

LATEST CREATION 2022 - CIE CIRQUE EXALTÉ

FOUTOIR

Céleste



THE COMPANY

A BRIEF HISTORY

The company **Cirque Exalté** was founded in 2009, by Sara Desprez and Angelos Matsakis.

All our different shows have one thing in common : "rock attitude" - it drives our circus technique and the characters we create and it gives us our infectious, effusive energy. We put our hearts and guts into each show. As we hurl juggling clubs and our own bodies high into the air, we shout out for freedom.

The company has been touring throughout France since 2010 ...

« Complètement Swing ! »

(*Totally Swing!*, premiered in 2010)

« Furieuse Tendresse »

(*Furious Tenderness*, premiered in 2014)

« Coyote » (premiered in 2018)

« Amants » (*Lovers*, premiered in 2020)

« Foutoir Céleste »

(*Heavenly Mayhem*, to be premiered in 2022))

Emile Sabord Production is our company promoter and l'Envoleur is our producer.

« ART, JUST LIKE POETRY, HAS NOTHING TO GAIN FROM BEING ELITIST, IT EMERGES DIRECTLY FROM THE POWER OF THE PEOPLE, AN ART FROM THE STREET AND FROM THE ROAD, FROM DUST, FROM THE FAILURES OF WAR, AND FROM BIRTH AND BARBARIC CELEBRATIONS.... »

Patti SMITH, *Dream of life*

Cirque
exalté



IN THE BEGINNING

We wanted to create a show exploring the themes of instinct, gut-reactions and wildness - this led us straight to the idea of circularity.

The square is a human invention, whilst the circle is found in nature everywhere. Since the beginning of time, humans have been forming circles when they come together - to dance, to pray, to talk, to play. This circular union creates a certain synergy.

We decided to base our research on all that is circular and cyclic : exploring circularity in our circus technique, in symbolism and in our aesthetic choices, circles going round and round and round ... this led us to dancing in a round, which in turn led us to the concept of trance.

We then had to decide what space we wanted to set the show in. We wanted the stage area to fully correspond to our needs, which of course meant a concentric space enveloping the audience, giving them the impression we are all bound together. A circus tent was the obvious choice.



WELCOME TO OUR CELEBRATION OF THE COYOTE!

« For Native Americans, Coyote is the god who comes and turns our lives upside down, pushing us towards our core desires.

Sometimes he just comes to tickle us gently, sometimes he is brutal and vicious, sometimes he is sly, sneaky and insistant. He finds things funny, especially when they happen to others...

Of course, he freaks everyone out. You don't want to cross paths with the coyote, you don't want to see him, you try to ignore him, you definitely don't want to look him in the eye. But he couldn't care less, he never gives up, he never lets go, he keeps coming back for you.

There he is, hidden in the things we find unbearable, the things we fear we will never get over. He is the sand in the gears, the spanner in the works, a violent kick in our cosy, safe cocoon. He's a trickster, stirring up trouble in our lives over and over again, testing our limits and pulling us towards the sublime.

Today it's the anniversary of his arrival on Earth.

Somewhere between a trance of consolation, a rite of passage and all-night partying, we invite you all, ladies and gentlemen, to join us in celebrating the birth of our Coyote God. »

WORK NOTES – SARA DESPREZ

« This show will be a ritual.

A ritual created and invented by a group of women and men who have chosen to take time to celebrate their vulnerability, always remembering that this is a part of their humanity.

A celebration of uncertainty and risk, to remind ourselves to never, EVER, give in to safety and comfort.

A ceremony to rejoice in the fact we will never be all-powerful gods and that it really doesn't matter.

A primordial acknowledgement.

A huge fire of joy, burning our desire for invincibility. »

CIRCUS TECHNIQUES IN THE SHOW :

High swinging trapeze, flatland BMX, hand to hand acrobatics, juggling, dance.





