

Press Release

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***Triptyque*, by LES 7 DOIGTS DE LA MAIN a world premier at TOHU Starting October 14**

Triptyque, the new performance by LES 7 DOIGTS DE LA MAIN, is first and foremost a story about coming together. It starts with Samuel Tétreault—co-founder and co-artistic director of the famous troupe—and Daniel Soulières. The artistic director of Danse-Cité gave Samuel carte blanche to create a piece for the *Trace-Interprète* segment of his program. ***Triptyque*** then brought together circus arts and dance through the creations of three leading contemporary dance choreographers. Brilliant acrobatics meets choreography magic in an event that’s simply not to be missed, from October 14 to 25, 2015, at TOHU. For those who love dance—and the circus arts!

A debut collaboration, with Marie Chouinard, Victor Quijada and Marcos Morau

Coming together for the first time with other creators to direct a circus piece, three choreographers—**Marie Chouinard, Victor Quijada** and **Marcos Morau**—were invited by **LES 7 DOIGTS DE LA MAIN** to create three segments of it’s new production: ***Triptyque***. This long-awaited performance from the famous circus company presents three unique artistic pieces that blend dance and circus arts—with exceptional performances in both disciplines.

Gravity is a permanent challenge for humans. Every day—from the effort it takes to get out of bed to the moment you relax your body at night—human life is a constant dialogue with terrestrial attraction. Walking, jumping, dancing, fluttering... Every movement is an attempt to defy the force that wants to tie us to the ground. – Samuel Tétreault

Throughout the show, eight performers reveal their true selves as they try to break free from gravity and surpass their abilities. **The first piece**—a duo directed by **Marie Chouinard** and performed by **Samuel Tétreault** and dancer **Anne Plamondon**—examines the ambiguous links between two people who depend on one another and begin a dialogue of the body through movement. In the **second piece**, a quintet of artists will perform balancing acts, looking to gain complete control of gravity by exploring the relationship between stillness and movement under the direction of Victor Quijada. The **final piece** erupts into a crescendo, integrating different circus disciplines and showcasing eight artists who seek to free themselves from the physical and mental limitations they face.

There’s no doubt that ***Triptyque*** will surprise you and surpass the expectations of dance and circus lovers alike. A **LES 7 DOIGTS DE LA MAIN** production in co-production with **SADLER’S WELLS** (London), **THOMAS LIGHTBURN** (Vancouver), **TOHU** (Montréal), **ALBOURNE** (Norwalk), and **DANSE-CITÉ** (Montréal).

*“As a teen, I fell in love with circus arts. From the first time I set foot in the artistic world, I also began to develop a passion for dance. At 17, I was inspired by Baryshnikov in *Le Jeune homme et la Mort*, Marie Chouinard and her *Sacre du Printemps* and Louise Lecavalier and *La La La Human Steps*—and I thought about quitting the National Circus School in Montréal to become a dancer. Even today, with a successful circus career in balancing and 25 years of practicing the art of stillness, I still have this fascination for dance, the art of movement. It’s never left me.” – Samuel Tétreault*



Thumbnails: From left to right, pieces 2, 1 and 3. Photo credits: Alexandre Galliez

Full details at TOHU.CA

Tickets for *TRIPTYQUE* are now on sale: Online at TOHU.CA In person at the **TOHU Box Office, 2345 Jarry Street East in Montréal **By phone** at 514-376-TOHU (8648) or 1-888-376-TOHU (8648). The box office is open every day from noon to 5 p.m.**

Become a *MORDU DE LA TOHU* and save 25%.

October 14, 15, 16, 17, 21, 22, 23, and 24: 8 p.m. | Sunday October 18 and 25: 2 p.m.

October 14: advance showing | October 15: world premier | October 16 and 22: meet and greet with artists

Not recommended for children under 10.

Choreographers and directors: (1) Marie Chouinard, (2) Victor Quijada, (3) Marcos Morau, Isabelle Chassé, and Samuel Tétréault. Performers: Joaquim Ciocca, Marie-Ève Dicaire, Geneviève Drolet, Kyra Jean Green, Franklin Luy, Nicolas Montes de Oca, Anne Plamondon, and Samuel Tétréault. Music: (1) Louis Dufort, (2) Jasper Gahunia, (3) Nans Bortuzzo. Lighting: Yan Lee Chan. Costume design: (1) Liz Vandal, (2+3) Camille Thibault-Bédard. Decor: (1) Marie Chouinard, (2+3) Cloé Alain Gendreau. Choreography collaboration: (3) Anne Plamondon and Kyra Jean Green. Kinbakushi: (1) Isabelle Hanikamu. Production director: Chloé Rondeau. Assistant director and stage manager: Camille Labelle. Presented with the support of the *Conseil des arts de Montréal* and the *Conseil des arts et des lettres du Québec*.

Get to know our three choreographers

MARIE CHOUINARD is a choreographer in her own right. Since her first creation in 1978, she has shown herself to be a singular artist for whom dance is much more than an artistic discipline—but also a sacred art that demands masterful interpretation and the invention of a new universe for every performance. Marie Chouinard's body of work includes over 50 creations as well as solo and group choreographies.

Since founding RUBBERBANDance Group in 2002, **VICTOR QUIJADA** has created over 24 pieces of various lengths and toured the world with his troupe. Quijada's work reconsiders and elegantly deconstructs choreography principles in order to integrate them into hip-hop ideology and examine humanity through a unique fusion of esthetics.

A rising star in European contemporary dance, Spaniard **MARCOS MORAU** cofounded LA VERONAL collective in 2005, bringing together the disciplines of dance, cinema, literature, and photography. His goal: Find new expressive supports and cultural references that use a narrative language in order to create global artistic spaces.

Get to know LES 7 DOIGTS DE LA MAIN

Their name is a play on words that represents the number of members in their troupe. **LES 7 DOIGTS DE LA MAIN** has evolved with 7 artistic co-directors leading a collective that continues to grow even after 13 years. They travel the world with all the dexterity of a seven-fingered hand.

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 UNIBROUE, 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.

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