

シルクコン
2008・東京

CIRQUE CON 2008



The Fifth Unofficial Gathering Of Cirque du Soleil Passionates!
November 6th to 9th, 2008, Tokyo, Japan!

CONVENTION GUIDE



CIRQUE DU SOLEIL.

Live Passionately!

情熱で生きる!

CIRQUECON 2008: TOKYO!

The Fifth Unofficial Gathering of Cirque du Soleil Passionates

Thursday, November 6th, 2008 to Sunday, November 9th, 2008
Hilton Tokyo Bay, Tokyo Disney Resort, Urayasu, Chiba Prefecture, Japan

*Something in the air
Calls again to those who hear
Whispers to the heart*

*A new creation
Born and grown in island soil
Digging deep roots there*

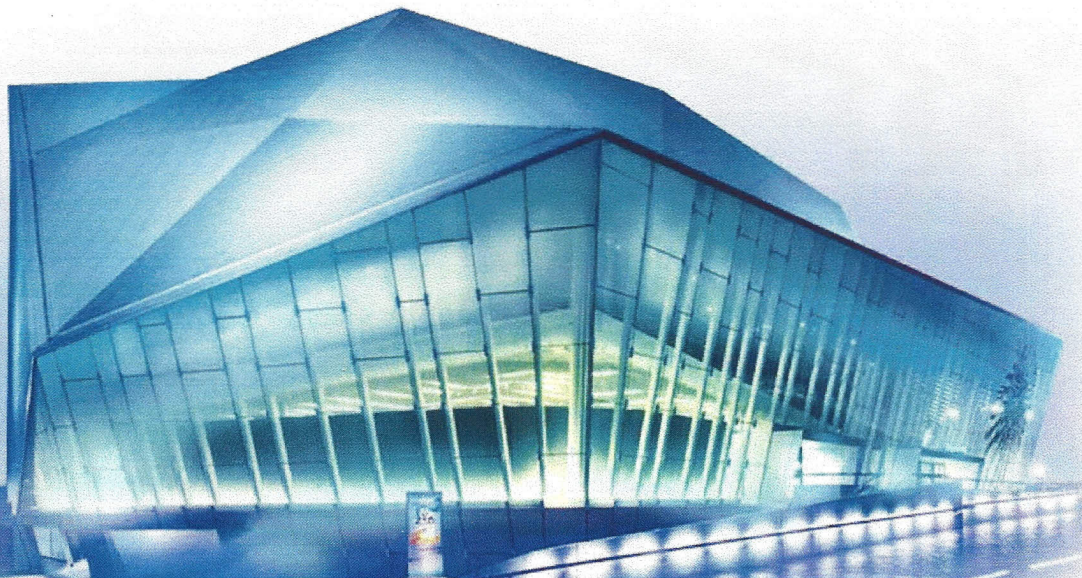
*Evoking such joy
Anticipating wonder
Hearts flutter swiftly*

*Souls gather again
Share the same unfolding dream
Passionates living*

*Discovery waits
Seizes the soul and shakes hard
Wonder falls like rain*

*Coming together
In the autumn of the year
Bring your umbrella!*

ようこそ!
(YOKOSO!)
Welcome!





The Fifth Unofficial Gathering Of Cirque du Soleil Passionates!
November 6th to 9th, 2008, Tokyo, Japan!

Schedule of Events

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 6, 2008

NOTHING SCHEDULED.

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 7, 2008

10:00am (1000h) 11:30am (1130h)

KEITH JOHNSON/LOUANNA VALENTINE'S ROOM (Room number TBA*)

(* Ask at the Hilton Front Desk for the room number for the Keith Johnson party.)

Hilton Tokyo Bay

“CIRQUECON 2008: TOKYO! MEET AND GREET”

With many folks arriving at all hours Thursday, we moved our signature Meet & Greet to Friday morning. It's the place where members meet old (and new) friends, receive their membership packets, and sample local foods as well as tidbits brought by other members.

2:30pm (1430h) 3:30pm (1530h)

CIRQUE DU SOLEIL THEATRE TOKYO

Tokyo Disney Resort

“ZED SPECIAL ACTIVITIES”

NO flash photography allowed!!

We will watch a rehearsal with members from the artistic staff to explain what's happening and to answer questions. Special surprises are also in store!

4:00pm (1600h) 6:30pm (1830h)

RAINFOREST CAFE

Ikspiari Shopping Center (2nd Floor)

PRE-PAYMENT REQUIRED

“CIRQUECON 2008: TOKYO! GROUP MEAL”

Gather with other Cirque Passionates (in an especially reserved area) to eat, drink, and talk of our shared “passion.” A perfect way to prepare for the continuing wonders to come.

7:30pm (1930h) 9:30pm (2130h)

CIRQUE DU SOLEIL THEATRE TOKYO

Tokyo Disney Resort

“ZED”

This is what we came to see! ZED is “a living poem, a timeless evocation that draws on the Tarot and its Arcana, an imaginary world that conjures the vitality of the human condition and holds up a mirror to our true selves.”

9:30pm (2130h) 10:00pm (2200h) (after the show)

CIRQUE DU SOLEIL THEATRE TOKYO

Tokyo Disney Resort

“ZED SPECIAL GROUP PHOTO”

SHOW TICKETS REQUIRED FOR THIS ACTIVITY!

Following the show, stay in your seats for what is becoming a CirqueCon tradition. We will step onto the ZED stage for exclusive group photograph of CirqueCon members with some ZED cast members!

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2008

8:30am (0830h) 10:00pm (2000h)

Tokyo DisneySea

Tokyo Disney Resort

“CIRQUECON OUTING TO TOKYO DISNEYSEA”

Join fellow Passionates at this unique Disney park. State-of-the-art attractions to be found nowhere else in the world beckon!

11:00am (1100h), 12Noon (1200h), 1:00pm (1300h)

(8 people per seating)

Magellan's, Mediterranean Harbor

Tokyo DisneySea

PRE-RESERVATION REQUIRED

“LUNCH AT MAGELLAN'S”

For those who have pre-registered, gather at Magellan's (at your reserved time) for a comfortable and luxurious lunch at the premier restaurant in Tokyo DisneySea. The atmosphere recalls the glory days of oceanic explorers, with a deeply detailed décor that screams refinement. The food is Western-style.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2008

9:30am (0930h) 11:00am (1100h)

KEITH JOHNSON/LOUANNA VALENTINE'S ROOM (Room number TBA*)

(* Ask at the Hilton Front Desk for the room number for the Keith Johnson party.)

Hilton Tokyo Bay

“HOW WAS YOUR WEEKEND? KAFFEEKLATSCH”

Many conventions have some version of an “Onions and Roses” panel where members are encouraged to give their compliments and suggestions. This is ours! Come have a cup of tea or coffee with us. Or just stop by to say “good-bye”!

Vancouver 2004



Montreal 2005



Las Vegas 2006

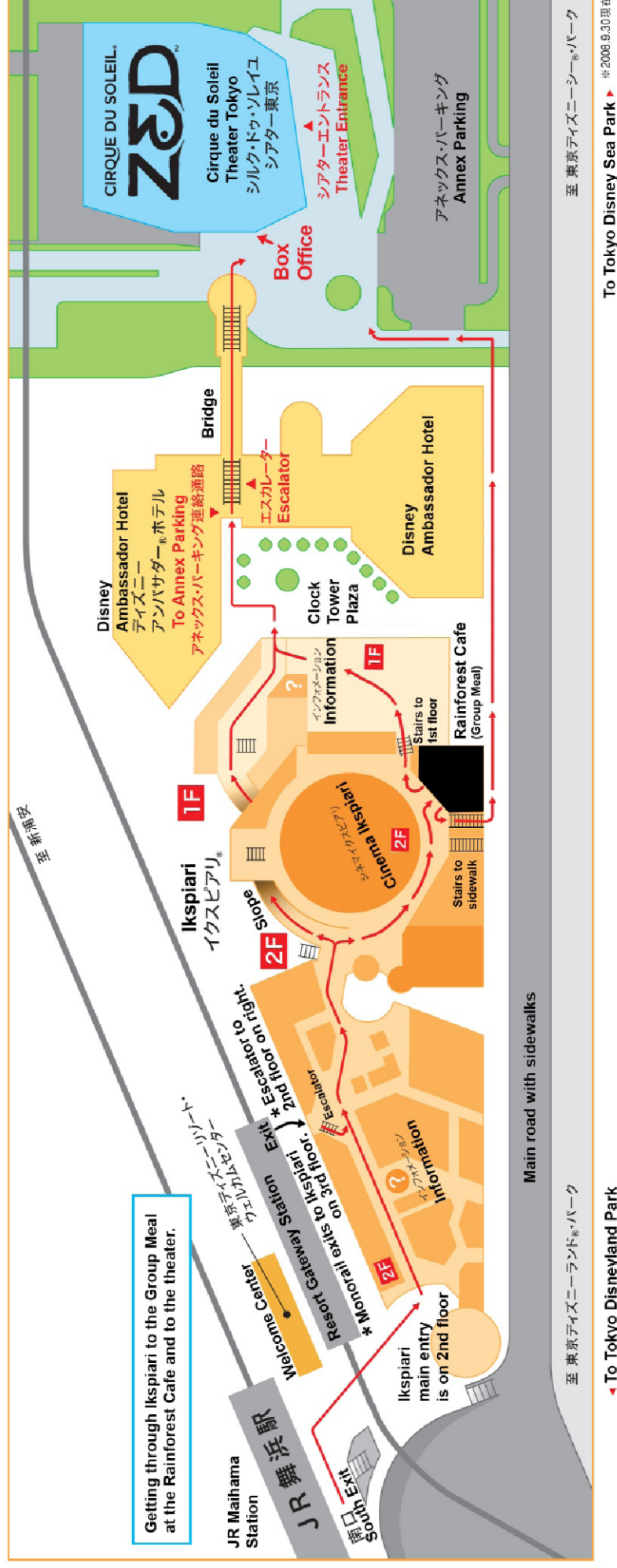


Orlando 2007



WAZZUP

シルク・ドゥ・ソレイユ シアター 東京
Cirque du Soleil Theater Tokyo



CIRQUECON 2008: TOKYO

Activity Locations

HILTON TOKYO BAY

1-8 Maihama
Urayasu-shi
Chiba
279-0031
81-47-355-5000
<http://hiltontokyobay.jp>

CirqueCon 2008: Tokyo! Meet & Greet:

Keith Johnson / LouAnna Valentine's Room (Room Number TBA)
Friday, November 7
9:00am-10:30am

"How Was Your Weekend? Kaffeeklatsch":

Keith Johnson / LouAnna Valentine's Room (Room Number TBA)
Sunday, November 9
9:30am-11:00am

Directions:

From the Highway: From the Shuto Wangan Expressway (357), take the Urayasu Ramp. Turn right on Maihama. Turn left at the light and go 2 blocks. The Hilton, a curved, brown, multi-story building is at the bend in the road.

From the Rail Line: Take the JR East Keiyo Line. Get off at Maihama Station. Take the South Exit and turn left, the Tokyo Disney Resort Welcome Center will be ahead. Ticket machines and entry for the Disney Resort Line Resort Gateway Station will be just to the right of the Welcome Center (note there is a charge to ride the Resort Line). Take the monorail two stops to Bayside Station. Exit the station and take a right. The Hilton Tokyo Bay is a curved, brown, multi-story building across the street. You can walk, or there is a shuttle bus to the hotel (bus stops are under cover in front of the station).

