



.....
a MENAGERIE *of*
MECHANICAL MARVELS

Cirque  MECHANICS

OCTOBER 28

CIRQUE MECHANICS

42FT – A MENAGERIE OF MECHANICAL MARVELS

MONDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2019 • 7 PM

PEACE CONCERT HALL

ACT 1

Opening
Justin Finds the Circus
Matinee Finale
The Suitcase
Circus Parade
Charivari
Juggling with Rosebud
Duo Trapeze
Zombie Cape
Strong Man Bowling Balls
Bravado Brothers
Juggle Go Round

Intermission

ACT 2

Poster Wall
Revolving Ladder
Rosebud Returns
Animal Trainer
Knife Throwing Wheel
Sword Swallowing
Slack Wire
Strong Man Log
Russian Swing
Justin Joins the Circus
Finale

ABOUT 42FT – A MENAGERIE OF MECHANICAL MARVELS

42ft in diameter has been the measure of the circus ring for 250 years. Englishman Philip Astley discovered that horses galloping inside this ring provide the ideal platform for acrobatic feats, and these equestrian acrobatics, along with clowns and flyers, are a large part of what we've all come to know as the circus.

This 250th anniversary of Astley's circus inspired Cirque Mechanics to produce a one-ring traditional circus show in their own modern mechanical way. *42ft – A Menagerie*

of *Mechanical Marvels* follows the story of a down and out roustabout filled with wanderlust and enamored with the circus, willing to persevere in order to reach his dream of performing under the big top. *42ft* displays life in a tent show by exposing the glamour inside the ring and the vitality of the back lot.

To capture the authenticity of the traditional, Cirque Mechanics has assembled a veritable menagerie of circus acts worthy of the ring, like the strong man, the Russian swing, the trapeze, the ladder, slack wire, and juggling. And to celebrate the important role animals have played in circus throughout its history, *42ft* features a captivating performer riding on a stunningly life-like mechanical horse!

In *42ft*, Cirque Mechanics dares us to let our imagination run away and jump inside this remarkable ring full of the lore, the beauty, the grit, and the thrill of the circus.

ABOUT CIRQUE MECHANICS

Cirque Mechanics was founded in 2004 by Boston native and German Wheel artist Chris Lashua, after the success of his collaborative project with the Circus Center of San Francisco, *Birdhouse Factory*. Cirque Mechanics quickly established itself as a premiere American circus, with its unique approach to performance, inspiring storytelling, and innovative mechanical staging. *Spectacle Magazine* hailed it as “the greatest contribution to the American circus since Cirque du Soleil.”

Cirque Mechanics, although inspired by modern circus, finds its roots in the mechanical and its heart in the stories of American ingenuity. The shows, rooted in realism, display a raw quality rarely found in modern circus that makes their message timeless and relevant. The stories are wrapped in circus acrobatics, mechanical wonders, and a bit of clowning around. The troupe has created four extraordinary productions; *Birdhouse Factory*, *Boom Town*, *Pedal Punk*, and now *42ft – A Menagerie of Mechanical Marvels*.

CREATIVE DESIGN TEAM

Chris Lashua – Founder, Creative Director, Producer, Machine Designer

Company founder Chris Lashua hails from Boston, Massachusetts, where he spent most of his youth riding on a BMX bike. He was discovered by Cirque du Soleil and created/performed a BMX bike act that was entirely his own. He was then commissioned to build a “German Wheel” act for the company, an act he performed for several years in Cirque du Soleil’s production of *Quidam*, cementing his reputation as a visionary of circus gadgetry. His engineering chops and creative energy led him to ‘run away’ with his own circus company, Cirque Mechanics.

Chris believes that innovative mechanical apparatus and the relationship between performer and machine sets his company apart and is at the heart of what makes Cirque Mechanics unique. Chris has delivered on this unique approach in the company’s theatrical productions. His innovative machines interact with acrobats, dancers, jugglers, and contortionists on a 1920s factory floor in *Birdhouse Factory*, a gold rush era town in *Boom Town*, accompany world renowned symphonies in the *Orchestra Project*, and in a bicycle shop in *Pedal Punk*.