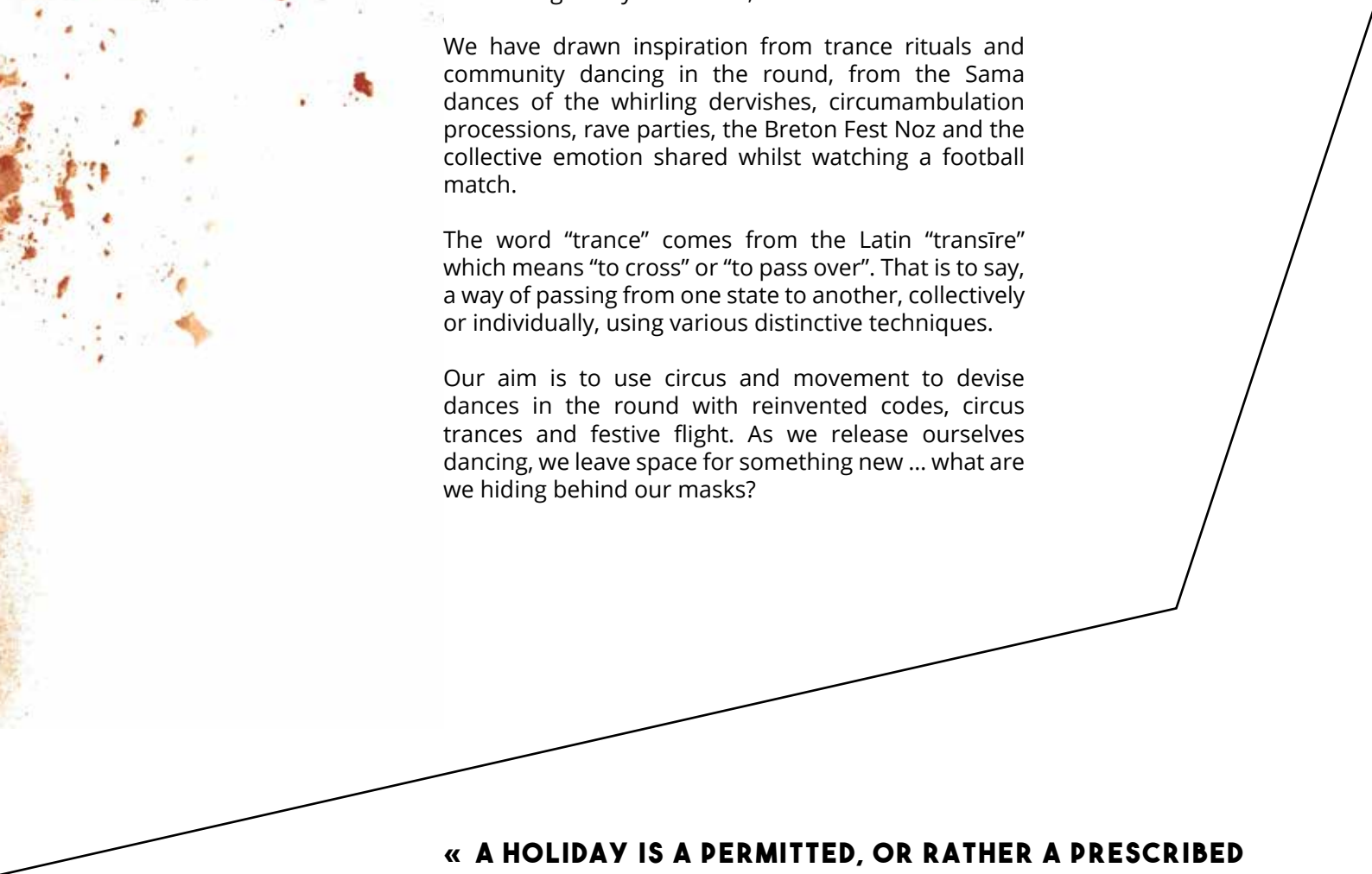
OUR SOURCES OF INSPIRATION

To create this new show, we decided to feed off the oldest festivities in the world, the rites and rituals directly connected to wild nature - both human and earthly - ceremonies which have been around forever, celebrating the cycle of birth, death and revival.

