

L'HOMME CIRQUE

Created and Performed
by **David Dimitri**
(in a Circus tent)

LORD OF THE WIRE
(NEW YORK TIMES)

ACROBAT

MUSICIAN

HUMAN CANON BALL

L'HOMME CIRQUE

A NEW KIND OF
CIRCUS. HIS VERY
OWN CIRCUS.



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THE PERFORMANCE

“A different kind of circus. David Dimitri is a masterful funambulist, acrobat, musician, and human cannon ball all rolled into one—a circus artist who delivers a stunning one-man performance! As the show unfolds, everyone in the audience feels like a child again. The uniqueness of this spectacular performance lies in its simplicity, spontaneity, poetry, and innovation. The artist takes the stage and weaves a fanciful, intimate world, creating a delicate balance between laughter and thrills as the show builds to a spectacular and unique finale where he shoots himself into the sky with his hand-made, and very real, human canon. It is a delightfully charming circus act that is bound to please children of all ages.”

L'HOMME CIRQUE

Created and performed by David Dimitri

LIGHTING DESIGN Jérôme Soufflet

VIDEO

<https://youtu.be/ZcfosxXy4l0>





DAVID DIMITRI

David Dimitri is internationally acclaimed for his unique style of tight wire dancing. Combining an education at the State Academy for Circus Arts in Budapest with intensive dance studies at New York's renowned Julliard School, David Dimitri has created virtuoso wire dances celebrated at circuses, arts festivals, and concert halls throughout the world – Canada's Cirque du Soleil, New York's Big Apple Circus, the Swiss National Circus Knie, and the Metropolitan Opera under the direction of Jean-Pierre Ponelle, to name just a few. In 2001 David Dimitri's remarkable performing career took on an added dimension. With the invaluable assistance of his father, the famed Swiss clown Dimitri, he created his one man show "ONE-MAN CIRCUS," a sparkling presentation of Nouveau Cirque, both intimate and compelling, performed in a touring circus tent designed and built for the production. David Dimitri has been a guest artist at such prominent festivals as Spoleto Festival USA in Charleston, South Carolina; Lincoln Center Festival New York; Just pour Rire, Montreal, Jeux de Piste, Strasbourg, and the Avignon Festival. David Dimitri has also performed on Broadway, at the New Victory Theater.

In addition, he is never far from the high wire – most memorably when he christened the new Frankfurt Stadium with a spectacular crossing. The "Lord of the Wire" (according to the New York Times) will present a unique and different circus performance, to be enjoyed by the entire family.

HOW DOES ONE BECOME L'HOMME CIRQUE (THE CIRCUS MAN)?

My parents have a theater school in Switzerland and my father, the clown Dimitri, worked with Marcel Marceau for several years. When I was nine, my father took me on tour with the famous Swiss Circus Knie where his clown routine was the feature attraction. And so I caught the circus bug early. At the age of 14, I left home for a 3-year training stint at the State Circus Academy in Budapest and then went on to Juilliard in New York to study dance. I then joined Cirque du Soleil and the Big Apple Circus, as well as Circus Knie. But after a while, repeating the same routine every day without having a chance to progress was no longer enough for me. I wanted more freedom of expression. I wanted to do everything! Which actually turned out to be perfect because I did not have the money to hire anyone else. So I decided to do everything myself.



HOW WAS L'HOMME CIRQUE CREATED?

I put everything that I learned touring with the circus and that my father taught me when I was little into use. And everything that I did not have: a horse to do stunts on, an elephant that catapulted me high up into the air... - I had to come up with an innovative alternative. So, I replaced the elephant's foot with a system of weights and pulleys. For years, I performed on theater stages. And then seven years ago, I purchased a circus tent tailor-made for my show and that is what really launched this performance. That is when "L'homme cirque" became a whole show, a coherent reality. My circus is now my home and I invite people to come and see what I can do ...

AND YOU DO EVERYTHING ALL BY YOURSELF?

Absolutely. I am the circus director in which I am the only performer. Wire walking is my specialty, but I'm also a musical acrobat, and perform as a clown. I even shoot myself out of a real cannon. The special thing about it is that I perform under my own big top which I transport myself around the world in a trailer hitched to a semi. 30 metric tons of equipment.

WHAT WAS THE HARDEST PART?

The hardest part was being alone with my idea. To convince myself again and again that this crazy idea had to work. When you are in that situation, you need to have a lot of conviction, which takes a lot of energy. I have learned to do everything alone. And now I could not imagine doing it with a technician by my side, someone who would not be on the same page as me. Solitude gives me enormous freedom and flexibility. I'm not a loner, however, I always look forward to going home to be with my family in Zurich.