Now, in *42ft – A Menagerie of Mechanical Marvels*, Chris continues to build on the might of his engineering mind, his passion for the circus, and all things mechanical by designing a veritable menagerie of mechanical devices worthy of the generations of circus shows and acts the production aims to honor.

When Chris is not developing material for a theatrical show, he is building other wacky performance devices for events, most recently the Paddleship, a portable stage that not only floats, but also can be navigated by pedal powered paddle wheels. Chris is a producing partner of the Vegas International Variety Arts Festival (VIVAFest). He was also recently featured as a guest lecturer at the annual Association for Theater in Higher Education Conference.

Aloysia Gavre – Co-Director, Choreographer

Aloysia Gavre co-founded both Cirque School and Troupe Vertigo in Los Angeles in 2009 after 22 years of touring internationally with the Pickle Family Circus, Cirque du Soleil, and symphonies around the globe, including the Sydney Opera House and the Kennedy Center. Her passion and knowledge for the circus arts has led her to a career as a director, choreographer, and educator, including *Cirque Cracker* - Phoenix Symphony, *Cirque Broadway* - Baltimore Symphony, and *Cirque Cinema* - Indianapolis Symphony, as well as her own creations including *Tableaux*. She has both coached and choreographed for film and television, including *Water for Elephants*, *Pitch Perfect 2*, *Bravo*, *NBC*, and *BuzzFeed*. She has been recognized in *Dance Teacher Magazine*, *Dance Informa*, and speaking engagements with TEDx, Center Theater Group, Directors Lab, Chicago Circus Festival, AYCO, and VIVA Fest Las Vegas. Aloysia has been a long-time artistic collaborator with Cirque Mechanics, having had creative involvement in multiple shows since 2004, after meeting Chris Lashua while performing in Cirque du Soleil.

Sean Riley – Set Designer, Artistic Rigger

Sean Riley has a 20-year career combining suspension, kinetic movement, and design with performance. Through scenic design, rigging design, and mechanical design, often in concert with each other, he creates unique performance environments. Concentrating his design for performance on site-specific and non-traditional work, Sean has created installations in collaboration with a wide spectrum of accomplished artists and collaborators. Known for his bold and often surprising use of space and for large-scale movement, Sean's installations commonly reflect his lifelong obsession with gravity and Newtonian physics. His works have been installed from backyards to Broadway and continue to tour internationally. He is a founding member of Cirque Mechanics and his company Gravity Design, through which he has developed an arsenal of specialized tools, pushing the bounds of performance as well as industrial safety. Sean was the host of the National Geographic television series *World's Toughest Fixes* and the four-part docuseries *Speed*, currently on Curiosity Stream.
www.visiblegravity.com, www.gravitydesign.org, www.cirquemechanics.com

Michael Picton – Composer

Michael Picton is an award-winning composer whose eclectic career spans film, television, advertising, theater, and circus. Michael has scored four Cirque Mechanics productions: *Boom Town*, the *Orchestra Project*, *Pedal Punk*, and now *42ft*. His circus career began as a performer, touring as keyboardist with Cirque du Soleil's *Quidam*. He has written songs and score for six editions of the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus: *Bellobration*, *Funundrum*, *Dragons*, *Built to Amaze*, *Circus Xtreme*, and the final edition, *Out of this World*. Recently his live work has expanded to include superhero arena shows, with Feld Entertainment's *Marvel Universe Live* and *Marvel Universe Live - Age of Heroes*, currently touring the U.S.

The winner of the Turner Classic Movies Young Film Composers Competition, Michael was chosen from a field of over 600 aspiring composers by a jury chaired by the legendary Elmer Bernstein. For TCM, he scored the silent films *The Temptress* and *The*

Red Mill. Other film and television work includes *Mutt & Stuff* for Sid and Marty Krofft on Nickelodeon, the SyFy series *Flash Gordon*, the independent feature *Little Chenier*, and main title themes for *I Want to Work for Diddy* and *Bates Motel*. Michael has composed network themes for PBS, Amazon Originals, and CNN International, among others, as well as commercials and promos for a long list of clients.