To get to Keith Johnson / LouAnna Valentine's room: Upon entering the Main Entrance/Lobby, the Front Counter will be to your left. Ask at the counter for Keith Johnson's room. Elevators are to the right of the Front Counter.

RAINFOREST CAFE

Ikspiari Shopping Center (2nd floor)
1-4 Maihama
Urayasu-shi
Chiba
81-47-305-5656
<http://www.rcjapan.com/rfc/index.html>

The CirqueCon 2008: Las Vegas! Group Meal:

Friday, November 7, 2008
4:00-6:30pm

From the Hilton Tokyo Bay: Walk (or take the shuttle bus) to the Disney Resort Line Bayside Station (note there is a charge to ride the Resort Line). Go two stops to the Resort Gateway Station and get off. You will be exiting on the third floor of Ikspiari. Descend to the second floor and head for Celebration Plaza and Cinema Ikspiari. Bear right around Cinema Ikspiari. Rainforest Café is on the right just after the stairways leading to street level. (An Information Desk is located at the exit of the Resort Line station, there are also maps strategically placed around Ikspiari.)

From the Rail Line: Take JR East Keiyo Line. Get off at Maihama Station. Take the South Exit and turn left, the Tokyo Disney Resort Welcome Center will be ahead. The entrance to Ikspiari is to the right of the Welcome Center. You will be entering on the second floor, the same floor as the Rainforest Café. Go straight towards Celebration Plaza and Cinema Ikspiari. Bear right around Cinema Ikspiari. Rainforest Café is on the right just after the stairways leading to street level. (There is a facility map located just outside the Ikspiari entrance, there is also an Information Desk on the way to the restaurant.)

CIRQUE DU SOLEIL THEATRE TOKYO

2 Banchi 50
Maihama
Urayasu-shi
Chiba
279-8518
www.zed.co.jp

ZED:

Friday, November 7, 2008
7:30-9:45pm

ZED Special Activities:

Friday, November 7, 2008
10:00-11:00pm

From the Rainforest Café: Exit the Rainforest Café and turn right, going down the stairs to the First Floor. Pass between the shops and take the second exit on the right (which is opposite a small Information Desk). This Ikspiari exit leads into Clock Tower Plaza. Bear left across the plaza (toward the far left corner) to a set of stairs/escalator leading to Annex Parking. Go up the stairs/escalator and cross the enclosed bridge, the ZED Box Office can be seen straight ahead as you descend the stairs/escalator on the other side.

OR

If it's a fine night - Exit the Rainforest Cafe and bear to the left, going down the stairs to street level. Exit Ikspiari and turn left, following the street past the Disney Ambassador Hotel. The ZED Theater is just past the Ambassador Hotel on the left.

From the Hilton Tokyo Bay: Walk (or take the shuttle bus) to the Disney Resort Line Bayside Station (note there is a charge to ride the Resort Line). Go two stops to the Resort Gateway Station and get off. You will be exiting on the third floor of Ikspiari. Descend to the second floor and head for Celebration Plaza and Cinema Ikspiari. At Cinema Ikspiari bear left, going down a slope to the First Floor. Follow the shops as the hallway bears right, taking the first exit on the left. This Ikspiari exit leads into Clock Tower Plaza. Bear left across the plaza (toward the far left corner) to a set of stairs/escalator leading to Annex Parking. Go up the stairs/escalator and cross the enclosed bridge, the ZED Theater Box Office can be seen straight ahead as you descend the stairs/escalator on the other side.

From the Rail Line: Take JR East Keiyo Line. Get off at Maihama Station. Take the South Exit and turn left, the Tokyo Disney Resort Welcome Center will be ahead. The entrance to Ikspiari is to the right of the Welcome Center. (There is a facility map located just outside the Ikspiari entrance, there is also an Information Desk on the way.) You will be entering on the second floor, the same floor as the Rainforest Café. Go straight towards Celebration Plaza and Cinema Ikspiari. At Cinema Ikspiari bear left, going down a slope to the First Floor. Follow the shops as the hallway bears right, taking the first exit on the left. This Ikspiari exit leads into Clock Tower Plaza. Bear left across the plaza (toward the far left corner) to a set of stairs/escalator leading to Annex Parking. Go up the stairs/escalator and cross the enclosed bridge, the ZED Theater Box Office can be seen straight ahead as you descend the stairs/escalator on the other side.

MAGELLAN'S

Mediterranean Harbor
Tokyo DisneySea Park
Tokyo Disney Resort

http://www.tokyodisneyresort.co.jp/tds/english/7port/harbor/rest_magellans.html

CirqueCon Outing to Tokyo DisneySea Lunch at Magellan's:

Saturday, November 8
11:00am, 12Noon, 1:00pm

Directions:

From the Park Entrance: Proceed through the turnstiles and the main entry plaza. At the waterfront bear right and continue in a counter-clockwise direction around Mediterranean Harbor. Magellan's is at the base of the Mysterious Island volcano.

GOOD LUCK!



Dear CirqueCon Cirquesters,

When we first learned about your plan to visit Tokyo we didn't even know the show's name. There was so much work to be done and things that could go wrong, it seemed quite premature to be talking about entertaining a group of true Cirque Du Soleil aficionados in only our second month of performances. Now, almost 18 months later, I see that you must have known what we could only hope for, i.e. that the new production at Cirque Du Soleil Theater Tokyo would be something truly special. It is. Welcome to ZED.

And welcome to Tokyo. You are not only going to see a fantastic performance, you will also experience one of the world's greatest cities. If this is your first visit to Japan, you will quickly notice many unique and wonderful differences. My favorite is the Japanese people themselves. They are courteous to a fault and genuinely caring of others.

All of us at Cirque Du Soleil hope your trip will be filled with much happiness. I, along with all my colleagues, look forward to meeting you next month.

Bon voyage et à bientôt,

Mike Fauls 10 Oct 2008

Michael W. Fauls
Company Manager "ZED"
Cirque Du Soleil

Dear CirqueCon 2008 member,

It is our pleasure to welcome you to the Hilton Tokyo bay. Knowing you have a variety of hotels to choose from in our beautiful city, we are honoured you have selected us, and we appreciate your business. Our professional and friendly staffs are committed to ensuring that your stay is both enjoyable and comfortable.

While here the following information may be helpful to you:

- Hilton Tokyo Bay offers superb dining experiences with a variety of delightful menus.
 - forest garden:
 - ✧ Breakfast 06:30 ~ 10:30
 - ✧ Lunch 11:30 ~ 14:15
 - ✧ Dinner 17:30 ~ 21:30
 - ✧ Night snack 21:45 ~ 23:30
- The fitness centre is located on the first basement floor which offers extensive fitness, dry saunas and aromatherapy massages by trained therapists. Operating hour is from 06:00 ~ 22:00 (21:00 on weekends and holidays)
 - Admission fee: 2,650 yen
- Should you require additional bathroom amenities, please call Housekeeping, (*extension 4*).
- Room service is available 24/7, (*extension 2*).
- For direct connection to other guestrooms, please dial 7, followed by the room number. For an outside line, dial "0". For overseas calls, dial "0 010" followed by the country and local codes.
- A pay phone is located on the first basement floor next to Asanagi banquet room.
- It is safe to drink tap water in Japan. Mineral waters are available for purchase from your Mini Bar.
- Japan operates on 100 volts/50 hz in all guestrooms. For Japanese adaptors, please call Housekeeping (*extension 4*).
- All rooms offer high speed internet access. Please contact Front Desk for a password.
- For information, opening hours, and to purchase entrance ticket for Disneyland and/or DisneySea, please contact our Bell Desk. (*extension 3*).
- A shuttle bus service operates to Narita International Airport and Haneda Airports at various times throughout the day. The Bell Desk, (*extension 3*), can assist you with information on departure times. Reservations are advised.
 - To Narita International Airport: 2,400 yen per person / Approximately 45 minutes.
 - To Haneda Airport: 810 yen per person / Approximately 40 minutes.
- Disney Resort Line monorail trains circle the Resort counter-clockwise with stops at:
 - ✧ Resort Gateway Station (JR Maihama Station)
 - ✧ Tokyo Disneyland Station
 - ✧ **Bayside Station (where Hilton Tokyo Bay is located at!)**
 - ✧ Tokyo DisneySea Station
- For other sightseeing activities, please contact Bell Desk (*extension 3*), and our staff will be more than happy to assist you with all the information you need.
- Check out time is by 12:00 noon. Should you require a late check-out, please contact Front Desk, (*extension 6*).

If you have any questions or requests during your stay, please do not hesitate to call the Font Desk, (*extension 6*).

Again, thank you for choosing to stay with us. We look forward to serving you now and on future trips to Tokyo Bay!

Sincerely yours,
Hilton Tokyo Bay Room Sales
Yinchen Chen

TEL: 047-355-5000
FAX: 047-350-7975

HILTON HHONERS®

*Only with Hilton HHonors® can you earn both Points & Miles® for stays at more than 2,800 hotels worldwide and airline miles with over 50 airline partners.

*HHonors points can be redeemed for a variety of rewards including hotel stays. Please contact our staff for more information.

The Fifth Unofficial Gathering Of Cirque du Soleil Passionates!

Greetings, fellow Cirque Passionates! Keith J. here with a Program Book Introduction.

For the fifth time we gather, our first time off the North American continent. It has been an extraordinary experience planning an Event in a country so far away from our home base. We continue to be amazed by the kindness of our friends at Cirque du Soleil who once again have gone above and beyond our expectations. This beautiful country holds the promise of many surprises, both big and small.

As CirqueCon reaches its quintessential event (quint = five, get it?) we find we have somewhat of a “core” of Cirque Passionates that will gladly follow us wherever we might choose to go. That core has changed from our first event in 2004; the faces of that first event are different from this one. In the intervening time many friendships have been made, as Passionates have bonded with others of like mind.

For CirqueCon 2004: Vancouver! we had 31 members, all of whom attended Quidam. Quite impressive for a first-time ad-hoc fan event! But that was just the beginning, as CirqueCon 2005: Montréal! saw 109 Passionates witness one of the first performances of Corteo.

Our third year was a once-in-a-lifetime experience for 190 Passionates as CirqueCon 2005: Las Vegas! descended on Sin City, inundating the Cirque ticketing office with 640 tickets purchased between the five resident shows. And last year, CirqueCon 2007: Orlando! enticed 51 Passionates to the warm environs of Walt Disney World and La Nouba.

CirqueCon 2008: Tokyo! is an extraordinarily strong showing for such a distant location:
--43 on-site members, with 45 paid memberships (several Passionates, though they cannot join us in Tokyo, still wish to be part of our group!)
--11 hotel rooms at the Hilton Tokyo Bay, 45 room nights total.

Our members come from one-fifth of the United States, Japan (of course!), Mexico, Canada, Australia, Germany and even Russia. WOW! We are truly humbled by the faith you have put in our small committee. It will be a delight to finally meet you all (again)!

We hope your journey in this wonderful land is a pleasant and happy one. Thanks to Cirque du Soleil and Tokyo Disney Resort we can look forward to a weekend of wonder, beauty, mystery, education and, above all, camaraderie. We hope at the end of your journey you find yourself welcome amongst fellow Cirque Passionates. We are not alone...