HOW WOULD YOU DEFINE YOUR SHOW?

I am going to go ahead and humbly say that it is magic in a broader sense. Because in the circus, it is not like in the movies or the theater. In the circus everything is real. A somersault is a somersault and you cannot cheat. As time goes on, I appreciate the simplicity of it more and more. The simplicity of a simple gesture, a look. At the right time, timing is very important. I could say, I do more with less every day.

YOU END YOUR SHOW ON A WIRE, 13 METERS UP IN THE AIR, ISN'T THAT DANGEROUS?

Yes, there is zero margin for error and an error would be fatal. This is perhaps the most dangerous part of the show, but it is also the simplest. I'm very focused, I have done it a thousand times and I know the route by heart. Other segments of the show might be less dramatic but are more difficult. For example, I am always a little afraid of the teeterboard act. Therefore, I enjoy the walk on the high wire as it is almost like your school days after the exams are finished...

WHAT ELSE IS NEEDED TO BE A HIGH WIRE WALKER?

It goes beyond the skills or virtuosity, it is a philosophy that you live by. I come from a circus family but since I started walking on the high wire, it has changed my life and my priorities are different. A walk on the high wire is like a metaphor for life, it is a journey where there are storms, high winds and dark nights and there is no turning back. You must go all the way to the end. When you are 60 meters above the ground, you really are alone, you can not call your mom for help. A wire walker can not give up. Pessimistic tightrope walkers do not exist.





IN THE PRESS

“Sometimes, a show under a small big top in the middle of nowhere, we feel that we are moved by grace...when it is as elusive as a tightrope suspended halfway between heaven and Earth... which allows us to glimpse a possible escape through an unexpected skylight, an escape to somewhere else where our head could be in the stars, our feet on a metal wire, a vertical horizontality... When a being can embody the perfect alchemy of body and mind, to summon the child within us and restore the grace and magic of a live show...”

CHARENTE LIBRE (France)

“David Dimitri creates a complete circus all on his own; it is colorful, full of suspense, bravura and humor. And to top it all off, he offers an amazing and wonderfully poetic ending. From a Swiss circus family, this amazing, experienced artist will shock you while putting you in a good mood . Go see it with your family.”

TÉLÉRAMA (France)

“... An extraordinary spectacle in which David Dimitri plays with gravity and virtuosity, exciting young and old alike, full of emotions, laughter and chills.”

LES NUITS DE FOURVIERES (France)

“David Dimitri offers, in an intimate world of craftsmanship, an entire circus show that runs the emotional gamut from laughter to thrills. His smile and mischievous eyes tell his circus story with simplicity, talent and generosity - L'homme cirque (Circus Man) is pure happiness and lifts every spectator up into the sky with an extraordinary ending.”

MIDI LIBRE (France)



SPECIFICATIONS

A 20-meter diameter Big Top (4 white poles with apses) // Capacity : 220 circular bleacher system
 Load-in : 2 days // Load-out : 1,5 days // Length of show : 60 minutes

LOT SIZE

25 meters in diameter with an exterior corridor 70 meters in length to have enough room for the tightrope cable.

LOT TYPE

Grounds need to be levelled and flat, without obstacles and relatively clean.

CARGO VEHICLE

Length of truck : 9.5m // trailer: 9.5m – width : 2.50m – height : 3.90m .

Setting up and taking down the show is done by David Dimiri, who is the technical director. The touring team is made up of two people ; one artist and one tour administrator.

AVAILABLE DOCUMENTS

Multi-risk civil liability insurance, safety record, inspection of the portable electric system, blueprints for the big top, bleacher blueprints, David Dimitri will provide you with a set-up attestation after setting up the big top as well as vehicle information.

THE COMPLETE TECHNICAL RIDER IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST:

SYLVIE SAUVAGE

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28 to 30 April 2018 LE MOULIN JAUNE – CRÉCY LA CHAPELLE (FR)

10 to 13 May 2018 FIRA TRAPEZI – REUS (ES)

1 to 9 June 2018 LE PRINTEMPS DES COMÉDIENS – MONTPELLIER (FR)

15 to 24 June 2018 PRAGUE (CZ)

1 to 8 July 2018 PESCARA (IT)

12 to 13 July 2018 LYON (FR)

4 to 12 August 2018 VERSCIO (CH)



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