Steven Ragatz – Writer

An original *Birdhouse Factory*, *Boom Town*, and *Orchestra Project* cast member collaborator, plus lead writer for *Pedal Punk*, Steven Ragatz has been entertaining audiences with his juggling, physical comedy, stilt walking, and general antics for the past three decades. As a 10-year veteran of Cirque du Soleil, Steven has toured throughout North, South, and Central America, as well as Asia and Europe, performing multiple juggling acts as well as an eclectic array of characters. Steven is on the staff of Bloomington's Stage Flight Circus Arts, where he teaches juggling and unicycle skills workshops. You can find Steven on stage currently touring his one-man show *Under the Umbrella, Life is a Circus* - an evening with a juggling virtuoso and stories from world-wide circus adventures.

Steven holds a B.A. in Variety Theater and an M.S. in Computer Science from Indiana University. He studied mime, stage movement, and circus arts with Fred Garbo, Tony Montanaro, George Pinney, and Michael Moschen. He and his wife, Lisa, have two children, Melissa and Andrew, and currently live in Indiana, where they have perfected the art of making the perfect margarita.

Anthony Powers – Lighting Designer

Anthony Powers is a Lighting Designer and Production Manager who has worked on a wide array of shows across four continents. He has been working with Cirque Mechanics since 2010 and is excited to be designing his third show with them. Anthony has had a hand in all of the CM touring shows, as either the Lighting Designer or the Lighting & Technical Director on tour. Outside of Cirque Mechanics, Anthony has been the Designer or Production Manager for concerts, festivals, and events across the U.S. He currently has the honor of being the General Manager for the San Francisco office of Felix Lighting. If he wasn't working in the lighting world, he would want to be a Cheesemonger or an editor for Marvel Comics (if Joe Quesada or C.B. Cebulski are reading this – feel free to call him). Anthony currently lives in Oakland, CA, with his wife Jody and their dog Lemmy in an apartment way too small for his 11,000 comic books.

Caroline Rogers – Costume Designer

Caroline Rogers started at a young age as a ballerina, and by the age of 16 and for the next decade she was a professional aerialist traveling all over the world performing for private gala events. This is also how she met her husband, fellow cast member Kevin Rogers. Taught how to sew as a young girl and with her experience on stage wearing costumes, she had the perfect background and skills to move into costume design and building. She has now been designing for almost a decade for various companies at live gala events, award shows, theme parks, and tours, including Disney, DreamWorks, and Cirque Mechanics. She is so excited to present her vision of a 1930s circus in *42ft!* You can follow her work and crazy life on Instagram @ninesdesigns.

Nata Ibragimov – Artist, Illustrator, Poster and Headpiece Designer

Originally from Baku, Azerbaijan, Nata Ibragimov currently resides in Los Angeles. She was a national level rhythmic gymnast for 11 years. After retiring from the sport at the age of 16, she pursued her other passions, such as visual and performing arts. Circus

was a perfect outlet for her creativity, and it gave her freedom to experiment and improve her skills. Nata was an original cast member in Cirque Mechanics' *Pedal Punk*, performing a solo hula-hoop act. She toured with *Pedal Punk* all four seasons. Nata is currently a member of Troupe Vertigo and a Coach at Cirque School LA. She is grateful that circus has given her the opportunity to meet some incredibly talented people who inspire her art every day. Nata is a professional illustrator whose paintings have been included in private collections and displayed in galleries around the world. www.nataillustration.com

Aida Lashua – Co-Producer, Collaborator

Aida Lashua has been Chris' co-producer and creative partner in life and work for over 20 years. Their partnership includes nearly a decade of touring and work experience with Cirque du Soleil (CDS) as well as over a decade running their own company, Cirque Mechanics. Aida worked for CDS sponsor AT&T, implementing their multi-million-dollar sponsorship agreement on tour, which included product placement, sales staff training, and supervision of special sales promotions. She also worked as a Box Office Supervisor and House Manager for CDS, where she trained and managed a staff of 60, implemented customer service policies, and helped develop and revise training manuals and VIP Package tests.

Thanks to her experience with CDS, Aida has an appreciation for the business and a passion for the circus arts. She currently manages the day-to-day operations of Cirque Mechanics and family with poise, as a creative force and a stabilizing influence. Aida's education and background in direct marketing allows her to use a targeted message approach in the development of the company's website and social media presence. As a mother of three boys, Aida is an avid supporter of the educational component and community outreach programs offered by Cirque Mechanics. She has written the education outreach support materials and study guides, as well as developed the structure of the educational workshops. Aida, who is a native of Puerto Rico, feels most at home near the ocean. She hopes to one day become a published writer.