We welcome you all!

Invoke! Provoke! Evoke!

Live Passionately!
情熱で生きる!



OUR FRIENDS ARE HELPING OUT CirqueCon is strictly volunteer-run, fan-based and fan-centered. We take no remuneration except for recovering our expenses. It is done out of our passion for Cirque du Soleil and the desire to bond with others like us.

As with our other events, it is the kindness of many folks, both known and unknown to us, who through their efforts help make CirqueCon a reality. It's a cliché but true, without them these events wouldn't happen. We appreciate all the help we can get! While we don't know in advance who will be helping us on-site this year, there are many people we know about already (see below).

YOUR CIRQUECON 2008: TOKYO! TEAM (in alphabetical order):

--**Rich Alford** Our “graphics guy.” Responsible for this Program Book, our badges, and other graphic elements. His graphic sense is evident throughout this book, our badges, and other things.

--**Ricky Russo** Erstwhile guru of our web-based efforts. Lent the support of the Fascination! Newsletter to efforts early on. Has compiled and edited collections of articles from Fascination! for our Program Books. Helped guide us through the budgeting process with his advanced Excel skills.

--**LouAnna Valentine** Played a vital role in decision-making with daily conversations, input and debate. In addition to being a lovely and supportive spouse, responsible for our Meet and Greet. Came up with several inspired ideas, including several stanzas for our introductory haiku.

--**Keith Johnson** - Whatever else needed to be done. Tons of writing, member communication, database management, research/phone calls, hotel and meal booking, being an overly detail-conscious jerk... you get the picture.

LEGAL AND OTHER NECESSARY STUFF:

Limitation of Liability: Each CirqueCon 2008: Tokyo! Member, or member of a Member's traveling group, assumes the entire responsibility and liability for losses, damages, and claims arising out of injury or damage to themselves, members of their party, belongings, or other property occurring during CirqueCon 2008: Tokyo!, and shall indemnify and hold harmless CirqueCon, its agents, Committee, service providers, and employees from any and all such losses, damages and claims.

The CirqueCon 2008: Tokyo! Committee is: Keith Johnson, LouAnna Valentine, Ricky Russo, and Rich Alford.

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CIRQUECON 2008: TOKYO!

THANK YOU'S AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

CirqueCon cannot happen without help from many different places. We've tried to mention everyone we are aware of in the list below. But even with this list we're sure we're missing somebody. Know that we humbly thank you all!!

SPECIAL THANKS TO PASSIONATE STEVE LONG A former resident of Japan, his knowledge of Japanese language, customs and pop culture has been invaluable. He was our “eyes on the ground” helping us understand geography. The Ikspiari directional map is his, as well! Arigato, Long-san!

Cirque du Soleil - ZED

Kyoko Hasegawa Assistant Company Manager
Mike Fauls Company Manager
Ann-Marie Corbeil Artistic Director
Pita Yago Operation Production Manager
Claude Bourbonniere Administration Director
Gemma Segarra Publicist
Kanae Osanai Theatrical Division, Oriental Land Company, Ltd.
Takeshi Miyata Live & Entertainment Division, PIA Co., Ltd.
..and the rest of the cast and crew of Cirque du Soleil's ZED!

HILTON TOKYO BAY:

Yinchen Chen Senior Account Executive, our group contact
Shigeto Kato Senior Assistant Reservation Manager
Fumi Kodama Assistant Reservation Manager
Yoshinori Shishido Senior Tour Coordinator
Uli Altrichter Director of Business Development, Hilton Mainz & Mainz City, Germany (a fellow
Passionate who introduced us to the Hilton)

RAINFOREST CAFÉ TOKYO:

Kazumasa Harada General Manager
Kenichiro Harada
Toshiko Furikawa
Victor Jones VP of International Operations and Franchising, Landry's Restaurants
Stephanie Sisk National Sales Manager, Landry's Restaurants

TSHIRTS Angry Squid Ink.com:

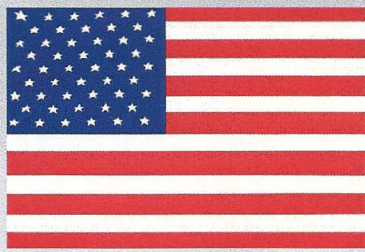
Brian Lewis

SOUVENIR FANS What Do You Need?.com:

Cheri Brandow
T.R.
Patti

Cirque du Soleil Resident Shows Division, Las Vegas Carrie Farina, Jerry Nadal
La Nouba Richard Dennison, Director of Disney Project Development & Company Manager
Cirque Club Lisa Willet
IACE Travel Asia Mari
Esprit Travel and Tours Elaine Baran
GM Nameplate John Skinner
Cirque Tribune Jeff Tolotti, Administrator (research on Cirquey-oke tracks)

Where Did We Gather From This Year?



USA



Arizona



California



Conneticut



Florida



Georgia



New York



North Carolina



Oregon



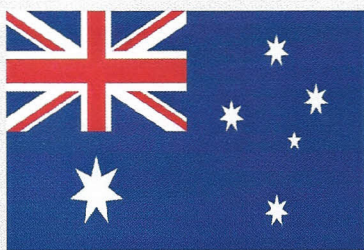
Texas



Washington



Wisconsin



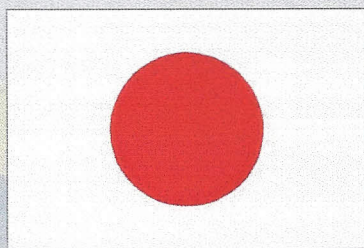
Australia



Canada



Germany



Japan



Mexico



Russia

Live Passionately!

情熱で生きる!

IN MEMORY OF A CIRQUE FAN

CALVIN "DAD" DAVIS

1931-2008

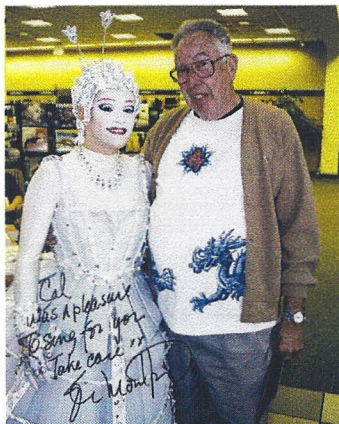
By: LouAnna Valentine & Keith Johnson, September 2008

Most of us can remember when we were first introduced to Cirque du Soleil; a ticket from a friend, a glimpse while channel-flipping. For many it's some direct contact with a Cirque show that first hooks us, that makes us devoted fans. For LouAnna Valentine's father Calvin Davis it was none of these things. His introduction to Cirque's wondrous universe was rather unorthodox as a participant in our wedding in 2002 - at the age of 70!

Cal Davis spent his life educating 6th graders in the Spokane, Washington school district, where he reigned as "Mr. D." for 43 years. He introduced his charges to mathematics and science, but also to art and culture, and loved to be exposed to it all. A life-long learner he was always open to new things.

When we were planning our wedding, we knew we wanted to include Cirque inspiration and design elements in the form of costuming, music, and symbolism. For Cal this meant dressing him up, applying some makeup and shoving him out the door to play his role; partnering daughter LouAnna, as "Alegría" the Bride, in her "bright ballet of promise". His first "true" exposure to Cirque came the next day, when he finally experienced his first Cirque show, Dralion, live in Seattle, Washington as the entire wedding party attended the show.

He was hooked! He never missed a performance on Bravo television, and whenever Cirque came to Seattle he would journey from Spokane to catch a show with us and new-found friends. He especially loved Alegría; one of his most prized possessions was an 8x10 photo of himself with the White Singer autographed by her. We bought him an embroidered denim Cirque jacket on EBAY and he wore it often

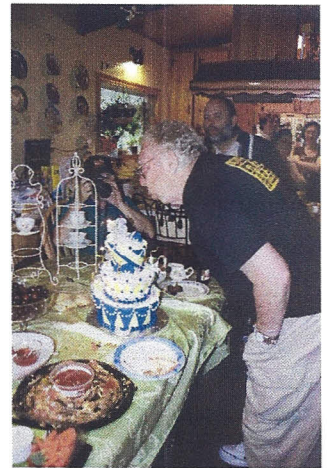


(even in the biting cold of Spokane winters) because someone would invariably ask about it and it would give him an excuse to talk about his love for Cirque and attempt to create new converts.



The very first CirqueCon started out as a family outing to Vancouver, B.C. to see Quidam, and of course Cal was there. We even talked him into coming to Montréal for CirqueCon in 2005. And although he decided not

to go to Las Vegas he bought a membership in support of our efforts. He always enjoyed listening to stories and looking at photos of our Cirque journeys. We also knew we could get him anything Cirque related for his birthday or Christmas and he would be thrilled! For his 76th birthday in the summer of 2007 we threw a big party attended by many family and friends, and presented him with a fantastic cake done up in Cirque-tent yellow and blue stripes! And of course he loved it!



Sadly, though, it would be the last birthday he was to celebrate as the prostate cancer first diagnosed in early 2006 finally took his life in March of 2008. His enthusiasm and interest in our Cirque travels gave us the confidence to propose this, our first off-shore CirqueCon. And if he were here, he would still be supporting us and anxiously awaiting the tales of our travels.

We are proud to contribute to the production of our special souvenir fans as a small tribute to Cal.

END

Cirque du Soleil Presents ZED

About the show...

Oriental Land Co., Ltd. and Cirque du Soleil are pleased to announce that "ZED" will be the title of the new original show to be performed at the Cirque du Soleil Theatre Tokyo, which will open at Tokyo Disney Resort® on October 1, 2008.

ZED is a living poem, a timeless evocation that draws on the Tarot and its arcana, an imaginary world that conjures the vitality of the human condition and holds up a mirror to our true selves. The central, larger-than-life character Zed represents all of humanity in all its guises, from wisdom to folly, from discovery to adventure.

Zed grows as he discovers the world on his journey of initiation. Through this undertaking the people of the sky and the people of the earth are trying to connect with each other; through Zed, they come together. The world of the arcana, in which ZED finds its inspiration, teems with life and vibrant characters, including the Great Goddess, The Fool, The Sphinxes and the Satyrs – all engaged in a lyrical odyssey to the heart of the human experience.

SET

"The scenic atmosphere of ZED evokes the pinnacle of the High Renaissance and the dawn of the Mechanical Age."

—François Séguin

The Astrolabe

To establish the set design concept, designer François Séguin started with a form inspired by the astrolabe. His underlying intention was to fill the whole stage as if it were a frame from a film, and in terms of aesthetics, his design evokes the High Renaissance and the Mechanical Age. Brass and copper components, precision engineering, painstaking craftsmanship and scientific ingenuity combine to create the impression that the audience is actually inside – and sometimes outside – a complex mechanical astrolabe floating in space.

The set takes its inspiration from many eras and influences. Ancient science, the inventions of Leonardo da Vinci, the products of the early days of the Mechanical Age, nautical instruments and astronomy all play a part in creating an atmosphere of solidity and tradition, floating in a space that looks toward the future. Diderot's Encyclopedia, which began to be published in 1751, also informed the designs.

"Diderot, the first French encyclopedia, codified knowledge and is filled with images of mechanical devices," says designer François Séguin.