We have drawn inspiration from trance rituals and community dancing in the round, from the Sama dances of the whirling dervishes, circumambulation processions, rave parties, the Breton Fest Noz and the collective emotion shared whilst watching a football match.

The word "trance" comes from the Latin "transire" which means "to cross" or "to pass over". That is to say, a way of passing from one state to another, collectively or individually, using various distinctive techniques.

Our aim is to use circus and movement to devise dances in the round with reinvented codes, circus trances and festive flight. As we release ourselves dancing, we leave space for something new ... what are we hiding behind our masks?



« A HOLIDAY IS A PERMITTED, OR RATHER A PRESCRIBED EXCESS, A SOLEMN VIOLATION OF A PROHIBITION. THE HOLIDAY MOOD IS BROUGHT ABOUT BY INDIVIDUALS AND THE COMMUNITY PARTICIPATING IN THE UNCHAINING OF EVERY IMPULSE AND THE RELEASE OF WHAT IS OTHERWISE STRONGLY FORBIDDEN BY SOCIETY. THE FESTIVAL HAS A PURIFYING FUNCTION AND SERVES TO PERIODICALLY REGENERATE SOCIETY. »

FREUD in « Totem and Taboo »



AND WHAT ABOUT THE CIRCUS IN ALL THAT ?

All our shows have featured flight and circus trances, where the characters look like they have let go, no longer seeking to control their circus technique. The energy they release guides them. The idea is to create the impression that the aesthetic result does not matter. What counts is the moment, the sensations, their enthusiasm.

For this show in particular we have decided to focus on two lines of research:

CIRCULARITY, OR CIRCUMAMBULATION

A flying trapeze on a rotating circle truss.

Acrobatic lifts spiralling and circling.

A bike riding round and round the audience behind the rows of seats.

"Rounds": juggled circles, hand to hand acrobatics twisting and turning, dancing in the round ...

Circles, around circles, inside circles.

AND BY OPPOSITION : LONG DIAGONALS

Rock circus, effusive, festive, flirting with limits and boundaries.

A bike hurtling through the rows of seats, across the stage and up the other side : urban, acrobatic, leaping, plunging, skidding ...

Flying, tumbling, acrobatics, non-stop - we're looking to fly further, not higher.

Wild, exhilarating juggling, masses of clubs hurled in bunches, seemingly randomly, spontaneously...

Flying trapeze crossing the stage from one side to the other, the acrobats soaring from one bearer to another.







MUSIC

A big-top circus tent, throbbing to the pulse of synthetic beats offset by celestial melodies. A transcendent dance rhythm, enveloping us, tormenting us, carrying us away.

Our musicians and composers will be focusing on trance and the correlation between deep, thumping beats and lyrical, poetic flourishes.

DAVID MAILLARD

Electronic music machine, bass guitar, household objects

Composer for : De Fracto - EAEO - Notoy - Fusion Pagaille
We love his electronic style and the trance music he creates using simple bric-a-brac. He builds his own instruments out of everyday objects and bits of old instruments to develop new sounds and original rhythms. He is skilled at creating calm, chilling vibes yet also knows how to master sounds that turn you upside down.

ROMAIN DUBOIS

Piano, electronic music machine, percussion

Composer for : Tango sumo - Fleuve - Moral Soul
We love his repetitive, progressive compositions. He navigates between electronic music and real instruments such as his piano, exploring every millimetre of it to find new percussive sounds.