Janeen Johnson – Creative Team Liaison, Director Of Production

A maven of stagecraft for over 20 years, Janeen Johnson has served in stage management for dance, theater, and special events in both public and private sectors. In 2008, Janeen embarked upon her maiden voyage into circus with the tour of Cirque Mechanics' *Birdhouse Factory*. She continued her journey touring with the company's succeeding productions: *Boom Town* and *Pedal Punk*, serving as Production Stage Manager. Today, 11 years later, demonstrating her management prowess, Janeen has toured with Cirque Mechanics, managing the company's seasonal touring productions in North America, Europe, and Asia. She is delighted to return for the company's latest production, *42ft – A Menagerie of Mechanical Marvels* in its second season.

Janeen continues to find joy in supporting the performing arts locally and beyond, and provides onsite event management, project-planning strategies, and producing community arts events in between tours. www.janeen-johnson.com

Joe D'emilio – Lighting Designer

Joe D'Emilio is a New York City based lighting designer with over a decade of experience in theater, opera, dance, and special events. He joined the Cirque Mechanics family in 2015 on *Birdhouse Factory* and continued on to tour with *Pedal Punk*. Additionally, Joe has designed for Circus Juventas in St. Paul, MN, Bindlestiff Family Cirkus in NYC, and Circus Sarasota. His SF Bay Area designs include work with

Ray of Light Theatre, Broadway By the Bay, Aurora Theatre, and ACT. When not out on the road, Joe works at the NYC venues National Sawdust, The Box, and the Met Museum. He is a proud member of United Scenic Artists Local 829. Portfolio available at joedemilio.com.

Mike Brown – Bullwhip Trainer, Collaborator

Mike Brown is a performer and producer who loves to design, build, and perform with unique fire manipulation props and devices - the bigger, the better. Overexposure to Indiana Jones movies has also led him to a healthy interest in bullwhips. Mike has performed in excess of 3,000 shows in 12 countries around the world, across Asia, Europe, and North America, including performing a solo fire manipulation act, for over seven years, in Cirque Du Soleil's prestigious Las Vegas production *O*. Other parts in the show involved manipulation of bullwhips as well as driving a mechanical floating horse. He also performed a large two-part fire stunt at the 74th Academy Awards ceremony in 2002 as part of a 30-strong Cirque Du Soleil special events troupe. When he is not whipping and burning things he loves hiking and camping with his wife, traveling on exotic adventures, and throwing knives, sometimes at the same time. He also likes long walks on the beach . . . with a metal detector, and meditation. He has been heard to remark that, "Finding treasure will not bring you a peaceful mind, but a peaceful mind might well bring you to find treasure!"

CAST

Wes Hatfield – Captain, Coach, Acrobat

Wes Hatfield was born in California. His parents raised him in Germany, where he got his start in gymnastics. At age 10 he joined T&T (Trampoline and Tumbling) when he and his family moved to Colorado. In the world of trampoline competition his resume includes several State and National Championship titles. At age 19 he quit competition and became a circus performer, traveling around the world wowing audiences with his technical prowess and zany comedic antics. Wes has been an integral cast member in all of Cirque Mechanics' touring productions - *Birdhouse Factory*, *Boom Town*, and *Pedal Punk*, performing trampoline, Chinese pole, Cyr wheel, and general acrobatics along with group choreography. Over the years Wes has become part of the Cirque Mechanics production team, acting as Team Leader for the cast and Head Artistic Rigger for the setup of the show. Wes now lives in Las Vegas where he continues his work with Cirque Mechanics. He is a fan of avocados, needing only a spoon to enjoy them. His favorite breakfast entree is steak and eggs with hash browns...not potato chunks...hash browns...don't forget the catchup.