The Scenic Environment

When the audience first enters the theatre, the set is wrapped in a large sheet and the auditorium gives no clues or visual cues as to where they are or where the show is situated. The spectacular imagery is revealed when the cover is whisked away in a sudden, sweeping gesture by a character inspired by The Fool in the Tarot. This dramatic moment instantly plunges the audience into an environment that recalls antique astronomical and navigational instruments set in an ancient cosmos that is at the same time new and somehow familiar. In keeping with the physical dimensions of the theatre and the themes of the show (in which one community of characters inhabits the sky and the other community is earthbound), the set emphasizes verticality as a visual reinforcement to the narrative, as well as meeting the demands of the show's acrobatics. While the materials are unquestionably rich, the colors – suggesting an antique patina of burnished metals and polished wood tones – are intentionally somewhat monochrome and muted, and the look is quite dark, reminiscent of 19th century interiors. The objective is to focus more attention on the performing artists than on their surroundings. Since this is a Cirque du Soleil show, the set must also accommodate a large amount of acrobatic rigging, lighting and sound equipment, and designer François Séguin decided to integrate it into the set as much as possible, rather than impose it on the décor. His design minimizes the visibility of all the winches, rigging, cables and the setting up needed to perform complex acrobatic numbers.

Some Details

- Made mostly of steel, the suspended astrolabe weighs 19,504 kg (43,000 lbs).
- The enormous 10m globe, which can move vertically, is decorated with meridians and parallels and fitted with a net that can deploy and retract as needed.
- Winches hidden inside the globe are used to transport the artists, stage equipment and acrobatic equipment throughout the show.
- On the floor of the stage, there is a representation of the Milky Way and symbols referring to the different phases of the moon.
- A door leading under the stage is installed inside a book that the clowns Oulaï and Nalaï find at the beginning of the show. When they open it, they plunge inside, literally engulfed by the pages.
- The Vortex, the white canvas that wraps the stage at the start of the show, comprises more than 5,600 square meters of material. Two motors pull it at a speed of six meters per second, making the entire surface vanish in 25 seconds.
- During the Birth of the Sky scene, the set features a firmament of thousands of stars. To achieve this effect the vault of the Astrolabe is covered with 3,500 LEDs and the floor of the stage has more than 900 fiber optic points of light.
- An alphabet of 26 symbols, The Zed Alpha, was created for the production. It appears in the set design and shows the periodic table of the elements as well as words related to components of the show.
- Five spheres of various diameters, each displaying its own special effects, form a miniature representation of the Astrolabe – a micro world that reflects the macro world.

THE ACTS

Batons - Before the World, Fire Incantation, Meeting of the Two Worlds Combining dance and gymnastics, an artist twirls his batons as if they are an extension of his body. Demonstrating great agility and exceptional control, he spins three batons around his neck, his arms and legs. In the darkness, light or fire, he tosses and spins the batons high into the air and catches them after performing a stunning series of acrobatics.

Bungee- Birth of the Sky

Four artists suspended from bungees fall precipitously from the heights above the audience. The flexible fringes of their costumes leave trails of light in their wake.

Lassos - Birth on Earth

Six artists operate lassos with incredible dexterity. The audience feels that the circles formed by the lasso, and through which artists perform their movements, are undulating like suspended waves.

Poles and Trampoline – Reaching Up

This number combines Chinese Poles with the Trampoline. Using the trampoline as a springboard, the artists bounce high in the air, precisely criss-crossing each other on their way to grab the poles.

Solo Tissue – First Sight

In a stunning display of agility and strength, the graceful performer becomes one with the column of blue fabric that supports and cradles her female form. This breathtaking aerial dance combines elements of acrobatics, contortion and movement to create a stirring and powerful image.

Wire – Pendulum

A wire is suspended 8 meters over the floor. Above it, a mesmerizing burning pendulum swings back and forth. Pulling off amazing feats of balance and precision, tightrope walkers pass each other at a frenetic pace and perform death-defying leaps and breathtaking columns.

Juggling - Kernoun's Fire

A father, mother and their children juggle bowling pins and plates at a dizzying speed, on the floor, in columns of two and three. The family transforms juggling into an unforgettable moment of drama using flaming torches that illuminate the stage with a huge dome of fire.

Banquine - Babel

The Banquine number highlights the extraordinary agility of the human body. The troupe mystifies the audience by performing acrobatics and human pyramids in a series of dramatic movements and perfectly synchronized crossings that depend on absolute trust.

Straps - Zed in Love

An amazing routine in which two artists use straps to bring to life the game of seduction with the character Zed. Their movements show incredible agility, balance and great strength.

Hand to Hand - Two Worlds Meet

With strength and flexibility, two artists in constant contact move almost imperceptibly to take positions that demonstrate an infallible sense of balance. In their quest for harmony, the performers rely on their intuition and concentration to present a moment of pure serenity.

Flying Trapeze - Celebration

A combined group of trapeze performers from two different family troupes came together to present a spectacularly energetic aerial ballet. Perched on two parallel platforms, they soar in acrobatic flight to reach the hands of their catchers on the trapeze.

Charivari - Charivari

The whole troupe gathers to present an acrobatic parade of strength and elegance with a series of impressive numbers that combine gymnastics and aerial acrobatics. Among the highlights in the number: human pyramids, flying and daring dives achieved through individual strength.

Clowns – Hi! Hi! Hi!, Playing the Shaman

One is a vindictive petty dictator who seeks to control everything, while the other is just plain lazy and always finds a way to do as little as possible. Together, they form an inseparable duo of buffoons with the splendid naivety and great poetry to both move us and make us laugh.

CHARACTERS

Zed

Inspired by the Fool of the Tarot, Zed is the main character in the show. Called to undergo a transformation, he is both multiple and omnipresent. The initial state of Zed is associated with the unconscious and chaos: his imbecility is obvious, but his silliness is touching because it reveals his vulnerability and naivety. By the end of the show, Zed represents consciousness, restored harmony and the reversal of the order of things through laughter.

Nouit

The singer Nouit is the incarnation of the Great Goddess. Mother of the Sky and procreator of all beings who inhabit it. She represents the starry sky. Nouit expresses an infinite compassion for all beings and is an ally of Zed, whom she understands and quietly watches over making every effort to help him achieve his quest.

Abraka

Inspired by the Magician of the Tarot, Abraka is a singer. He is the father of the Earth and procreator of all the creatures who inhabit it. Abraka is all-powerful but his power is earthbound and subject to the omnipotence of the Shaman. He is the guardian of the liberating, jubilant power of Zed.

Kernoun

The character of the singer Kernoun is inspired by the Devil in the Tarot. He reigns over the subterranean depths. His kingdom is one of fire and the Satyrs are his subjects. Kernoun embodies the troubled forces of the unconscious.

The Shaman

Inspired by the Pope of the Tarot, the Shaman carries the magic incantation of the show. He presides over the birth of Nouit and Abraka who submit to him. It is also he who awakens the elements. In him, Zed finds a guide to initiate him in the secrets of the arcana and accompany him on his path to self-realization.

Djinn

Djinn accompanies the Shaman in all his appearances and opens the way wherever he goes. He is the bringer of light and fire.

Erato

Erato is a goddess of Heaven, a muse and a subject of Nouit. Bright, sparkling and divinely beautiful, she passes through the Sky like a ghost.

COSTUMES

"I found my inspiration in the world of the tarot, but also in the Italian Renaissance and the world of Leonardo da Vinci, with a nod to other painters of that time, such as Hieronymus Bosch and Raphael."

— Renée April, Costume Designer

ZED is above all a show driven by its characters, who are inspired by the mysteries of the tarot. This rich gallery of colorful individuals gave director Francois Girard a poetic premise to build on, and the task of dressing them fell to costume designer Renée April.

ZED is the meeting of two worlds: the sky – where iridescent colors, paler shades and pearl and silver predominate – and the earth, which recalls the Italian Renaissance, with an emphasis on ochre, green, intense turquoise, gold and Venetian blue. "I was aiming for a certain homogeneity and purity of line in keeping with the visual world of François Girard," explains Renée April. "The 150 costumes in the show also reveal my playful side, but they are not caricatures. I work a lot through emotion and intuition. I always prefer works that project the viewer into a distant era. Even though that calls for more in-depth research, I am not trying to replicate the era in great detail. I always concentrate more on an interpretation of it."

The Characters and Their Costumes

Zed – The Main Character

Zed resembles a Pierrot. Wearing a Rasta wig and dressed all in white, it's a simple look, with no defined line except for subtle references to the geometric shape of the lozenge. His paleness allows him to take on the coloring of the various tableaux in which he appears, and reflects his eagerness to know everything. His costume is in organza, a tightly woven transparent silk, creased to create the lozenges, which were a popular motif at the time of the Renaissance.

The Shaman – Master of the Arcana

The Shaman wears a transparent copper-colored mesh outfit that contrasts with his black skin. White tribal patterns are painted onto his costume and he also wears a tribal headdress, a coat that is open in front and a twisted leather cape decorated with belts encrusted with small items such as stones and pieces of fur.

Djinn

His costume is made from a stretch silicone material adorned with a kind of gold leaf, which makes it look as though he is wearing a huge Aztec or Inca necklace. Covered in tattoos, he is dressed in gold and turquoise blue with shades of green.

The People of the Sky

Turquoise, blue and iridescent colors predominate in these poetic characters' costumes. They are made from a fabric that looks fragile, but is in fact very durable. It is impossible to know where the suit ends and where the skin begins. The characters look like dragonflies with large antennas or elves. The Nymphs, who also belong to this people, are dressed in chiffon and cristalette, and resemble jellyfish with fiery tails.

Nouit – The Great Goddess

The creator of the firmament, Nouit is fitted with 14 wings and a headpiece that lights up. Her costume is decorated with 400 LEDs.

Kernoun – The God of Hell

The medieval character Kernoun, who holds fire in his hands, wears laced boots and a large silk coat that turns gradually from yellow to dark brown ochre, and onto which a hundred cornettes – orange and red flowers – have been sewn. Many of them are motorized to create a ripple effect.

The Satyrs and Jugglers

These characters, who embody the indomitable forces of nature, wear "justaucorps," costumes that reveal their muscles and bear flames that go over their heads like the horns of goat.

Abraka - King of the Earth

The magus Abraka wears a chain mail coat and a large royal collar. When he raises his arms, his four wings, which range gradually from

purple to gold, spread out over 18 meters. His costume required 200 meters of cloth pleated by hand and printed with designs using a technique called sublimation, which fixes the images in the fibers of the material. Abraka is flanked by servants who wear gold and blue Venetian livery.

FRANÇOIS GIRARD

Writer and Director

"I take it as a given that from the first frame of a film or the moment the curtain rises for a live show, the audience is ready for an adventure, and I think that's entirely compatible with the work of Cirque du Soleil."

François Girard

François Girard is primarily known as a film director and screenwriter. His professional career began on the Montreal art video circuit in the 1980s, writing and directing short experimental films, architecture and dance films, music videos and video installations.

In 1990 he produced his first feature film, *Cargo*. The same year, he directed a television adaptation of the theatrical spectacle *Le Dortoir* by Gilles Maheu, founder of the dance/theatre/multimedia troupe Carbone 14 (Quebec), for which he was awarded an International Emmy, a Gold FIPA (France) and a Prix Gémeau (Quebec). His other television credits include Peter Gabriel's *Secret World* for which he won a Grammy Award (USA), and *The Sound of the Carceri*, one of the six episodes of *Yo Yo Ma Inspired by Bach*.

