

BRISBANE FESTIVAL

Media Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
TUESDAY 28 JULY 2020

CIRCA WELCOMES AUDIENCES BACK TO QPAC WITH QUEENSLAND PREMIERE OF *LEVIATHAN*

Circa's staggering creation of scope and scale, *Leviathan* redraws the boundaries between movement, dance, theatre and circus in a spellbinding Queensland premiere season at QPAC's Playhouse Theatre for Brisbane Festival from 3 – 12 September.

The powerful new circus production from the internationally acclaimed, Brisbane-based Circa offers hope in complex times, as it celebrates what can be achieved when we work together.

Under the direction of Yaron Lifschitz, 18 of Circa's world-renowned ensemble are joined by a local cast of 18 acrobats and dancers, in an action-packed show that explores and exposes the tension between the mass and the individual.

The epic theatrical event is deeply moving and physically stunning with 36 performers hanging from a suspended grid and propelling themselves across the stage, tumbling, balancing and soaring as one.

Circa Artistic Director **Yaron Lifschitz** said he was delighted *Leviathan* would be among the first public performances staged at QPAC since COVID-19 restrictions took hold in March.

"The halls of QPAC are eerily quiet and it will be wonderful to help fill them with the life they deserve," Mr Lifschitz said.

"I love the Playhouse – it is one of the best venues in the country and every time we get on its stage something special happens."

Mr Lifschitz said Circa's long-standing association with Brisbane Festival spawned a valued creative partnership.

"We are a Brisbane company with global reach and by including local acrobats, dancers and young artists we are able to create lasting outcomes and connections," Mr Lifschitz said.

"Brisbane Festival has championed Leviathan – it's a complex and costly project but an important one – and I am deeply grateful for the opportunity."

Brisbane Festival Artistic Director **Louise Bezzina** said she was incredibly excited to invite audiences back into Brisbane's beloved performing arts venues.

"We are thrilled to not only welcome back Circa this year but also welcome back audiences to witness the splendour of Leviathan in one of the first performances staged at QPAC in almost six months," Ms Bezzina said.



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"Circa is part of the fabric of Brisbane Festival, regularly presenting – and even debuting – major new work that then goes on to tour the world to great acclaim.

"Circa is a boldly Brisbane icon of the arts community, revered as highly for its ensemble's acrobatic skill as it is for presenting work that is relevant and emotionally resonant."

The reimagined Brisbane Festival 2020 will be held from 4 to 26 September.

For more information, including updates and announcements, visit brisbanefestival.com.au or follow Brisbane Festival on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.

All Festival events comply with relevant COVID-safe plans and health authority directions.

This project is supported through the Giving Program by Philip Bacon AM.

Leviathan has been assisted by the Australian Government's Major Festivals Initiative, managed by the Australia Council, its arts funding and advisory body, in association with the Confederation of Australian International Arts Festivals Inc, Brisbane Festival, Perth Festival, La Strada Graz Festival and Stanford Live.

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Brisbane Festival and Queensland Performing Arts Centre present

Production details:

LEVIATHAN

By Circa

Location: Playhouse, QPAC

Dates: 3 – 12 September 2020 (preview Thursday)

Performance Times: 7.30pm (70 minutes)

Tickets: \$45 – \$55 + booking fee

More info: brisbanefestival.com.au/whats-on/leviathan

"Somewhere between contemporary circus and dance, Leviathan moves between exquisitely precise choreography and kinaesthetic improvisation, between union and seeming chaos." – [The Conversation, AUS](#)



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★★★★ *Leviathan's stirring power is its ability to create space for fearless realities, voicing what it means to be human in an increasingly connected and complex world.* – [Seesaw Magazine](#)



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