



PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

Eleven days of RAW EMOTIONS.

At the 7th edition of **MONTRÉAL COMPLÈTEMENT CIRQUE** from July 7 to 17, 2016

Montréal, April 18, 2016 ○ For 11 days starting July 7, Montréal will open its doors to welcome circus acts from around the world to our venues and neighbourhoods. Shows from the UK, France, the US, Australia, Switzerland, Spain, and Canada, including two original creations of the Festival, will blow audiences away. Visitors will witness impossible feats and unlimited creativity from local and international circus artists—who are truly some of the best in the world.

This much-anticipated annual event attracted a record number of festival-goers last year—some 235,000—proving that Montréal truly is a world capital for circus arts. This family-friendly Festival is filled with memorable get-togethers that will elicit reactions on every end of the scale—turning the city *complètement cirque* with creations presented for the first time in North America or the world and bursting with surprises, discovery and plenty of **RAW EMOTIONS!**

A LOOK AT INDOOR PROGRAMMING



TRANSIT ★ **lip FabriQue**, Canada

Opening show and **WORLS PREMIERE** presented by Radio-Canada

TOHU, July 7 to 16

FOR ALL - FAMILY

“An explosion of happiness for young and old alike.”— Huffington Post, about *Attrape-moi*

“A truly wonderful troupe.”— ICI Radio-Canada Première

With this new creation, this endearing troupe wants to share with you, their audience, all the major and minor moments of a dynamic and lively circus life. With plenty of spirit and a swing in their step, the young creators of the hit show *Attrape-moi* are back to celebrate life—tenfold! Looking back at a friendship that’s more than 10 years in the making, these partners are still going strong—and say it with daring acrobatic feats. For the time it takes to perform the show, anything is possible! So dream big, dive head first into the present and dare to do anything at all.

POUR LE MEILLEUR ET POUR LE PIRE ★ **Cirque Aïtal, France**

Presented by La Presse +

Under the Big Top at TOHU, July 7 to 17

FOR ALL

“Goose bumps.” — Le Monde

“We’re moved. We laugh. We cry. We love them!” — Le Figaro

On the road, two lovers invite us into their acrobat life. On the dirt floor of the small tent where everyday life takes place, the radio is dialled up, the mechanisms run amok, and the elements are unleashed—providing the perfect excuse to perform acrobatic feats that will take your breath away. Follow the couple through joy and sadness as they remain intricate collaborators and transmit their love of life in a tale that’s both breathless and moving. A crowd favourite wherever it goes, *Pour le meilleur et pour le pire*, created in 2011 and played more than 350 times, is a radiant show where Victor and Kati enchant us with humour, poetry and rock ‘n’ roll. Ah, love!



BROMANCE ★ **Barely Methodical Troupe, United-Kingdom**

Centaur Theatre Company, July 9 to 14

FOR ALL

“...smartly crafted and highly entertaining” ★ ★ ★ ★ — The Time, Royaume-Uni

“A wonder to behold” — The Metro.

Three jokers—the daredevils you remember from school: That’s the Barely Methodical Troupe. Acclaimed at the Edinburgh Festival, these adorable Brits engage in friendly quarrels with their impressive and dizzying feats. Under the rippling muscles and shows of strength, these three friends let their uncomfortable tenderness show. Hidden beneath boastful confidence, we catch a hint of insecurity, humanity and friendship between men. A real bromance!

HAIR DRYER’S OPERA ★ **Blizzard concept, France**

Presented with the support of the Service de Coopération et d’Action Culturelle du consulat Général de France à Québec.

Centaur Theatre Company, July 9 to 14

FOR ALL - FAMILY



“An irresistible humour.” — La Provence

“A crazy, madcap and hilarious show!” — Que faire à Paris

It’s the nature of genius: making something new out of the ordinary. When the two jugglers of Blizzard Concept get together, the results will leave you dishevelled. Juggling with balls and hairdryers? Why not! Insanely ingenious, incredibly unbelievable and so funny it will leave you in stitches, *Hair dryer’s opera* is one of those shows that will make you feel like you’ve witnessed something truly special. Devoid of reason and brilliantly performed, this show will make you take a stand, hold somebody’s hand, join a rock band, play in the sand, break the chain of command, head to Finland, and venture inland.