François Girard attained international recognition following his 1993 feature-length biopic *Thirty Two Short Films About Glenn Gould*. His third feature, *The Red Violin* (1998) was a huge success, winning eight Genies in Canada (including Best Picture and Best Director) nine Jutras in Quebec and an Academy Award for Best Original Soundtrack. His most recent feature film is the 2007 release *Silk*, which was partly shot in Japan.

Extending his work to the stage, he made his debut as an opera director at Canadian Opera Company with Stravinsky's *Symphony of Psalms* and *Oedipus Rex* by Jean Cocteau, which went on to win eight Dora Mavor Moore Awards in Canada. He also directed Alessandro Baricco's play *Novecento*, presented in Canada and again in Edinburgh, Kafka's *The Trial* at the Théâtre du Nouveau Monde in Montreal and The National Arts Center in Ottawa, the oratorio *Lost Objects* at the Brooklyn Academy of Music, *Siegfried* in Toronto and Lyon and *The Lindbergh Flight* and *The Seven Deadly Sins*, first in Lyon, France, then in Edinburgh, Scotland and Wellington, New Zealand.

"For the most part, what I do is tell stories," says François Girard. "But I don't see circus as a linear narrative form and with this show, I think the link to the audience is based on the characters rather than the plot. At the same time, the characters are going to evolve, and each of them has the potential to develop his or her own story against a backdrop of the world of the Tarot."

François Girard was born in Saint-Félicien, Quebec in 1963.

LINE TREMBLAY

Director of Creation

"My role is a bit like that of an orchestra conductor. It's the job of the director of creation to create a spirit of unity in the creation team, to produce a sense of synergy."

Line Tremblay

Line Tremblay first fell in love with Cirque du Soleil in 1984, drawn by its freewheeling spirit, a spirit she says has never gone away. "For me, circus is the most complete art form. It addresses the audience on the visual, the emotional and the physical level all at the same time. I never really had a formal career plan, but I was destined to a life in this milieu."

Before joining Cirque, Line worked in film and television, notably as an Assistant Director at Radio-Canada. Starting in 1992 she worked as Franco Dragone's assistant in the creation of the Cirque du Soleil shows *Mystère*, *Alegría*, *Quidam*, "O" and *La Nouba*. She was also the Artistic Director of *Quidam*. Her close working relationship with Franco gave her an insight into the inner workings of show direction.

A newcomer to the equestrian field, Line worked with Gilles Ste-Croix as his assistant in the creation of the 2000 show *Cheval Théâtre*. She left Cirque to work with Franco Dragone in the creation of the Celine Dion show *A New Day* and returned in 2003 to work on *Corteo* as the first woman in Cirque's history to occupy the position of Director of Creation.

With the creative team in place, Line Tremblay then oversees the meshing of each member's individual artistic approach with the overall creative philosophy of Cirque du Soleil. Her aim is to produce a synergy and create an atmosphere of unity in the creative team.

"We constantly have to renew ourselves and reinvent ourselves with each new show," she says. "Among the aspects of the job I find particularly satisfying are the interactions I have with the creators and the in-depth research we do with many of the artists to ensure they bring their very best work to the show."

Line points out that there is a storyline to almost every Cirque du Soleil show, and that ZED is no exception. However, she sees ZED as far more character-driven than plot-driven. "The through line is the character of Zed, himself," she explains. "It's about how he acquires knowledge in his interactions with other people. It's about his bold sense of freedom, his discovery of love and, in the end, his ability to express himself and make himself understood."

Line Tremblay was born in 1956 in Hull, Quebec.

ZED at Cirque du Soleil Theater Tokyo: Food & Souvenir Stuff to spend *all* your money on!

by Steve Long (Connecticut, U.S.A.)

A new show in a new country means a new place to spend money on all things Cirque. But the question for many CirqueCon members visiting Japan for the first time might be, what am I going to see when I stand before the Food & Drink Bar or are milling about in the Boutique? The Japanese side of the ZED web site, www.zed.co.jp, gives a clue as to what might be available and how much it will cost. Here then is an overview with some comments based on my "long" term experience with the Japanese people and culture.

Food & Drink Bar

SET MENU: There is nothing raw offered here, not like a sushi bar. The Set Menus seems pretty much what you might find in Las Vegas or Orlando:

- ❖ A Set: ¥1,250 Souvenir Bucket with Popcorn and a Soft Drink (For ¥300 more you can have a draft beer instead.)
- ❖ B Set: ¥1,000 Cheese or Mixed Dried Fruit and a Glass of Red or White Wine
- ❖ C Set: ¥2,600 Cheese or Mixed Dried Fruit and Two Glasses of Champagne



DRINKS: These offerings also strike me as being along the lines of what you'd find at other resident shows; standard soft drink offerings, beers, wines and champagne. I don't know who has the beer concession at the Tokyo Disney Resort (Kirin, Sapporo and Asahi are the big three), so I don't know what beers will be available. The way sake (that's SA-KAY not SA-KEE) is generally served I don't see that as an option but I could be wrong.

PASTRIES & SWEETS: (¥350 to ¥450) The pastries are worth a try! My impression is that the Japanese approach their breads and confectionaries from the sugar side of the spectrum while Americans approach from the cream side. The various fillings will probably be closer to puddings than sweet cream fillings. Depending on the supplier, people might find that the ice cream is probably not as rich as one would find in the U.S.

Here's some of what's being offered;

- ❖ Cream Cheese Bread
- ❖ Seasonal Éclair
- ❖ Custard Pudding Stick Pie
- ❖ Curry Stick Pie
- ❖ Ice Cream (Vanilla, Chocolate or Strawberry)



Boutique

Now we get to the good stuff for the Cirque Passionate! Just remember that they're charging big bucks for a second checked bag these days.

There are three main product lines being offered, here's what they're called and how they're described on the ZED web site.

Grand Opening Line: Goods created to celebrate the Grand Opening of Cirque du Soleil Tokyo. Available only in Japan and only for a limited time.

Fusion Line: Goods that are original to Japan. Created with Cirque du Soleil's original art and with Japanese taste in mind. Available only in Japan.

Cirque du Soleil Line: Cirque du Soleil's worldwide items. Until now available only at theaters outside Japan, through the internet or at the touring shows. These worldwide items can now be bought in this theater.

First off I should list this:

Souvenir Cup: ¥1,050 (If you purchase a Souvenir soft drink cup you'll get ¥100 off the price of a soft drink, but only on the day the cup is purchased.) Hit the Boutique for your Souvenir Cup, get the discounted drink at the Bar and then come back to ponder your purchases.



The other offerings cover the usual range of goods, from inexpensive accessories and stationery items through caps and t-shirts to the more expensive masks, silver jewelry, figurines and other artwork. Here are some general categories to prepare people for what they might find.

Accessories:

- ❖Metal Pin: ¥735
- ❖Metal Key Ring: ¥945 & ¥997
- ❖Leather Strap: ¥1,575
- ❖Charm Strap: ¥840
- ❖Cell Phone Cleaner Strap (cleaning pad on back): ¥630

Where you would find key rings and magnets in boutiques in North America, here we find key rings and cell phone straps. Most Japanese cell phones are designed to use carrying straps like digital cameras do. Some cell phone straps are functional, others are decorative and you can see people using both kinds on the same phone. I imagine that the cell phone straps are like key rings, something decorative and potentially functional that can also display your interests. You can also collect them, as some people do with magnets. If your cell phone doesn't have something to hook these onto, you could use them on a digital camera or a USB flash drive, etc.



Foods:

- ❖Maple Leaf Cream Cookie (small bag): ¥400
- ❖Cheese Stick Pie (small bag): ¥450
- ❖Cirque Chocolate - Plain & Sweet (small tin): ¥800
- ❖Cookie Assortment - Almond, Cranberry Jam and Chocolate (box): ¥1,100
- ❖Mille-Feuille - Coffee, Caramel and Chocolate (box): ¥1,050 (a.k.a. Napoleon)
- ❖Vienna Kuchen - Zahha Torte and Dobusu Torte (box): ¥1,575 (I don't know what sort of confection they are but they should be good!)

As with the pastries my impression is we're approaching things from the sugar side of the spectrum as opposed to the cream side. As you can see they are sold in bags, tins or boxes as they are meant as Omiyage souvenir/presents to bring back with you. If you've had the good fortune to be able to travel it's considered polite to bring something back for those who stayed behind. (There's a great trade in chocolate covered macadamia nuts for those who vacation in Hawaii.) These items can even be bought and held aside for a limited time for those times when you go visiting or as gifts that you, as host, will give as your send your guests on their way home.

My family is of Irish heritage and we have a saying that 'you never arrive with one arm as long as the other.' In other words, you never go visiting without bringing a gift, usually food. Probably one of the reasons I have such an affinity for Japan is this idea of honoring your hosts with gifts when visiting. And it wasn't limited to visiting homes. When I was performing in Japan and going to see the performances of others I would bring fruit, cookies, or juices of some kind as an appreciation for all their work. If it was a short-run performance there might also be a bottle or two of sake for the wrap party. (As a performer I also got to be on the receiving end of such goodies.) In most of these cases the visitors would have access to the Green Room or the dressing rooms.

I note that the Customer Service Counter will take gifts for the cast, but only in the form of flowers or letters. If people were allowed to give food or drink, like they did when I was performing in Japan, the staff would probably need a hand truck to get the stuff back to the dressing rooms!

Stationery:

These items are much like what you'd find in the Cirque on-line and show Boutiques. I imagine that the Japanese are buying them for the same reasons people in North America do, inexpensive and useful mementos of the show to keep your kids happy and to show your enthusiasm for Cirque du Soleil.

- ❖ Grand Opening Line Memo Pad 2 piece set: ¥525
- ❖ Fusion Line Spiral Notebook (A5 size): ¥840

A5 size is about the size of a piece of letter-sized paper folded in half (5.8" x 8.3")

- ❖ Grand Opening Line Clear File Folder (A4 size): ¥367
- ❖ Fusion Line Clear File Folders (A6 size) 3 piece set: ¥577



Clear files? Like a manila file folder but closed on the left and bottom sides to keep the stuff inside, clear files are used to organize papers. Made of clear or colored plastic, any designs are placed in such a way that you can still see what's in the folder. An A4 size folder is about the same as letter size (8.3" x 11.7") and an A6 folder is about the same as an index card (4.1" x 5.8"). They are used to organize homework, flash cards, ZED tickets, etc. Companies and the government might use simple clear or colored files or there might be a printed logo on the outside. For school and home use it's another way to display your passion for things Cirque. I don't know the history of clear files but I'm sure it's got something to do with the fact that there's not a lot of room at work or at home for file cabinets full of forgotten manila file folders.

- ❖ Grand Opening Line Ballpoint Pen: ¥840
- ❖ Fusion Line Ballpoint Pen: ¥787
- ❖ Fusion Line Mechanical Pencil: ¥787

Why a mechanical pencil instead of your standard No. 2 pencil? In Japan students are very good at twirling pens around their fingers in all sorts of patterns, sort of like close-in baton twirling. In fact, a Japanese company recently produced a line of balanced pens just for the purpose of what I think is called "pen juggling." A pencil that gets shorter with use doesn't "juggle" as well as a mechanical pencil.