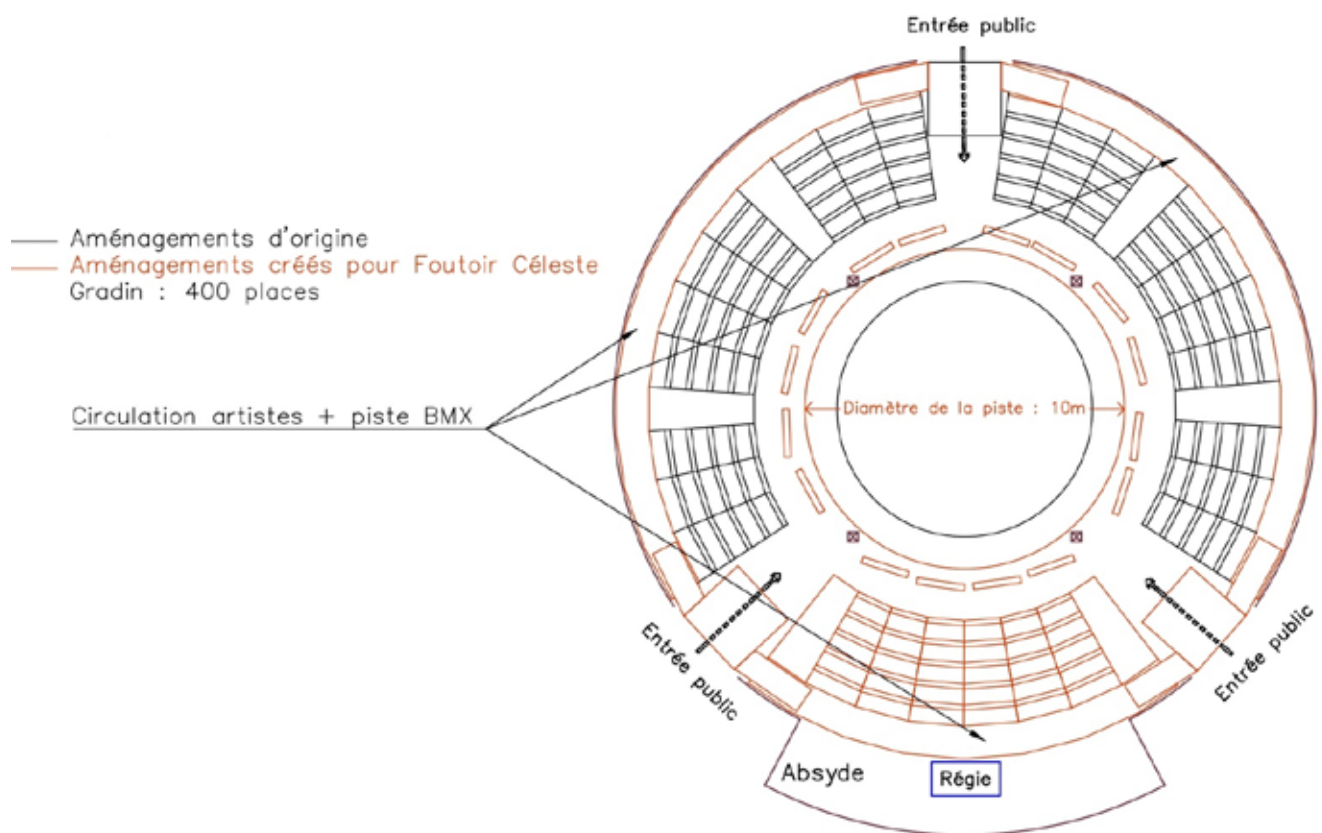


THE SET

**Everything circulates around the circle.
A circular stage, surrounded by circular seating, in a circular circus tent...**

The seating will be designed to allow a bike to cycle around the audience. Up in the fly gallery, a rotating circle truss will be used to rig the trapeze, allowing it to swing in all directions whilst turning. The set will be raw, simple, modern : metal, wood and maybe a shadow - a furtive glimpse of a prowling coyote...