PSS PSS ★ **Compagnia Baccalà, Suisse**

Théâtre de Quat’sous, July 9 to

FOR ALL - FAMILY

“A remarkable performance.” ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ — Le Monde

“Breathtaking...” ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ — The Herald

All the charm and teasing of a couple of great clowns —Swiss Italian Camilla Pessi and Simone Fassari—are packaged into this hilarious show for the whole family. Crazy antics, acrobatic feats, tenderness, and blunders! The

audience is in on this reunion of sulking, bringing together two endearing performers who play at life and create a world apart—where being simple and carefree go hand in hand with comedy. Winner of some 15 international awards, Pss Pss is a delicate work by masters of the clown arts. A fine performance piece that will delight parents and children alike.

THE ELEPHANT IN THE ROOM ★Cirque Le Roux, France

Presented by Air France

Presented with the support of the Service de Coopération et d'Action Culturelle
du consulat Général de France à Québec.

Théâtre Outremont – Co-diffusion, July 8 to 13

FOR ALL



“ A tour-de-force ” ★★★★★ — The Herald “

Sexy, tender and heartbreaking ” ★★★★★ — Three Weeks

Caught between her husband, the valet and her lover, the divine Miss Betty welcomes us into her lounge. Cigars, whisky, door slamming, and remarkable acrobatics create a turbulent amorous intrigue. Hidden amongst the plush ambiance, quarrels and dramatic sagas lies an elephant in the room that's taking up more and more space...An uncommon tableau, an explosion of aesthetics and happy madness, this bit of slapstick from *Cirque Le Roux* is a unique blend of circus arts, Hollywood film noir and physical theatre. An absolute original, *The Elephant in the Room* will seduce you with its refined atmosphere and four magnificent performers who stem from the National Circus Schools in Montreal and Brussels.

4 X 4 EPHEMERAL ARCHITECTURES ★Gandini Juggling, United Kingdom

Presented by Air France

Théâtre Outremont – Co-diffusion, July 14 to 17

DISCOVERY

“A show of elegant, wistful beauty” ★★★★★ — The Guardian

“A splendid blend of talents imbued with both elegance and wit” ★★★★★ — The Times

Only Gandini Juggling virtuosos could have dreamed it up: blending juggling and ballet. Body lines and ball trajectories meet in this opus for jugglers and dancers, where a soundtrack praises the musicality of both disciplines. Juggling clubs and rings follow pointe work and arabesques until we're convinced that one is simply a natural extension of the other. Turning preconceptions about juggling and ballet on their head, Gandini Juggling build—before our unbelieving eyes—a structure that's erased as soon as it's put down. This piece of ephemeral architecture is elegance in action. Following the success of *Smashed*—presented at the Festival in 2013—*4 x 4 Ephemeral Architecture* celebrates the conversation between two art forms where precision, purity and spirit meet.



SMOKE AND MIRRORS ★The Ricochet Project, United-States

Espace Go, July 12 to 16

DISCOVERY

“Give both everyday life and dreams a paradoxical edge of fantasy and bodily reality.”— The Chicago Tribune

“Circus that's brainy and beautiful” ★★★★★ — The Guardian

Tangled up in the coldness of individualism and squeezed into an intellectual present where all is calculations and results, a man and woman realize how bare and dry the modern world is and look for ways to break free. A dancing quest for happiness—an aerial search for a better way to live together—*Smoke and Mirrors* magnifies the vulnerability of an America where humanity resides and offers up a message of hope. With an eager dose of authenticity, the two artists from New Mexico find connection and lay themselves bare before the illusion, using poetic acrobatics to invite us to join their quest for truth. Intense and uncompromising.

KNEE DEEP ★ Casus, Australia

Espace Go, July 13 to 17

DISCOVERY

“This is a show in which every single minute counts.” ★★★★★ — The Guardian
“An hour of inventive feats of strength and balance.” — New York Times

In a show where great strength meets the touching gentleness of four prodigy acrobats, it takes only a few bodies, games, a simple set, and a handful of accessories to keep us holding our breath for 60 minutes. Unusual acrobatics, balancing acts on faces, feats that stretch the limits of what you’d think possible... Both raw and full of finesse—and decidedly cool—Knee Deep has been making a splash around the world. What beauty, what grace—what strength!