T-Shirts:

Unisex design in sizes XS / S / M / L / XL: ¥3,675

Ladies design in sizes XS / S / M / L: ¥6,090 for the two styles pictured on the web site.

Towel: ¥840

Here is something that will puzzle some, a single towel about the size of a face cloth. Why would something like this be offered? Most public restrooms in Japan don't have paper towel dispensers for drying your hands and only some have electric hand dryers. A regular handkerchief (or shirt sleeve) will work, but a small towel that fits easily in your pocket or handbag works better. And if they're boxed they make great gifts!

Please note that in comparing the **Cirque du Soleil Line** offerings listed on the ZED web site with the items available through the main Cirque du Soleil Boutique I'm seeing some differences. One or two of the masks, the silver necklaces, the figurines and the ornaments as pictured look as though they are only available in the Theater Tokyo Boutique.



What's displayed on the ZED web site doesn't represent all that will be for sale in the Boutique. We won't know until we get there what will actually be available to fill our carry-ons and checked baggage for the return home. In bringing back unique things like clear files, cell phone straps and Vienna Kuchen we'll be announcing to those back home that we've been someplace special!

Globe-Trotter with Alegria

By Rie Sugawara

Fukimi - Saitama, Japan

Tokyo, Fukuoka, Nagoya, Osaka, Hong Kong, London, Biloxi, Melbourne, Singapore, Minneapolis, Portland, Toronto, Brussels, and Paris. These cities are where I have been to see Alegria.

My first Alegria was in March, 1996. Two clowns looked like an old bird and a young cheeky one to me (birds on a wire). Later, the same clown (Yuri Medvedef) spread a snow storm all over the tent, it was a big surprise. And the flashing acrobat with their beautiful music (Fast track) has remained in my heart since that moment. Visiting Alegria in different cities & countries, I made a lot of friends and many good memories. I must appreciate Cirque Du Soleil for all the unique opportunities, I've experienced following Alegria.

My 10th Alegria anniversary was a special year. Alegria returned to Japan from 2004 to 2005! I saw the show almost every week and I often met my friends and visited the Cirque families after the show. It was a very busy time, but also a very happy time.

November 15, 2005 was a memorable day for me. It was my 100th Alegria show. I was seated at the very top row, some artists waved their hands from the stage. I was invited to the backstage right after the show, I was told to come "ASAP" so I dashed to the backstage. The artists were all there, all of them wearing makeup, and they presented me with a photo shoot! What a wonderful surprise! That picture is my treasure forever and I am still increasing the number of the show seen. The next is in Seoul, Korea.



Call Me What You Want

By Vince Kramer

US citizen from the Atlanta GA area, but presently living in Russia

Most people, who know me, know my passion and love for Cirque. It all started several years ago from a friend who recommended my dad and I go see Mystré while we were in Las Vegas. After having to pick my dad up off the floor when he heard the price, he warned me that if it is not any good, we were going to call Ricky and wake his butt up and ask for our money back. Needless to say, we did call, but not to ask for our money back but to tell him how excited we were about his recommendation and that we are going to see 'O' the next night!

Since then, I have literally traveled North America and Europe to see the different productions and not just once, but many times. Sometimes I travel with friends, other times by myself because I also seem to meet new Cirque friends during my travels. That is one reason I am so excited to meet many of you in Tokyo and to add Asia to one the continents I have traveled to see these amazing performances, but it also why my family and friends call me "crazy."

One of my most memorable experiences is when Ricky I traveled to Toronto to see Varekai. We decided to do it in style so we purchased the Tapis Rouge tickets and met a few of the character greeters. While one of the characters was making her rounds

before the show, she came and spoke to us and asked us about our Cirque experiences. We started rattling off all of the places we had been, our favorite shows, etc. By this time, we had a few of the characters around us and when we were finished telling stories, she grabs our hands, raises them to the ceiling and yells, "Cirque Groupies!"

To make the story more interesting, several months later when Varekai came to Atlanta, we again went to see the show and bought Tapis Rouge tickets and guess who is there and remembers us? Yes, as soon as we walked in the tent, she yells, "Oh there are my Cirque Groupies" and gives us a big hug. This time she tells us about her past shows and experiences with Cirque. It made the entire experience all the more fun and memorable.

So I have been called many things in regards to my love and passion towards Cirque. It really does not matter to me what you call me as long as you call me join to you at a Cirque experience near you! Which is why I am so excited to meet other crazy Cirque Groupies who will travel half way around the world to take part in the wonderful and exhilarating experience in Tokyo to see ZED.

My Silver Visit to Mystere

By Graphics Guy Rich Alfrod

Bothell, Washington, USA

In April of 2007, I celebrated my 25th visit to Mystere at Treasure Island Resort in Las Vegas. I was in Las Vegas with my middle nephew, Corey to just "hang out" for a weekend. This was Corey's first experience with a Cirque show which I thought was special as Mystere was my first Cirque show, the one that "started it all" for me.

We were greeted at the theater by my friend Kelly, the (then) Theater Manager. Kelly knew it was my 25th time at the show and, to my great surprise; they really rolled out the red carpet for my nephew and I.

We were escorted to our seats, treated to refreshments and a complimentary photo. Kelly also asked us to stay behind for a moment after the show (to my great excitement!). I really appreciated the VIP treatment, my nephew had never experienced something like that, it made for a really great, first time experience.

As expected, the show was awesome. My nephew was amazed by the show and found he was drawn in to the world of Cirque for the duration of the show. As we passionates know, that's the reason we keep coming back, I think my nephew became a true fan. Everything was on point that night and it was simply magical.

After the show, we met up with Kelly when she presented me with a show poster, autographed by the artists in acknowledgement of my 25th viewing of the show. I was so honored and surprised and mostly, surprised. I had no idea or expectation of something like that I was very touched. This is now truly one of the treasures in my Cirque collection.

I continue to be amazed by the consistency of the attitude of the Cirque staff and artists of all the shows and their appreciation of us



REPORTS FROM MONTERREY, MEXICO

By Rodolfo Elizondo

SALTIMBANCO, DELIRIUM & QUIDAM

SALTIMBANCO... the magic begins in Monterrey!

Hola amigos from Cirque Con 2008. I'm so happy to share with you one of my best experiences with Cirque du Soleil here in my hometown, Monterrey. I'm Rodolfo Elizondo, founder of

"DUSOLEIL FAN CLUB MEXICO" that in the last almost six years, more than 300 fans not just from Mexico, also from other parts of the world, joined us to share one passion: CIRQUE DU SOLEIL.



Monterrey is the third largest city in Mexico and is the most important industrial and economical power in Mexico. Worldwide recognized for being one of the most important cities for business and also for the hospitality of the people. Monterrey is surrounded by several mountains, so the views in Monterrey are just amazing. The first visit of Cirque du Soleil to Monterrey was in August 2005 with Saltimbanco. We were the first stop in Latin America after Paris, France. The set up and beginning of Saltimbanco in Monterrey has been one of the biggest challenges in the history of Cirque, because the hurricane Katrina was in the way to Monterrey, so the original site of Saltimbanco was completely destroyed, so in less than 24 hours they needed to find a new site for the Grand Chapiteau and set up everything on time for the premiere. Teamwork was the key and Cirque Du Soleil made on time. Saltimbanco had sold out shows in Monterrey. So they made a great debut in this economical powerful city. The whole Saltimbanco team really enjoyed Monterrey. In Cirque Club they wrote this about Monterrey:

Monterrey, the beginning of a new adventure for Saltimbanco After a well deserved vacation, Saltimbanco's next destination was Monterrey, the third largest city in Mexico. Getting there was not an easy task for those scheduled to arrive on July 20: hurricane Emily decided to head towards Monterrey, so the airport closed. While most people were stuck in the U.S. or other cities in Mexico, Emily was paying our site a visit. On July 21, Saltimbanco no longer had a site: half of it had been washed away by the Santa Catarina river. Action plan: we needed a new location and fast! Well, a miracle happened and we had a new site within two days and were able to start rebuilding our "village on wheels" in the beautiful Parque Fundidora.

What did we do in Monterrey?

While some people enjoyed "extreme shopping Mondays" and "extreme dining" experiences, tasting all kinds of food including chapolines (crickets), worms, and drinking tequila, others went for "extreme challenges" like jumping off a 12-metre cliff or rappelling down a 50-metre waterfall at its maximum water flow. Why did we like Monterrey?

The site is located in a beautiful park, there is an exciting nightlife, good restaurants and amazing food. There are very friendly people everywhere, beautiful mountains and hiking trails, and much more.

Most people will leave Monterrey very fit thanks to the tennis, yoga, Pilates, jogging and rollerblading: Saltimbanco really got into shape here!

While Saltimbanco didn't get off to an easy start in Mexico, the difficulties we encountered proved what a good group of people can do in the most problematic circumstances. We are ready for Mexico City; I just hope Mexico City is ready for us!

DELIRIUM...an unforgettable experience!

After Saltimbanco in 2005, Monterrey was selected by Cirque du



Soleil to be the only city in Latin America to receive DELIRIUM at the Arena Monterrey in April 2007. DELIRIUM had sold out weekend in Monterrey that an extra show was added on the next

Monday. The "DU SOLEIL FAN CLUB MEXICO" had an incredible experience... something like a Mexican Cirque Con at Delirium, because before the show, we had the chance to have an incredible backstage tour, where we had the opportunity to see lots of the aspects that are not seen in a show like this. One of the best moments was when the technicians of the show invited us to take the rolling seats and we went under the stage. We saw how all areas communicate to have everything and everyone ready in the show. After this amazing experience we saw the show and after the show we had at the stage a meet & greet with all the cast of Delirium and at the end we had a group picture. It was truly a great moment.

QUIDAM in Monterrey: a magical journey!

The wait was over. Finally after some delays of Quidam in Mexico City, (It was extended 2 weeks, so first weeks of Monterrey were delayed also)



QUIDAM arrived in Monterrey the third week of January 2008. One of the things I loved from Quidam is that is one of the show where I have lots of friends, who I met in Long Beach, California

before. Ana Cuellar is from Monterrey and she is a close friend of mine and she is a performer of La Nouba. In the last 3 years has been in the Aerial Ballet in Silk, where sometimes she had the opportunity to be the back up of the flying solo. Before Ana joined La Nouba, she had her General Formation twice in Montreal and she was trained to join QUIDAM, but in the last minute she got a contract for La Nouba, even she never joined QUIDAM, she really had a special love for QUIDAM. So for the first week of Quidam

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in Monterrey, La Nouba were on vacation and Ana decided to come to Monterrey so see friend and family and of course to see her dream come true... to see QUIDAM at her homeland. The first surprise I planned with Ana was a special welcoming for our friends Xuxu and Tony (both performers of Spanish webs at Quidam) that Ana met in Montreal during the General Formation. So the plan was this: I will go to the airport to pick up them after their week off in Cancun to take them to the "hotel".



They know that Ana was in Monterrey but they didn't get any news from her in the previous days. So after I met them at the airport, I told them an apologize message from Ana that she was really sorry for not meeting them in Monterrey, that in the last minute she got extra training in La Nouba, so she couldn't make it. They were really sad and while I was driving to "the hotel" I told them that due the traffic jam was terrible, I was taking a "shortcut" to arrive faster. Of course I wasn't driving to hotel, I was driving directly to Ana's house where she and her family were waiting for us in a big a surprise party.

