY FROM NOON TO 5 P.M.

### **MEMBERSHIP / WHY BECOME A TOHU MORDU?**

- 25 % DISCOUNT ON ALL SHOWS FROM SEASON 2016-2017 AND THE 8<sup>TH</sup> EDITION OF MONTRÉAL COMPLÈTEMENT CIRQUE
- **NEW!** Exploration package: a new way to discover two extraordinary shows for only **\$80**
- DISCOUNTS WITH CULTURAL PARTNERS, AND MUCH MORE!

LOCATED AT THE CENTRE OF THE CITÉ DES ARTS DU CIRQUE, TOHU IS A PLACE FOR DISSEMINATION, CREATION, EXPERIMENTATION AND CONVERGENCE BETWEEN CULTURE, ENVIRONMENT AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT IN NORTH AMERICA. TOHU CONTRIBUTES TO HELPING MONTREAL BECOME AN INTERNATIONAL CAPITAL OF CIRCUS ARTS WHILE POSITIONING ITSELF AS AN EXAMPLE IN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT THROUGH CULTURE.

TOHU IS FINANCED IN PART BY THE GOVERNMENT OF QUEBEC, THE CONSEIL DES ARTS ET DES LETTRES DU QUÉBEC, THE MINISTÈRE DE LA CULTURE ET DES COMMUNICATIONS DU QUÉBEC, THE CITY OF MONTREAL, THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA, AND THE CONSEIL DES ARTS DE MONTRÉAL. TOHU CAN ALSO COUNT ON THE VALUABLE COLLABORATION OF MAJOR PARTNER CIRQUE DU SOLEIL, AND THE OFFICIAL CARRIER AIR FRANCE. WE ALSO THANK BORÉALE, KEURIG CANADA, TD FRIENDS OF THE ENVIRONMENT FOUNDATION, CASCADES, DESJARDINS, BCF S.E.N.C.R.L., UNIVINS, AND OUR MEDIA PARTNERS, LA PRESSE AND TÉLÉ-QUÉBEC.

**Source:** TOHU

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