Justin Therrien – Clown

Justin Therrien has been working in theater and circus as a self-taught performer for nearly a decade. He has focused most of his efforts into weaving together traditional circus and sideshow skills with a theatrical element. He hopes this approach gives new breath to these familiar and loved art forms. Following the footsteps of the vaudeville greats and legendary circus clowns has brought him to many amazing stages across the world, including giant theaters, traditional circuses, operas, circus festivals, competitions, and even refugee camps all over the Middle East and Europe. He has seen comedy bring many different types of people together and believes that lightness and laughter could be a good starting place to change the world. Justin appeared on *The Gong Show* and *America's Got Talent* as a contestant and was also awarded a Guinness World Record for "longest string pulled through the nose and mouth in one minute." Off the stage you can find him cutting a rug on the dance floor, exploring roadside attractions, or traipsing through the forest looking for edible mushrooms.

Austin Bradley – Acrobat

Austin Bradley began his acrobatic training in high school, thanks to the popularity of parkour and free running. His parkour skills and experience would eventually lead him to the circus, but first he completed an invaluable tour with the United States Air Force. Austin started training, coaching, and performing with *HKPK- Hardkore Parkour* after leaving the Air Force. He then became a cast member on *Dolly Parton's Pirates Voyage Dinner and Show* in Myrtle Beach, SC. It was during his time with *Pirates Voyage* that Austin sharpened his more traditional acrobatic and aerial circus skills on devices such as Chinese poles, Russian swing, and Spanish web, plus he acquired aquatic performance expertise in three meter diving and high diving. He hopes to take his talents and experience even further and show the world what he can accomplish. Austin is thrilled to start life on tour with *Cirque Mechanics in 42ft – A Menagerie of Mechanical Marvels*.

Brysen Bishop – Acrobat

At a young age, Brysen Bishop always had a passion for performing and acrobatics, but it was being cast in an episode of *So You Think You Can Dance* in high school that enlightened him to the idea of performing as a career. Brysen performed duo trapeze and ground acrobatics while in college, with an on-campus troop of circus-inspired theater students. After college, Brysen had intentions of becoming an anesthesiologist, but he instead pursued a different opportunity and became an acrobat for *Dolly Parton's Pirates Voyage Dinner and Show* in Myrtle Beach, SC.

During his three-year tenure at *Pirates Voyage* Brysen learned a variety of circus skills, such as tumbling, diving, sword fighting, trampoline, tramp wall, Russian swing, and Chinese pole. He even performed as a back-up voice character, adding some voice acting to his repertoire. Confident with the skills he acquired at *Pirates Voyage*, Brysen moved to Las Vegas, NV, to audition for *Cirque du Soleil*. He attended a workshop with *The Catwall Acrobats* and was later hired as a Russian swing performer on the limited-run show *Rebel* by *Cirque du Soleil* in Andorra. Brysen continues to train hard and learn as many disciplines as he can to broaden the opportunities of performing.

Taylor Stevens – Acrobat

Taylor Stevens was raised in Myrtle Beach, SC, where she was exposed to gymnastics at an early age. She quickly fell in love with the sport and dedicated the majority of her life to it. In her gymnastics career, Taylor was able to successfully medal in the South Carolina State Championships. She graduated with a degree in Project and Organizational Management, but decided to use her gymnastics experience and education to pursue her dreams of performing, especially within the world of circus. She started her acrobatic career at *Dolly Parton's Pirates Voyage Dinner and Show* in her hometown. She began as a generalist, but was later promoted to Captain Red Scarlet, the show's female lead role. *Pirates Voyage* afforded her the opportunity to learn and improve her skills on a variety of different performance apparatus, and solo and group acts, like the teeterboard, Russian swing, Chinese poles, aquatic diving, and duo trapeze. She recently moved to Las Vegas, NV, to keep on chasing her dreams. Taylor absolutely loves her animal child, Otto, going to the movies, Boba tea, and simply enjoying what life has to offer.

Nikki Unwinn – Acrobat

Nikki Unwinn has been performing circus arts since 2012. She began as an aerialist at *Pendulum Aerial Arts* in Portland, OR, her main disciplines being dance trapeze and same-size duo work. Her love for performance began with participating in their contemporary in-house shows, as well as corporate gigs for various Oregon based companies, including Intel, Nike, and Travel Portland.