I can't explain how magical and wonderful was the surprise when we arrived at Ana's house. It was an incredible and unforgettable time. Of course, I had to pay all night for lie to them... I was the center of the party for being the head master of the plan for the surprise. Ana's mother prepared some delicious Mexican food, including the famous fried bean with cheese and chips. We had a nice dinner and a great pictures time. After several hours and after several talks and once my trust were recovered and they believed that I will take them to the hotel and not to other place... we drove to the hotel site of Quidam in Monterrey. In our way, they said this was a complete different arrival to a city, that never before had something like they just lived in Monterrey... they said they felt like being at home... and I just told them... Bienvenidos a casa... and this is just the beginning.!

Dress rehearsal with Ana

QUIDAM was set up once again in the Parque Fundidora, but in a different location from Saltimbanco. Now was in the parking lot of Sesame Street Theme park. It was a day in the afternoon that I spent in Monterrey with Ana. Xuxu and Tony were complete busy getting ready for the Dress Rehearsal. I went with Ana to a photo session at the

newspaper studio for a coverage report of Ana as Monterrey's represent in Cirque Du Soleil. We finished around 7Pm and she asked me to go and see the site of Quidam at



Parque Fundidora. We arrived to Quidam's location and we saw people arriving (almost late) for the dress rehearsal. While everybody was running, Ana and I were taking pictures in all the incredible graphics and pictures of Quidam all around the site, while I saw an old friend from Saltimbanco... Fernando Cardena (Ferran). He is from Spain and he was also a Head Usher Manager in Saltimbanco and now again in Quidam. It was a great moment, specially because he recognized me immediately and also Ana did because when she came on vacation in 2006 to Monterrey, Saltimbanco was playing in Mexico City and Ana and I traveled there to see Saltimanco and Fernando gave us the best seats in the house that time. After a short conversation with Fernando we walked to the main entrance and we stayed a few more minutes for taking more pictures, and in that moment, we hear the introduction music of QUIDAM... the first presentation of the show in Monterrey... Ana and I were really excited and after some moments we began to walk to my car while I hear somebody was saying my name... It was Fernando and he run to gave us a special ticket to join the dress rehearsal... WOOOW We couldn't believe it!... We really thank Fernando (GRACIAS FERNANDO) and we step in the Grand Chapiteau and QUIDAM WAS THERE...IN MONTERREY! It was for me a "dream come true moment" when I sit and begin watching QUIDAM... before I traveled by air and land to see this show, and now... it was at home! It was an incredible dress rehearsal...after the show Ana and me thought Quidam was really in a good shape... an excellent cast was playing Quidam in Monterrey.

Quidam's Premiere party in Monterrey.

Finally after years of waiting, the premier of Quidam in Monterrey was here. This was a complete private event, but we got really great seats thanks of our friends Xuxu and Tony from Spanish



webs (close friends of Ana, because years ago they had general formation together in Montreal.) It was a really bad weather day...it was cold and rainy so much. The show was INCREDIBLE. Having Ana next to me

watching a performance of Cirque Du Soleil is amazing because they are even more bewaring of details of everything. After the show we moved to the Premiere Party. The site of Quidam was located in a former metal factory that now is a natural and beautiful park and one of the main icons of Monterrey. (It's Monterrey's Central park) so due the rain, the premiere party was relocated to one of the very old factory houses... imagine a very old machine room, with a very nice lighting and music, tequila and cerveza plus a delicious Mexican Buffet... what a great party! Also the building had several floors under, and most of the floor is done with crystal! I had the chance to meet, talk and party with most of the cast of Quidam, where I met before in California... but now they were here at home. Party ended around 6:30AM... then get ready to be back at work at 8am. No problem, it was a once in a life experience.

New friends at QUIDAM.

During the premiere party, I had the chance to met one of my close friends at Quidam; The Bangs Family. They are a family from Ottawa Canada: Bob, Lauree, Tessa & Ella. Bob is the father and is in Quidam as the tutor of Ella. Ella is playing Zoe role at Quidam since the beginning of the Mexico Tour of Quidam. She is one of the youngest Zoe artist and I can tell that her voice is amazing, and ever better because she is an 11 years old girl! Just like Zoe. Lauree is working at Quidam in an administrative role and Tessa is the other sister of Ella. They are amazing. From the moment we met before they arrival to Monterrey by email, it was a kind of magic. We plan to have several activities here in Monterrey and I wanted to take to all of them, but sadly, Monterrey was one of the smallest seasons of Cirque Du Soleil... just 3 weeks and no more! (Really sad because in 2005 Saltimbanco had 7 sold out weeks!) So for this reason, they will just have one or two days off to enjoy the city. On that week we plan something unique: a visit to the Arena Coliseo to see a real Mexican Lucha Libre (Free Wrestling).



Lucha Libre

Tuesday is the “nice night” of Lucha Libre, so I took Bob, Tessa and Ella to the Arena. Previous we had a stop at the Horno 3 Museum that was next to the side of Quidam. We had the chance to see a light, laser and music show in the old metal oven of Fundidora Metal Factory. We went to the balcony to have a great site of the city. Then Lucha Libre... we were almost in first row (for safety reasons I didn't take that row) ... and fights began... WHAT A NIGHT! I was little afraid about the reaction of Tessa and Ellas watching so intense and some “violence” on the ring, but I was totally wrong... They Loved! It was great because after every fights, Tessa and Ella wanted to go and have a picture with the fighters... Woow what a great night!



A Day of with QUIDAM

Monday Feb 5, 2005 was a holiday day in Mexico, so I have a day off on that day, as well as Quidam, so the Bangs family and I planned to have a intensive tour for all Monterrey “must to see “and I was selected to be the tour leader. I met them very early at the hotel and later more staff and artist begun to join us, so finally we were a group of more than



15-20 people, so we changed the plans, rented a special bus van and lets go... I have an Educational Field trips agency, so I have being a tour leader for almost 9 years taking students to several cities and places, but this time was a different group... QUIDAM! I was the tour leader for QUIDAM! I took them to the Garcia Caves then to the Huasteca Mountains and then for lunch they ask me to take them to my best taco restaurant, nothing expensive, they wanted to try something really local, so I took them to EL RINCON DEL TACO... and we had a lunch like never before! I could believe I have staff and artist from Quidam eating in my most favorite restaurant in Monterey! After that I took them to the Cola de Caballo Waterfall and we spend the rest of the afternoon and night there. One of the restaurant let us be at the roof of the house, so we had a great time there, enjoying the views the site, the weather and of course the margaritas an tequilas. What a night!

Backstage at QUIDAM

I was so lucky to be invited my mother and me by Xuxu and Tony to see the show in the Tapis Rouge in the backstage at the artist tend. WOOOW what a great experience... it was so magical to see all the details and how all the artist prepare to perform in the show. Since I was seating ting in the big sofa where is the TV that has the show in live, I had the chance to talk and meet with all Quidam cast... One of the activities I loved to do was to help the Chinese girls to prepare all the blue rolls they use in their act. Also I have the chance to meet and talked with Olga Pikhienko who was part of Quidam tour on that time. During the intermission we had the chance to take



pictures with several of the artist and cast of Quidam. But my friend Xuxu made something that really made cried... I can say this was one of my best moments with Cirque Du Soleil... after the end of the show, when all the artist were coming back from stage, the stage manager made a request to all artist to get together for a group picture for a special friend of her and of QUIDAM... it was me RODOLFO! So all the artist got together and they had me at the center and we took a picture... I can't express with words how wonderful this experience was to me.



Ricky "Richasi" Russo in Monterrey

I have to say that one of the most incredible things of being a loyal fan of Cirque du Soleil is the friends I have now thanks for following the sun, and one of the most important activities that I participated as a fan is of course the CIRQUE CON... where met lots of friend from different parts of the world. It's so nice to meet people from different backgrounds but all with one thing in common: CIRQUE DU SOLEIL. I have to say that all the people behind the planning



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of the CIRQUE CON are amazing; Keith, Lucy, Ricky and Rich... and for me was a pleasure when Ricky told me that we wanted to come from Orlando to Monterrey to see Quidam, and he finally did it. Before we attend Quidam, in his really short visit and first one to Mexico, I took him to all must to see and eat things in Monterrey. We had a great time! Because I work as a tour leader in Monterrey and other cities, I gave Ricky a great view of my city of Monterrey. (PLEASE... When you come to Monterrey let me know... I love to take friends to see my city!) And in his last day we went to see QUIDAM! Also, one of the funniest things we made was to take some pictures at one of the advertising walls of Quidam, located in very car traffic avenue, it was little crazy because to get a nice picture of the whole wall, the camera need to be in the middle of the avenue! ... at the end nothing happened and we took some really nice pictures. As I told Ricky, for me was like a small CIRQUE CON in Monterrey, because during the 3 weeks of Quidam I have the chance to see and had a great time with so many friends from Cirque Du Soleil.

A magical closing... the final performance...

It was sad because on that Sunday, Ricky left Monterrey so he missed the chance to see the last performance of Quidam in Monterrey. For me was a really special day, it was the end of and incredible adventure with Cirque du Soleil in my home. Since the moment I took the pictures of the first advertising walls, the moment when they began to pre-setup the site, the rising of the Grand Chapiteau just to begin... plus all the adventures I had with QUIDAM... it was now time to close all this adventure, and of course I had to be there in the last performance of Quidam in the first row... so experience in first hand (maybe for the last time in the Grand Chapiteau, QUIDAM).

The show was complete sold out. The governor of the State of Nuevo Leon and other very important figures of the city were on that show. I felt like artist were giving their best to have and incredible last performance of QUIDAM. It was a complete different experience being alone watching the show... after all, it was like a gif from life that said to me ...Rodolfo enjoy this! I have no words to explain how much means to me Cirque du Soleil, and even more Quidam and much more having them at home. Intermission ended and the last and second part of QUIDAM begun. At that moment I had no idea that the most magical moment with Cirque Du Soleil was just



minutes before to happen and what a great gift from QUIDAM I was about to receive. TOTO it was the only clown in Quidam, he is from Argentina and of course he made and incredible clown performance in Mexico with Quidam. In the first act, he made the routine of the car, where he invites a lady to join him and have an incredible romantic night in the cart. For the second act, he had the routine of a movie filming, were he chose several victims from the audience to perform this act. First the lovers, then the second lover that arrives just then the other lovers are kissing and the Hollywood sign a man who counts the scenes. I was just really concentrated in watching the beginning of his act and suddenly, I felt all the lights over me... I just saw Toto coming to me, he took away my cap and took my hand and took me to the QUIDAM STAGE TO PERFORM THE SECOND LOVER BEHIND THE

DOOR!!!!!!!

I WAS IN QUIDAM'S STAGE..... IN MONTERREY!!!!!!
WOOW I WAS IN A COMPLETE SHOCK!... I WAS SO NERVOUS THAT EVEN I HAD SEEN THE SHOW MANY TIMES BEFORE... MY MIND WAS OUT!

