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PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

UNVEILING OF THE 2ND EDITION OF THE MONTRÉAL COMPLÈTEMENT CIRQUE GIANT AND OF THE FREE OUTDOOR PROGRAMMING!

MONTREAL, June 5, 2023 • The 14th edition of **MONTREAL COMPLÈTEMENT CIRQUE**, a **TOHU festival** presented in collaboration with **Loto-Québec**, promises to be flamboyant with an outdoor programming that will captivate festival-goers. From July 6 to 16 - and beyond! - circus arts will be more present than ever in Montreal, with free activities all over the city. Among them, the **GIANT** on the **Esplanade PVM** at Place Ville Marie returns for an extended period until the end of July, with a new creation by Cirque Éloize.

"With the return of the GIANT and an outdoor programming that promises to bring a whole range of emotions to festival-goers, this 14th edition of MONTRÉAL COMPLÈTEMENT CIRQUE will be sensational. We are proud to present fantastic free events all over town, from east to west. It is an honor to help promote circus culture and allow visitors to discover the richness of this exceptional art form in the enchanting setting of our metropolis," says **Stéphane Lavoie, Executive and Programming Director at TOHU**.



THE GIANT RETURNS TO ESPLANADE PVM!

Presented by NOUVEAU CENTRE, by Ivanhoé Cambridge

THE IMPRESSIVE STEEL COLOSSUS WILL HOST A NEW CREATION BY CIRQUE ÉLOIZE, ON THE ESPLANADE PVM, AT PLACE VILLE MARIE

FROM JULY 7 TO 30 / TWO DAILY PERFORMANCES, 6 p.m. AND 9:30 p.m.

(Mondays off)

A flagship event of the 2022 summer, successfully created to boost the city's economy and tourism, the **GIANT** returns to the **Esplanade PVM** with an all-new show that will extend beyond the festival dates! This gigantic 52-foot steel structure will be present from July 7 to 30 to contribute to the vitality of downtown and will be the scene for a brand-new creation by **CIRQUE ÉLOIZE**, marking the company's 30th anniversary. **Benoit Landry** (*Après la nuit, Celeste, Serge Fiori, Seul Ensemble*) will be directing, surrounded by a team of exceptional performers and seasoned designers.

For 30 minutes, the public will live a unique, unifying experience, as acrobats attempt to take this fabulous **GIANT** by storm, from head to toe, in a high-flying choreography! A true ode to joy and excess, this large-scale show expresses the fascination with summits that humans have always had, this feeling of strength and exhilarating freedom that one feels when confronted with the power of something greater than oneself...

"Montréal's enviable international reputation as a city of celebration is due in large part to the city's many festivals. Drawing tourists from near and far, these popular events contribute to the economic vitality of Montréal and of the province as a whole. Our government is proud to be associated with MONTRÉAL COMPLÈTEMENT CIRQUE festival and provide financial support for the GIANT project at Place Ville Marie. I encourage Montrealers and tourists to show up in large numbers for this festival and for all the others to follow this summer." - **Caroline Proulx, Minister of Tourism and Minister Responsible for the Lanaudière Region.**

"Circus arts contribute to the city's cultural identity, international influence and economic vitality. Tourisme Montréal is pleased to contribute financially to this event, which reaffirms Montréal as a circus capital. For the second year in a row, a massive GIANT will set up shop in front of another massive icon, The Ring. With their sheer size, the Giants amaze and surprise locals and visitors alike. In a way, they're a reflection of Montréal: spectacular, creative and unique. Enjoy the festival!" says **Yves Lalumière, President and CEO of Tourisme Montréal.**

"Nouveau Centre, by Ivanhoé Cambridge, is proud to be associated with MONTRÉAL COMPLÈTEMENT CIRQUE's summer program by presenting the GIANT. This locally created show, for all ages, will be presented on Esplanade PVM, at Place Ville Marie, Nouveau Centre's central gathering place. It's important for us to contribute to the vibrancy of downtown Montreal while supporting Quebec companies recognized for their stunning creativity. I urge young and old alike to go downtown this summer and be wowed by the breathtaking performances," said **Annik Desmarteau, Vice President, Offices, Quebec, Ivanhoé Cambridge.**

OUTDOOR PROGRAMMING

From July 6 to 16, **TOHU** invites Montrealers and visitors alike to vibrate to the rhythm of the vertiginous and playful performances offered by the festival. In addition to the GIANT, the surprising **CIRQU'EASY**, presented by **LOTO-QUÉBEC**, is also back. Created and directed by **Sarah Beauséjour**, CIRQU'EASY is both an immersive experience and a place to relax that brings life **Place Pasteur** in the **Quartier Latin of the Quartier des spectacles**, which is celebrating its 20th anniversary this year.

. In addition, **LA RUE COMPLÈTEMENT CIRQUE** will be back on rue Saint-Denis, offering a dozen different acts each evening. The younger crowd will also have their share of fun, with circus activities at **PLACE DE LA RELÈVE**, as well as an entertaining experience at **ZONE JEUNESSE RADIO-CANADA**, where they can enjoy life-size interactive games and attend the show **ZAK : DOMPTEUR DE DÉFIS**.

