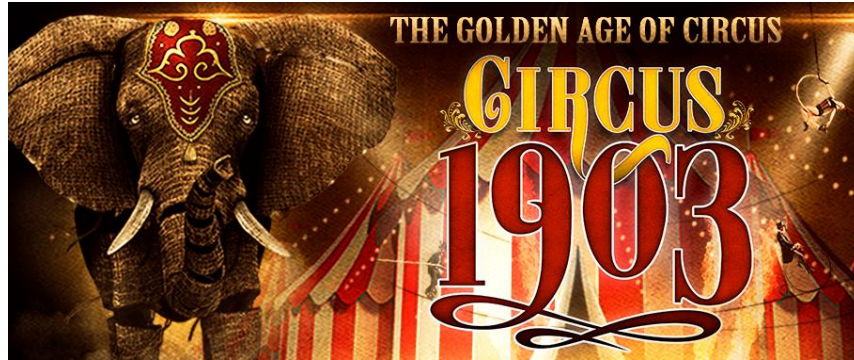




MEDIA RELEASE
22 August 2016

**SYDNEY OPERA HOUSE in ASSOCIATION with THE WORKS ENTERTAINMENT GROUP
PRESENT**



The elephants are back!

Tickets on Sale Wednesday 31 August

In a world-premiere event, the producers of the biggest-selling magic show internationally (*The Illusionists*) team up with the award-winning puppeteers of *War Horse* to present a thrilling turn-of-the-century circus spectacular, with a jaw-dropping twist.

Deploying sensational puppetry on a never-before-seen scale, ***CIRCUS 1903 – The Golden Age of Circus*** puts pachyderms back in the ring. The largest-ever performing African elephant (and her calf) lead a unique cast of the world's most amazing and dangerous acts, including a cycle artist from Germany, jugglers from France, a rola-bola artist from Russia, Ukrainian acrobats, Mexican high-wire artists and a Brazilian knife thrower.

Building on the huge success of ***The Illusionists 1903***, which captured Sydney's imagination during its holiday run last summer, ***CIRCUS 1903*** will take audiences of all ages back to the golden age of circus during its eleven-day, 18-show premiere season in the Opera House Concert Hall in December. After its Australian debut, ***CIRCUS 1903*** transfers direct to Los Angeles and New York.

The award-winning team of puppeteers and model makers who created the National Theatre's *War Horse* will bring to life two stunningly beautiful elephants for ***CIRCUS 1903 – The Golden Age of Circus***. Featuring groundbreaking advances in design and expression, the puppets feature throughout the show as the mother teaches her calf the tricks of the trade.

Produced by Simon Painter and Tim Lawson, the duo behind *Le Grand Cirque*, *Le Noir*, *Cirque Adrenaline* and *The Illusionists*, which have travelled to more than 250 cities globally, ***CIRCUS 1903 – The Golden Age of Circus*** is set in an extraordinary and decadent circus tent, designed by Todd Ivins.

Major Partner

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Costumes are by Angela Aaron, whose impeccable recreations of original turn-of-the-century circus costumes are inspired by photographic collections, historical museum pieces and discussions with experts and historians.

No circus would be complete without music, and the soundtrack of **CIRCUS 1903 – The Golden Age of Circus** encapsulates the time period and accentuates the thrill and danger of the acts. It is composed by Evan Jolly, composer of many of Painter and Lawson's international hits.

This is a truly captivating circus extravaganza that is perfect for audiences of all ages.

What: CIRCUS 1903 – The Golden Age of Circus

When: Sunday 18 December 3pm & 7pm
Tuesday 20 December 3pm & 7pm
Wednesday 21 December 3pm & 7pm
Thursday 22 December 3pm & 7pm
Friday 23 December 3pm & 7pm
Monday 26 December 3pm & 7pm
Tuesday 27 December 3pm & 7pm
Wednesday 28 December 3pm & 7pm
Thursday 29 December 3pm & 7pm

Where: Concert Hall, Sydney Opera House

Tickets: Standard from \$74.90*
Child from \$48.90*
*Transaction fee of \$5 - \$8.50 applies per order, except Insiders members.

Booking: (02) 9250 7777 or sydneyoperahouse.com

More Info: http://www.sydneyoperahouse.com/whatson/circus_1903.aspx
www.circus1903.com

MEDIA ENQUIRIES

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