Since moving to San Diego in 2017, she has focused on training hand-to-hand and duo trapeze with her partner Ely at the San Diego Circus Center. Aside from training in San Diego, Nikki has been booked for yearly spring and summer contracts performing hand-to-hand, juggling, and puppetry with Wray Creations at the San Diego Zoo. She is overjoyed to join the Cirque Mechanics team for the national tour of 42ft!

Elijah Newton – Acrobat

Elijah Newton has been training acrobatics with his partner Nikki Unwinn for over six years. In 2016, they moved from Eugene, OR, to San Diego, CA, to train more seriously at the San Diego Circus Center, where they worked on perfecting their hand-to-hand and duo aerial skills. In addition to his circus acts, Elijah performs puppetry. You may have seen Elijah at the San Diego Zoo, where he performs seasonally for Wray Creations. He is eager to travel the country with Cirque Mechanics and the national tour of 42ft.

Esther De Monteflores – Slackwire Performer, Juggler

Esther De Monteflores is one of a tiny handful of circus performers in the USA specializing in slackwire walking. In her work, Esther seeks a balance between technical skill and expressive movement, and her unique take on circus has been seen across North America. Esther's recent touring credits include Bindlestiff Family Cirkus (New York, NY), Circus Bella (San Francisco, CA), and her own company, A Frayed Knot Circus (Seattle, WA). Esther's work has received grant funding from 4Culture (Seattle, WA) and Artist Trust (Washington State). Esther is an original 42ft cast member and is excited for the second season on tour with Cirque Mechanics. She maintains a keen interest in building puppets and masks, enjoys commuting by bicycle, and loves small, green, vintage mugs.

Brooke Neilson – Acrobat

Brooke Neilson has been a gymnast most of her life. She majored in Dance Performance at Valencia College in Orlando, FL, where she was born and raised. After college she performed at Universal Studios Orlando in the Superstar Parade, *Terminator 2:3D Experience*, *The 8th Voyage of Sinbad* stunt show, the Macy's Holiday Parade, and Mardi Gras Parade. Brooke got her first break into the circus world at Sea World San Diego's summer show *Cirque De La Mer*. There she performed Chinese pole and tramp wall with aquatic dismounts. She continued to develop her circus skills on the Carnival Dream cruise ship, performing hand-to-hand, Chinese pole, tumbling, and dancing acts. She recently moved to Las Vegas, NV. Brooke spent last summer bouncing on tramp wall at the San Diego Zoo. She is obsessed with traveling and horses, and she spends all her money on both - travel adventures and her horse, Echo.

Michael Rubino – Acrobat

Michael Rubino started out in gymnastics at the gym his parents owned. His mother would carry him in a sling while she coached until he was old enough to walk. He moved around for a few years, changing gyms and states. Michael was also involved in theater. At the age of 17, combining his acting and gymnastics experience and skills, he landed his first acrobatic job at Lego Land California as a firefighter for a kids show. In the past seven years, Michael has performed in shows at Disneyland California, *Cirque De La Mer*, *Cirque Electrique*, San Diego Zoo, Six Flags in New Jersey, *Circulation Locale* in Belgium, and *Milord Entertainment* in Canada. Michael enjoys being outdoors and finding the best shady spot to take naps.

Tatiana Vasilenko – Juggler

Tatiana Vasilenko was born to a circus family in a small city in Russia, where she always dreamt about performing on a circus stage. She began circus skills training by practicing

tricks with her dad (who is a juggler); she learned hula-hooping and general acrobatics. Inspired by a bounce-juggling act she first saw on video, she decided to pursue it. Following in her dad's footsteps, Tatiana became a juggler. She graduated from the Moscow Circus School before moving to Las Vegas in 2014. Tatiana has worked all over the world in cities like Moscow, Paris, Singapore, and Vietnam. She has been a featured act in *Rose.Rabbit.Lie* at the Cosmopolitan Hotel and Casino and in *Tommy Wind Magic Show* and *Streetmosphere* at the Venetian Hotel and Casino. Tatiana is a fan of football (soccer) and astronomy ... you may find her looking up at the sky and dreaming about flying to the moon or playing soccer, hopefully with Leo Messi someday.