A LOOK AT THE FREE OUTDOOR PROGRAMMING



MONTRÉAL COMPLÈTEMENT CIRQUE will be taking over the *Quartier Latin* in *Quartier des spectacles* once again, filling summer days with magical acrobatics for locals and tourists alike! Discover **MINUTES COMPLÈTEMENT CIRQUE** and **FRACAS**—two original production created by **ANTHONY VENISSE!**

MINUTES COMPLÈTEMENT CIRQUE

RENDEZ-VOUS ON SAINT-DENIS STREET CORNER EMERY ○ JULY 7 TO 17 (EXCEPT JULY 11) ○ 6 :30PM & 9 :30PM

Who are these performers tumbling down Saint-Denis Street? It’s the Minute-artists! From human flags hanging from lampposts to performing daring hand-to-hand acts off balconies, these acrobats—accompanied by their choir of citizens—launch themselves high into the air for an acrobatic performance where the very fabric of human life becomes a playground. And you’re invited!

These Minute-artists will stop suddenly mid-chorus, tease a passerby and walk on their hands—and then, in the middle of this outrageous promenade, they will guide you to an urban oasis: a flash mob performing high up in the striking architecture. The travelling show then moves on to *Place Émilie-Gamelin* for a big **Fracas!**



FRACAS

PLACE ÉMILIE-GAMELIN ○ JULY 7 TO 17 (EXCEPT JULY 11) ○ 7 :00PM & 10 :00PM

Ready to immerse yourself in a unique artistic experience? That's what you get with **Fracas**—the Festival's latest creation!

Throughout *Place Émilie-Gamelin*, dozens of acrobats and the choir of citizens who accompany them will transport you to a dizzying world of contrasts. Aerial acrobatics here, incredible circus feats there... everywhere you look, you'll find artists dancing, jumping and spinning, falling from the sky or stepping out from the crowd in a magical communion with an audience that's sure to be moved and astounded.

Featuring a classical soundtrack mixed in with a touch of electric-acoustic-acrobatic, the show is both intimate and spectacular. Whether it brings you to tears or explodes in a liberating rush... **Fracas** will make you want to LIVE!



AN OPEN-AIR CIRCUS

SAINT-DENIS STREET ○ JULY 7 TO 17 ○ 5PM TO 9:30PM

For 11 days, Saint-Denis street will be dressed in its circus finest!

A PLACE FOR PERFORMANCES ○ JULY 7 TO 17

From new performers to seasoned artists, our favourite street will be bursting with creativity!

TRAVERSÉE AÉRIENNE ○ JULY 12 TO 17

Presented by Air France

Look up... and see the **tightrope walker** majestically cross Saint-Denis street. Some 40 feet in the air, a man balances a long pole just below the clouds. Such aerial grace!

PARTICIPATORY ACTIVITIES ○ JULY 12 TO 17

PARCOURS COMPLÈTEMENT CIRQUE ICI TOU.TV

A series of challenges *A ne pas faire à la maison!*

Discover your inner circus artist with a multidisciplinary obstacle course for young and old alike! Challenges and fits of laughter guaranteed on the tightrope, trapeze, trampoline, and more.

HULA HUB TOHU

Follow the hula-hoop master under a dome of colourful hoops—and win prizes. The secret's in the hips!

AERIAL SILK

Presented in collaboration with *MAA Club Sportif*

Take up the challenge between friends! Test your strength and agility on aerial silk with the help of professional trainers. Go abs go!

★ QUARTIERS COMPLÈTEMENT CIRQUE

The Festival is coming to a neighbourhood near you for an evening or even a weekend, featuring two shows, travelling comedian-acrobats, circus workshops, and a few surprises!

Made in Kouglistan par Throw2catch ◉ Canada

Fresh off the boat from their remote village, three energetic acrobats concoct ingenious ways to help you discover their native country: Kouglistan. Between turns on the Cyr wheel and teeterboard, interactions with the audience and captivating music, these exotic artists have put together a rhythm-filled show. Zey are very *dynamique*!



