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Talk to Bill and Pamela

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**Cirque Du Soleil Groupies**

May 22, 2004

This is just a taste of what the audience sees at Quidam, the latest Cirque Du Soleil show to come to Vancouver.

But for some Cirque fans, it's not enough to just watch the circus - they have to live it.

Jill Chapman's clown nose and hat are part of a back-stage tour for special Cirque fans who've gathered in Vancouver for a first ever convention.

These are hard-core enthusiasts whose love of the Cirque borders on obsession.

Chapman and her husband have now seen over 50 shows.

Like rock star groupies, "Cirquies" as they are unofficially known, pride themselves on their Cirque knowledge and their collectibles.

Chapman figures her passion has cost her family between 15 and \$20,000 U.S. But the former gymnast who packed it in early because of a bad knee says it's money well spent. She plans to see two more shows during her time in Vancouver.

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Vicki Gabereau



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