LAYOUT OF BIG-TOP CIRCUS TENT



Motorised circle truss for flying trapeze designed by Eric Abadie, Aérée



THE TEAM

PERFORMERS:

Jonathan Charlet,
Sara Desprez,
Maria Paz Marciano,
Matthieu Bonniecuelle,
Angelos Matsakis,
Maria Jesus Penjean Puig
Marin Garnier

ORIGINAL IDEA AND DRAMATURGY:

Sara Desprez and Angelos Matsakis

ARTISTIC DIRECTION:

Sara Desprez

OUTSIDE EYES:

Brams Dobbelaere (stage)
Stéphanie Gaillard (choregraphy)
Marie Molliens (dramaturgy)

ORIGINAL MUSIC AND SOUNDTRACK:

David Maillard and Romain Dubois

COSTUMES:

Clarisse Baudinière

TECHNICAL TEAM:

Technical design and coordination : Angelos Matsakis
Technical Manager / Big-Top Engineer : Pierre Yves Dubois
Sound and Lighting Engineer : Thibault Rocaboy

CONSTRUCTION DIRECTION:

Bernard Delaire

CIRCLE TRUSS DESIGN & CONSTRUCTION:

Eric Abadie, Aérée

PRODUCTION AND ADMINISTRATION:

Guillaume Cornu and Adeline Morin, L'Envoleur

PROMOTER:

Sylvie Sauvage, Emile Sabord Production

THE CREATIVE TEAM



Matthieu BONNECUELLE
BMX flatland acrobat

Matthieu is a racing cyclist specialising in BMX, he was born in 1994. He recently came 4th in the men's BMX flatland category in the UCI Urban Cycling World Championships 2021. He also trained at the LIDO circus school from 2015 to 2017, creating a duo performance piece called « Mouvement numéro 8 » with a musician, before joining the Cirque Exalté team.



Jesus PENJEAN PUIG,
Hand to hand flying acrobat

Maria Jesus grew up in the world of dance. She crossed over to circus in 2009 and this new path spurred her on to train in aerial acrobatics. She arrived in France in 2015 and began training at the ENACR circus school in Rosny-sous-bois followed by the Centre National des Arts du Cirque in Châlons en Champagne (CNAC) with her circus partner Marin Garnier.



Angelos MATSAKIS
Juggler, hand to hand base acrobat

Angelo trained at the ESAC circus school in Brussels (Ecole Supérieure des Arts du Cirque) and continued training as a self-taught circus artist. He co-founded Cirque Exalté in 2009 as the artistic co-director of the company. He performs in *Complètement Swing !*, *Furieuse Tendresse*, *Coyote* and *Amants*.

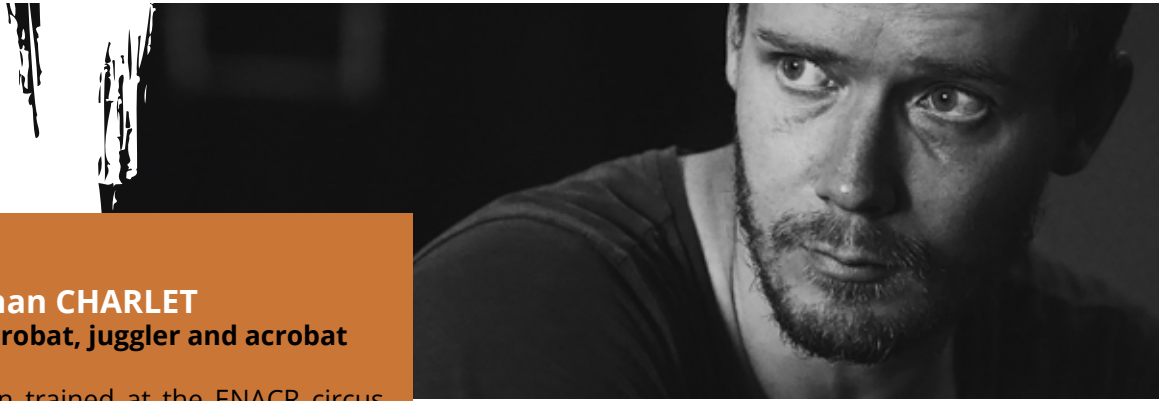
Sara DESPREZ
High swinging trapeziste and flying acrobat

Sara trained at the ESAC circus school in Brussels (Ecole Supérieure des Arts du Cirque) and continued training as a self-taught circus artist. She co-founded Cirque Exalté in 2009 as the artistic co-director of the company and she performs in *Complètement Swing !*, *Furieuse Tendresse* and *Amants*. She directed *Coyote* for the Cirque Exalté and *Cruda* for the collective A sens Unique.