Tulga – Battulga Battogtokh – Strongman

Born and raised in the Gobi desert in Mongolia, Battulga "Tulga" Battogtokh trained in traditional wrestling, acrobatic, and circus arts. He decided to join the circus after he graduated with a bachelor's degree in history. He performed in America for the first time with Ringling Bros and Barnum & Bailey Circus, where he performed point ballet acrobatics, aerial straps, and his Mongolian Strongman act, all while touring the country on Ringling's historic one-mile long circus train.

In a showcase of unbelievable strength, this strongman demonstrates a herculean display of human dexterity as he juggles bowling balls and lifts large cumbersome telephone poles, performing unbelievable displays of strength and agility. Tulga won the Golden Elephant at the international circus festival in Spain. He's performed in nine different television shows around the world, including *America's Got Talent*, *Das Supertalent* in Germany, *La France a un Incroyable Talent*, *Tu Si Que Vales* in Italy, *World's Got Talent* in China, and *Australia's Got Talent*.

A NOTE OF THANKS FROM THE PRODUCERS

We want to thank our family...our three wonderful sons, Zion, Quinn, and Iago...for their unconditional love and support, their enthusiasm, their imagination, and for adopting the spirit of a true circus family by discussing act ideas, narrative, and plot points at the dinner table and helping in the shop with painting, building, and clean up! Our parents for taking us to the circus as children and allowing us to dream. Our cast and crew for their tireless efforts and their collaborative energy. Marc Baylin and his team at Baylin Artists Management for believing in our company and setting us on a new path. Lori Pullen and the University of Las Vegas for their sponsorship. Armand Thomas for his continuing support of us, our family, and our projects. Bo Bogatin and Kurt Nelson for keeping us honest and legal. Andy Espo for his friendship, clear head, and objectivity. Bryan Schuette and the boys at United Machine, for fabricating and creating and trusting us with their equipment. Terry Pittman at The Bike Shop in Henderson for helping to make the mechanical horse go. Michael Brown of Blue Sky Circus Productions for the many sessions of whip training. Don Seiersen at Vishnu Creative for his great graphic support, Maike Schulz Photography for her wonderful and stunning images, Brendan Mullenix for his dedication, positive attitude and willingness to learn, Skye Strauss for studying and documenting the process, Renee Clinton for being a champion of our work, and our friends and family at Cirque du Soleil for continuing to set the bar higher. The creation process was long and arduous, but extremely rewarding. We had so much fun designing and exploring, training and rehearsing. Our goal is that you are entertained, and our hope is that you are moved. Finally, thank you to our audiences for your loyalty and your faith in our company, for the laughs, the applause, and the appreciation for the circus arts.

- Chris and Aida Lashua

Program content provided by Cirque Mechanics.



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AT A GLANCE

UPCOMING EVENTS AT THE PEACE CENTER

*An Evening with Edwin McCain,
Maia Sharp, and*
SARAH SISKIND
NOVEMBER 1

KATHLEEN TURNER
Finding My Voice
NOVEMBER 5

2019-2020 Broadway Series
ONCE ON THIS ISLAND
NOVEMBER 5-10

SILKROAD ENSEMBLE
NOVEMBER 12

ALICE COOPER
NOVEMBER 15

**MANNHEIM
STEAMROLLER CHRISTMAS**
NOVEMBER 23

POSTMODERN JUKEBOX
A Very Postmodern Christmas
NOVEMBER 26

ROBERT EARL KEEN
Countdown to Christmas
DECEMBER 2

LINDSEY STIRLING
Warmer in the Winter Christmas Tour 2019
DECEMBER 16

**SPAMILTON:
AN AMERICAN PARODY**
DECEMBER 17 – JANUARY 5
2019-2020 Broadway Series

**BEAUTIFUL –
THE CAROLE KING MUSICAL**
DECEMBER 31 – JANUARY 5

An Evening with
**PATRICK DAVIS &
HIS MIDNIGHT CHOIR**
JANUARY 9

An Evening with
BILL ENGVALL
JANUARY 10

**NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC LIVE:
OCEAN SOUL**
with Brian Skerry
JANUARY 13

An Evening with
BRANFORD MARSALIS
JANUARY 15

NFM WROCŁAW PHILHARMONIC
JANUARY 19

*An Evening with Edwin McCain,
Maia Sharp, and*
JASON WHITE
JANUARY 24