Fans of grandiose shows will be delighted to discover **GARDIEN DU TEMPS** by **Agile Talon** at **Jardins Gamelin**, Place Émilie-Gamelin. As for the popular **FAMILLE GOLDENCRUST** by **Les Deux de Pique**, they'll be back on TOHU's public square with their trailer and kitsch decor. Festival-goers will also be able to see **SHOW DEVANT** by **Fred Gérard**, in which acrobats perform on a fire truck.





The festival will once again extend to several parts of the city with the **TOURNÉE DES QUARTIERS**. The show **WAZO** by **1+(1+1)**, participatory workshops with **Moulin à vent** and ambulatory performances by artists **Élodie Sanna** and **Sofiia Vasylevich** will be presented at the Olympic Park, in Pointe-aux-Trembles, Saint-Laurent, Verdun, Montréal-Nord, Anjou, in the Village, at Parc Jean-Drapeau and in Old Montréal.

It should also be mentioned that on Monday, July 10, MONTRÉAL COMPLÈTEMENT CIRQUE will welcome **Cirque Hors Piste** and its **CABARET DU CIRQUE SOCIAL** at Cirqu'easy. Finally, **CIRCUS SHORT FILMS** will be presented at **Cinéma Beaubien** before the screenings of the films "Coeur de slush", "Sur les chemins noirs" and "Jules au pays d'Asha".

"The free activities of MONTRÉAL COMPLÈTEMENT CIRQUE contribute directly to the vitality of our neighbourhoods and to the democratization of culture. I invite all Montrealers to discover this year's GIANT, as well as other outdoor activities of this not-to-be-missed festival, which showcases the richness and creativity of the circus arts in Montréal." - **Valérie Plante, Mayor of the city of Montréal.**

"Loto-Québec is happy to continue its collaboration with MONTRÉAL COMPLÈTEMENT CIRQUE. We are proud that this event, which entertains the City, is part of the Rendez-vous Loto-Québec programming. We invite festival-goers to join us at Place Pasteur from July 6, for the return of Cirqu'easy!" says **Éric Meunier, Director of Social Involvement at Loto-Québec.**

"The Partenariat du Quartier des spectacles is delighted to welcome once again the MONTRÉAL COMPLÈTEMENT CIRQUE festival to Jardins Gamelin, with the unique show *Gardien du temps*. For more than 10 years, circus arts have been bringing Place Émilie-Gamelin and Saint-Denis Street to life, with activities for children and dazzling performances for adults. I invite all Montrealers, visitors and tourists to let themselves be carried away by the magic of circus," declared **Monique Simard, Chair of the Board of Directors of the Partenariat du Quartier des spectacles.**

In addition to the outdoor programming, this year the festival presents 14 indoor shows, half of which are international (Argentina, Australia, United States, France, Mexico, Czech Republic). The audience of MONTRÉAL COMPLÈTEMENT CIRQUE can expect to experience a wide range of emotions. More than ever, there is something for everyone's taste.

With a program rich in surprises and emotions, this new edition of **MONTRÉAL COMPLÈTEMENT CIRQUE**, presented in collaboration with **Loto-Québec**, promises to be one of Montreal's must-see events of the summer.

THE 14TH EDITION OF MONTRÉAL COMPLÈTEMENT CIRQUE WILL TAKE PLACE FROM JULY 6 TO 16, 2023

TICKETS FOR INDOOR SHOWS CURRENTLY AVAILABLE ONLINE VIA
MONTREALCOMPLETEMENTCIRQUE.COM, IN PERSON AT THE TOHU BOX OFFICE AND BY PHONE AT 514
376-8648 OR 1 888 376-8648

FOR MORE INFORMATION: MONTREALCOMPLETEMENTCIRQUE.COM

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About MONTRÉAL COMPLÈTEMENT CIRQUE, a TOHU Festival

MONTRÉAL COMPLÈTEMENT CIRQUE is a unifying and mobilizing festival that offers every year, in July, a circus program spread across the city for 11 days. Created in 2010, MONTRÉAL COMPLÈTEMENT CIRQUE is the result of a collective dream. TOHU—the project's driving force—along with the support of Cirque Éloize, Les 7 doigts, Cirque du Soleil, the National Circus School and En Piste, have pooled their expertise, resources and will to create the first North American international festival dedicated to circus arts.

MONTRÉAL COMPLÈTEMENT CIRQUE is produced by TOHU and presented in collaboration with Loto-Québec. The festival thanks its public partners for their financial support, such as the Gouvernement du Québec, the City of Montreal, the Government of Canada, and the Consulat général de France à Québec. The festival would also like to thank its parapublic, cultural and private partners such as the Quartier des spectacles, Tourisme Montréal, Le Nouveau Centre, the BDC, the SDC Montréal Centre-Ville and the SDC Quartier latin. Thank you to Radio-Canada, our Major partner, as well as to La Presse, our media partner. The festival also benefits from the invaluable collaboration of the Cirque du Soleil Entertainment Group, one of the proud founders of the festival. MONTRÉAL COMPLÈTEMENT CIRQUE is also a member of RÉMI, *le regroupement des événements majeurs internationaux*.

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Source: MONTRÉAL COMPLÈTEMENT CIRQUE

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