Maria PAZ MARCIANO
Dancer

Born in Peru, Maria trained in contemporary dance at the Barcelona Institut del Teatre and then at VERVE in Leeds, England, getting a Masters degree in 2017. She worked as choreographer and producer for big events such as The 2019 Pan-American Games in Lima and the Drap-Art festival in Barcelona, before joining the Cirque Exalté for *Foutoir Céleste*.



Jonathan CHARLET
Base acrobat, juggler and acrobat

Jonathon trained at the ENACR circus school in Rosny-sous-bois and then at the Centre National des Arts du Cirque in Châlons en Champagne (CNAC). He performed in Over the cloud with Jérôme Thomas and then worked with La Fura dels Baus, Compagnie XY, Compagnie Herve-Gil, Compagnie Azeïn, the Jeune Opéra de France, Compagnie Max et Maurice, and the Cirque Exalté. He is also co-founder of the company Alex on the Wire.



Marin GARNIER
Base hand to hand acrobat

Marin discovered circus at the age of 13 at La Cité du Cirque in Le Mans. Enraptured by the team spirit and thrill of the circus he trained at the National Circus School of Châtelleraut where he specialised in bascule. He then decided to switch techniques, leaving aerial acrobatics behind to become a base acrobat. He entered the ENACR circus school in Rosny-sous-bois and then trained at the Centre National des Arts du Cirque in Châlons en Champagne (CNAC) with his acrobatic partner, Maria Jesus. .

MAIN TECHNICAL ELEMENTS AND REQUIREMENTS

THE SHOW AND TEAM ON TOUR

Family show

Running time : 1 hour/1hour 15 minutes (to be defined)

10 people on tour : 7 performers, 2 technicians, 1 promoter

BIG-TOP CIRCUS TENT

Minimum perimeter required, including campground and safety clearance :
50m x 50m (depending on the campground set-up)

- Interior diameter of big-top circus tent : 22m
- Outside diameter including guy lines and stakes : 29m
- Height of masts : 10m
- Height of tent walls : 3,5m
- Rows of seats / risers : total circular seating, 400 seats

TRUCKS, TRAILERS, CARAVANS, CAMPGROUND

1 semi tractor + 44 ton trailer

1 semi 26 tonnes

7 vans with caravans

Arrival : 4 days before 1st performance date

Departure : 2 days after the last performance date

CONTACT TECHNIQUE

Technical Director : Pierre Yves Dubois

Tel : +33 (0)6 19 80 31 36 / Email : pywy14@live.fr



COPRODUCTIONS

Théâtre de Cusset - Scène conventionnée d'intérêt national pour les arts du cirque et de la danse, SVET Coëvrons - Ville d'Evron, La Cascade - Pole Nationale Cirque, Théâtre Onyx à Saint Herblain - Scène conventionnée d'intérêt national pour les arts du cirque et de la danse, Plongeoir-Cité du Cirque, Ay-Roop - Scène conventionnée de territoire pour les arts de la piste, Communauté de Commune Loué Brulon Noyen - résidence de territoire sur les saisons 20/21 & 21/22, L'Entracte - Scène conventionnée de Sablé sur Sarthe, Le Cheptel Aleikoum - Saint Agil, L'Azimut - Théâtre Firmim Gémier - La Piscine - Pôle national cirque, Circa - Pole National Cirque, Les Quinconces - L'Espal - Scène Nationale Le Mans.

Avec le soutien de : l'Etat, DGCA et direction régionale des affaires culturelles (DRAC) des Pays de la Loire, La Région des Pays de la Loire, le département de la Sarthe.





CONTACTS

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