



Circa's *OPUS*

CIRCUS AND MUSIC: A LOVE STORY STARTING NOVEMBER 20TH AT THE TOHU

MONTREAL (October 28, 2014)– In recent years the Australian troupe **Circa** has earned itself a special place in Montrealers' hearts: *By the light* (2010), *Wunderkammer* (2011), *CIRCA* (2012) and "S" (2013) have thrilled audiences here time and again. Now touring with *OPUS*, Circa will further test the limits of their art form by incorporating into their new circus act the music of French string quartet le **Quatuor Debussy** (Lyon) who will perform an homage to composer Dmitri Shostakovich. Join Circa for this short **six-night run at the TOHU**, from November 20th to 26th, 2014.

In this new piece, Circa will perform an intricate crossover of classical music and contemporary circus in which the four musicians intermingle with the 14 acrobats live on stage. Renowned for his distinctive style, director Yaron Lifschitz sought out the virtuosity of the Quatuor Debussy string quartet in order to celebrate the late Russian composer's genius. Together, the troupe and quartet create a minimalist universe that juxtaposes moments of rarefied aesthetics with scenes that foreground the performers' wild bodily expressionism.

Circa's Artistic Director has once again achieved that delicate balance between explosive scenes that test the very limits of the body, lyrical segments that will pull at the heartstrings of even the most reserved spectator, and a series of moments that burst with comedic verve. Like pure beauty distilled, *OPUS* looks like nothing circus lovers have ever seen before.



« It is breathtaking, it is beautiful, it is epic ... an astonishing experience »

The Australian

“A stroke of genius” *Lyon Mag* (France)

“A revolution in the circus show form” *Les Echos* (France)

« Truly virtuosic » The Guardian, Australia

Circa

This new production represents an important milestone for the company. Founded in Australia in 1987 as the Rock and Roll Circus and renamed Circa in 2004 with the arrival of new artistic director Yaron Lifschitz, the company has asserted its reputation for daring degrees of athleticism and acrobatics, a contemporary dance sensibility, a strong sense of visual poetics and a refreshing sense of humour. Since 2006, Circa has toured in 30 countries on 6 continents. In 2013 alone, the company performed for more than 150,000 spectators.

QUATUOR DEBUSSY

Renowned the world over, the Quatuor Debussy string quartet is one of the most acclaimed chamber music ensembles in France. The quartet has brought their musical prowess to some of the world's most prestigious halls for over two decades.

CREDITS

Created by Yaron Lifschitz with the Circa ensemble and the Quatuor Debussy.

Director: Yaron Lifschitz.

Musical direction: Quatuor Debussy.

Acrobats: Phoebe Armstrong, Nathan Boyle, Jessica Connell, Robbie Curtis, Jarred Dewey, Lisa Goldworthy, Gerramy Marsden, Alice Muntz, Daniel O'Brien, Brittanie Portelli, Kimberley Rossi, Michael Standen, Lewis West and Duncan West.

Quatuor Debussy string quartet: Christophe Collette, Marc Vieillefon, Vincent Deprecq, Cédric Conchon.

Technical Director and lighting designer: Jason Organ.

Costume designer: Libby McDonnell

Set Design: Yaron Lifschitz and Jason Organ

International Representation: Paul Tanguay

TICKETS ON SALE NOW:

ONLINE at TOHU.CA

IN PERSON AT THE TOHU BOX OFFICE

BY PHONE AT 514 376-TOHU (8648) OR 1 888 376-TOHU (8648)

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

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

THE TOHU IS FINANCED IN PART BY LE CONSEIL DES ARTS ET DES LETTRES DU QUÉBEC, LA VILLE DE MONTRÉAL, HERITAGE CANADA, LE GOUVERNEMENT DU QUÉBEC AND LE CONSEIL DES ARTS DE MONTRÉAL. THE TOHU ACKNOWLEDGES THE VALUABLE CONTRIBUTIONS OF RADIO-CANADA AND LE CIRQUE DU SOLEIL, OUR MAJOR PARTNERS. WE ALSO THANK UNIBROUÉ, LA FONDATION TD DES AMIS DE L'ENVIRONNEMENT, THE CAISSES DES JARDINS MOVEMENT, AS WELL AS KEURIG CANADA, THE STM, BCF S.E.N.C.R.L., UNIVINS AND OUR MEDIA PARTNERS, LA PRESSE AND COGÉCO MÉTROMÉDIA.

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