

# CIRQUE ÉLOIZE

PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

## **The third edition of the annual “Oracle” benefit gala for Cirque Éloize collects over \$340,000**

*An event presented in partnership with Desjardins*

*Montreal, Thursday, May 11* - Over 400 guests walked the red carpet this Thursday evening at the *Oracle de la Plume d'or* annual benefit gala to celebrate the creativity of the Quebec circus arts and Cirque Éloize, at its studios in the former Dalhousie Train Station. The collected total of \$340,000 will go to the continued development of new creative projects from the company.

On their arrival, the guests found themselves plunged into a sensory experience where artists roamed the crowd and shared a variety of fantastical performances. A floral oasis decorated the main hall, while the artists descended in cascades from the ceiling and secret rooms revealed themselves.

The evening's honorary co-presidents, Marie-Christine Cojocar, General Manager of the Caisse de la culture, and Jeannot Painchaud, President and Chief Creative Officer of Cirque Éloize, thanked the guests for their great generosity while highlighting the continued contribution of Cirque Éloize to the development of the circus arts in Quebec and internationally.

A night high on emotions, “Oracle” offered a number of surprises specially created by the artists who put their talents on display and offered their time to create an extraordinary immersive experience. Artist Benoit Finley was a brilliant and engaging master of ceremonies.

It is our great honour to express our gratitude to our major sponsors Fasken Martineau, Québecor, Solotech and Place Victoria, the donors, and our precious presenter Caisse Desjardins, for their generous contributions to the Cirque Éloize mission. Cirque Éloize contributes to the development of original works brought to life by talented artists who take our culture out all over the world.

Cirque Éloize wishes to take this opportunity to recognize the contributions of its loyal governmental partners, the Gouvernement du Québec, the Government of Canada and the City of Montreal. We wish also to highlight the support of our financial partners, Caisse de la Culture Desjardins, Filaction, Investissement Québec and the Société de développement des entreprises culturelles (SODEC). We also thank the Conseil des arts de Montréal for its Fiscal Sponsorship which enabled us to accomplish our artistic endeavours. And finally, a big thank you to our volunteers, the committee of honour and our partners who made this edition a resounding success.

## **Upcoming dates for Cirque Éloize in Quebec**

Cirque Éloize recently announced the return of its most recent creation **Saloon** to the province of Quebec. A show inspired by the rich culture of the Wild West, **Saloon** has already been performed 120 times on four continents since its premiere in St-Tite in 2016. The 2017 performances of Saloon in Quebec are:

- Joliette, Centre culturel de Joliette – August 11 to September 3
- St-Tite, Festival Western de St-Tite – September 9 to 16
- Montreal, Monument-National – September 20 to 30

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## **About Cirque Éloize**

A driving force of Quebec culture for almost 25 years, Cirque Éloize creates and produces moving performances filled with magic. Considered a leader in the contemporary circus world, Cirque Éloize brings together the circus arts, music, dance, technology and theatre to thrill audiences seeking sensually rich entertainment.

Its creations have proudly boasted more than 4,000 performances in over 500 cities and have been seen by over three million spectators, while also taking part in some of the world's most prestigious festivals. In addition to its touring shows, more than 1,500 Cirque Éloize-designed private events have taken place worldwide: [www.cirque-eloize.com](http://www.cirque-eloize.com)

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