Pelat par Joan Català ◉ Espagne

A man wanders with his wooden mat... Little by little, he pulls you into a meaningful human exchange where you become completely indispensable. The show simply can't go on without you! Complicity, collective communion and solidarity... We won't say another word about this mysterious gem that's inspired by Catalan tradition.



SOIRÉES COMPLÈTEMENT CIRQUE

The end of the day will be all about circus in the participant neighbourhoods: **MERCIER ◉ VILLE-MARIE ◉ PLATEAU MONT-ROYAL ◉ VERDUN ◉ RIVIÈRES-DES-PRAIRIES—POINTE-AUX-TREMBLES ◉ SAINT-LÉONARD.**

WEEK-END HOCHELAGA-MAISONNEUVE

ESPLANADE FINANCIÈRE SUN LIFE DU PARC OLYMPIQUE ◉ JULY 9 & 10 ◉ 1PM TO 5PM

An acrobatic weekend to celebrate the Olympic Park's 40th anniversary!

Bring the family to catch the shows *Made in Kouglistan* and *Pelat*, traveling performances and circus workshops as well as a Mini Olympics—a circus-themed rally where everyone's a winner!. Fun guaranteed!

WEEK-END ST-MICHEL

TOHU ◉ JULY 16 & 17 ◉ 1PM TO 5PM

Pelat performance, traveling performances and circus workshops mean a fun weekend for the whole family!

Young and old alike will enjoy the funfair atmosphere of *Amusements Spectaculaires*. Thrilling rides and carnival games for the whole family! From July 13 to 17. Fee payable



MARCHÉ INTERNATIONAL DE CIRQUE CONTEMPORAIN (MICC)

JULY 11 TO 14

A must-see event in the circus world! This year the Festival is set to welcome over 130 professionals, from distributors to programmers, tour personnel, troupe directors, and more from all over the world. On the program: showcases, *tête-à-têtes*, market, conferences, and a variety of activities to help spread the word about circus companies from here and abroad. Today, Montréal is considered the perfect junction point between America and the rest of the circus world, and many tour projects take shape right here at the Festival.

**Circus is never quite as you'd imagined it.
A place for 11 days of RAW EMOTIONS!**

MONTRÉAL COMPLÈTEMENT CIRQUE 7th EDITION FROM JULY 7 TO 17 2016

REGULAR TICKETS STARTING AT \$30

CHILDREN, 15 YEARS OLD AND UNDER ○ STARTING AT \$15

STUDENTS, 25 YEARS OLD AND UNDER ○ STARTING AT \$25

PASSEPORTS COMPLÈTEMENT ACCRO ○ \$135

PASSEPORTS COMPLÈTEMENT VIP ○ \$145

**ONLINE VIA MONTREALCIRQUEFEST.COM, IN PERSON AT TOHU'S BOX OFFICE OR AT LA VITRINE, BY
PHONE AT 514 376-8648 OR 1 888 376-8648**

FOR MORE INFORMATION: MONTREALCOMPLEMENTCIRQUE.COM/EN/



MONTRÉAL COMPLÈTEMENT CIRQUE IS ACHIEVED WITH THE FINANCIAL SUPPORT OF THE GOVERNMENT OF QUEBEC AND THE CONSEIL DES ARTS ET DES LETTRES DU QUÉBEC, THE CITY OF MONTREAL AND HERITAGE CANADA. THE FESTIVAL ALSO BENEFITS FROM THE PRECIOUS COLLABORATION OF RADIO-CANADA, AN IMPORTANT PARTNER. WE WOULD ALSO LIKE TO THANK LOTO-QUÉBEC, THE QUARTIER DES SPECTACLES PARTNERSHIP, TOURISM MONTREAL, SDC QUARTIER LATIN AND AIR FRANCE, OFFICIAL CARRIER. FINALLY, THE FESTIVAL WOULD LIKE TO THANK ITS MEDIA PARTNERS : LA PRESSE AND ROUGE FM AS WELL AS CANADA COUNCIL FOR THE ARTS, CONSEIL DES ARTS DE MONTRÉAL, PARC OLYMPIQUE, AND UNIVINS. THE CIRQUE DU SOLEIL IS A PROUD FOUNDER OF MONTRÉAL COMPLÈTEMENT CIRQUE

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Source : TOHU

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