I remembered that while I was waiting for my part, standing behind the door holding the flowers, Zoe (that was Ella my friend) was seating close to me, and I just saw her in her eyes and she was really excited to see me there... then before I began to act I thought... THIS IS MY MOMENT... I WILL ACT AND PLAY AT QUIDAM STAGE... so this is my time, my chance.... So I said... Just do it like you wanted! My time came... I step in to the door (after my first time when I cross the door and I forgot to open it) and well, I just remember that made a big jump and I made a big scream and use my gun to vanish all from the scene then I don't how but I finished jumping and lying all over the stage!!!!!!!!!!!! WHAT A GLORIOUS MOMENT! I have no words to explain the magic, felling and wonderful that this experience was to me... when Toto took me back to my seat all the people around me were so excited and told me that I was done an incredible job, that everybody exploded in a great laugh. The minutes after this experience were unforgettable... the way to "come back to earth" after an experience like this was amazing.... What a great way to finish this incredible experience with QUIDAM in Monterrey! After the emotional ending...hundreds of workers began immediately the tear down of the Grand Chapiteau..Bob came to me over to take me back stage for a quick photo with Ella as a Zoe and when the artist saw me, they just said ...RODOLFO you MADE IT! You ROCK!!!!!! Some of them told me that when they saw Toto took me to the stage they think I will be maybe not so good because I knew the routine for all the time I saw the show... but they agreed they were all wrong and they really loved my performance... (I thank all my theater teachers!) ... After I left the site and I remember I was driving to the hotel of QUIDAM , I just saw all the lights of the site turn off. That was the time to close another chapter of my journey of a Cirque du Soleil fan... following the sun... this time, the sun came home... but I know that after a chapter is close , the next one is even better... and this chapter is new chapter is here... ASIA 2008 to start in big with the CIRQUE CON at ZED, then with Alegria in Seoul, Korea and later ZAIA in Macau... and the story goes on... because IMPOSSIBLE IS ONLY A WORD!

Su amigo,

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CELEBRI!

A Gathering Of Friends Celebrating Cirque du Soleil

«No Limits on Adventure»

Celebr! A Coming Together...

By: Ricky "Richasi" Russo
Celebration, Florida (USA)

You may have heard about it in passing - *Celebr!*

But just what is a *Celebr!*?

From the Italian, *Celebr!* is a coming together of friends to *celebrate* Cirque du Soleil in various geographical settings. By supporting a small reunion multiple times a year, *Celebr!* desires to ensnare the jubilant, ecstatic, and euphoric feelings that well up inside each avid Cirque du Soleil fan and nurture that festivity into a joyous and wonderful occasion with friends and fellow fans alike.

And for just over a year now, Rich Alford and I have hosted four such *Celebr!*s around the United States. Each event is different, complete with its own soul and tale to tell. Experience with us now the tales of the first four *Celebr!* outings in New York City, New York; San Francisco, California; Seattle, Washington; and Las Vegas, Nevada.

Celebr! NYC: "Au Nouveau Yorque"

WHERE: *New York City, New York (USA)*

WHAT: *Cirque du Soleil's Wintuk & More!*

WHEN: *Nov.09.2007 - Nov.12.2007*

Celebr!'s genesis found its ignitive spark a few short weeks prior to its inaugural run in another Cirque-oriented gathering that both Rich and I are apart of (and coordinated): *CirqueCon 2007: Orlando!*

CirqueCon, as you may or may not know, is an assembly of "Cirque Passionates" that found its light on Saturday, May 22, 2004 when 30-plus fans of Cirque du Soleil, from across North and Central America, descended upon the city of Vancouver to celebrate the return of Quidam, which had just delighted audiences in Japan for more than a year. The meeting was so successful that CirqueCon continued and visited Montreal in 2005, Las Vegas for 2006, Orlando in 2007 and Tokyo for 2008.

It was during *CirqueCon 2007: Orlando* that whispers of getting together again soon in a smaller, more intimate fashion began to find its voice. And thus *Celebr!* was born. We chose New York City: for its food, for its sights, for its people and most importantly, for Wintuk - Cirque du Soleil's newest resident production at the time. It was perfect.

WINTUK is an enchanting winter tale about a boy and his quest

for snow and adventure. The boy lives in a city where the arrival of winter has brought long shadows and intense cold but no snow! He interacts with a cast of high energy urban street characters; but when the snow does not arrive, he embarks on a quest with three companions - a female shaman who's lost in the city, a shy man destined to discover his courage and the shadow of a young girl - to find the snow and bring it back to where it belongs.

So, on November 8, 2007, we descended upon the Big Apple and what an amazing time it was! Rich, Nicole (my girlfriend) and I boarded the 7-train at Lowry/41st-Street from Long Island City and made our way into Manhattan to begin a day of discovery and exploration. We started down at the Circle Line docks for a little journey to the Statue of Liberty. And with monument passes in hand, we even got an inside peek! After Ms. Liberty, it was no holds bars for the rest of Manhattan. We visited Ground Zero, Wall Street, Grand Central, Times Square, Rockefeller Center and all points in between. By the end of the afternoon I had Rich and Nicole dizzy from all the sights and subway rides.

We calmed things down later on in the evening when we and the rest of the *Celebr!* group all assembled at the corner of 6th Avenue and 36th Street for a wonderful meal at Keen's Steakhouse, a chophouse as famous for its muttons as it is for its collection of clay smoking pipes on display in every nook and cranny of its ceiling. Keen's turned out to be a fantastic, classy establishment that teetered just on the edge of eclectic (just the way we like it!). And while they might be famous for their muttonchops, it was the Prime Filet Mignon that had my mouth watering. MmmmmMmm!

Then we hit Wintuk at Madison Square Garden - our reason for coming to New York City in the first place. We'd heard that Wintuk was an enchanting winter tale about a boy and his quest for snow and adventure. Now was the time to find out! Through Charivari, Slack Wire, Juggling, Rola-bola, Rag Doll, Inner Tubes, Cyr Wheel, Hoops, Acrobatic Swiss Balls, Aerial Straps, and Russian Bars, we sat astounded (or confused, you pick). Two and a half hours later, Wintuk came to a snow-filled close. By then it was late in the evening, but who said we had to call it a night? New York is the city that never sleeps, right? So we hit Times Square for an after-show dessert and coffee party!

Even though the stagehands union strike put the kybosh on our plans to see Disney's "The Lion King" on Broadway, Cirque du Soleil's Wintuk still tickled our hearts. Everyone seemed to have a grand time at Keen's steakhouse (and we must all thank the Metzger's for picking up the tab for us), at Wintuk and at Junior's afterwards for cheesecake (yum, yum, yum!). I also like to extend my personal thanks to Heather and Jim for their kindness in inviting us out to dinner Sunday night and for taking the time out of their personal lives to be our nighttime tour guides (driving us from Uptown to Downtown and from the Bronx to Queens). It was great fun!

Celebr! SFO: "Koozâ Palooza"

WHERE: *San Francisco, California (USA)*

WHAT: *Cirque du Soleil's Koozâ & More!*

WHEN: *Nov.30.2007 - Dec.02.2007*

"Turn here!"

"Where?"

"Right here!!!"

It's been a right, full day here in the "City by the Bay", and it seems sad that it must come to an end so soon. Less than 20 days



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after holding our first event in New York City, Rich and I touched down on the west coast of the United States for "Koozâ Palooza", the moniker given to our gathering of friends in San Francisco for Cirque du Soleil's newest touring production, Koozâ. While it's mostly been just the two of us, our friends Rafael & Angelica Serrano (and kids), from Tijuana, Mexico came out to join us for dinner. And we've had a blast since!

Of course, we've had our trials too.

Touring the city with a flummoxed GPS system tends to do that. And Rich is not too fond of my quick navigational changes, as the above conversation snippet attests to. But beyond that we've really had a great time here in San Fran - touring the sights, enjoying each other's company, having good times with friends and taking in Cirque du Soleil. That's what Celebri is all about!



Of course, Cirque du Soleil isn't the only draw here -- there's at least three things you must do when you come to San Francisco: 1) Drive across the Golden Gate Bridge, 2) Take a ride on a Cable Car and 3) Visit Fisherman's Wharf on the Embarcadero. And we did all three.

The Golden Gate Bridge is a monumental testament of know-how and ingenuity that has become the quintessential symbol of the city itself since it was completed in 1937. Naturally a traveler such as myself would want to gaze upon its deep orange hues and marvel at the sheer beauty of its construction - as close up as possible. On my last visit to San Francisco (which happened to be my first), I came no closer to the famed bridge than the waterfront near Fisherman's Wharf - there just wasn't enough time! - so this time I wanted to be sure I got a close up look. And took Rich on a ride in the hills! Psst, here's a little secret: while getting a glimpse of the bridge from its designated viewing platform on the San Francisco side provides great views of the bridge, drive over to Marin County side and take trip into the Marin Headlands. This region is part of the Golden Gate National Recreational Area and while you may find the roads small and winding, the vistas commanded here are so spectacular, I am at a loss for words.

Another secret: drive up there at night!

The Cable Cars too offer a unique treat for visitors and it's probably my most favorite feature of San Francisco. There's just something about hanging out the side of the car as it speeds down Hyde Street, air rushing past, with Alcatraz looming off in the distance, that's thrilling beyond words. Did you know there are three lines in operation today? The Powell-Hyde line, the Powell-Mason line and the California Street line. The most ridden, and perhaps the most famous of these lines, is the Powell-Hyde line, which runs from Powell/Market Street down to the waterfront near the San Francisco Maritime Museum. Here tourists (like us) can take this line through the heart of downtown to such sights as Lombard Street (the crookedest street in the world), Ghirardelli's (world-famous Chocolatier), Hard Rock Cafe (which is a favorite of Rich's) and Fisherman's Wharf.

Fisherman's Wharf is probably the quintessential tourist destination in San Francisco. Everything you want can be found here: from seafood to sea salts and everything else in between. Especially on Pier 39, where you can shop for puppets, sea salt soaps, Babushka dolls from Russia, socks, herbs, crystal, and fudge. I highly recommend the fudge at Chocolate Heaven; it's to die for. And the little chocolate cable cars are cute too! We caught up with the Serrano's here at the Wharf, sat down and had dinner at Hard Rock Cafe before heading off to Koozâ. It was the first time we had met the shy Serrano children, but it was good to see Rafael and Angelica again. They're such classy people and good friends. Sharing a meal with them is like being with family. You just can't go wrong with that.

Oh, and don't mind the seals -- they like it there (even if the establishment's owners don't!)

Before long it was time to enter the grand chapiteau for Koozâ. Koozâ, whose name is inspired by the Sanskrit word "koza," meaning "box," "chest" or "treasure," tells the story of a melancholy loner (The Innocent) in search of his place in the world taken on a journey through strength, fragility, laughter, turmoil and harmony. "Koozâ is also about human connection and the world of duality, good and bad," says the show's writer and director David Shiner. "The tone is fun and funny, light and open. The show doesn't take itself too seriously, but it's very much about ideas, too. As it evolves we are exploring concepts such as fear, identity, recognition and power."

Consequently, it was our third time catching the show since its inception; Rich and I had traveled to Montréal the previous April to see the show take its first tentative steps. While in this French enclave of Canada, we had a few crapes, met a couple friends, and even chatted with the director of the show: David Shiner (we even gave him one of Rich's signature buttons, which Mr. Shiner proudly wore!) While we'd likely not see anyone special at the show or have interactions of any kind with the cast and crew, we had a great time never-the-less and answered some of our most pressing questions about the show in the process -- would it be as fun a few months later?

The answer? An overwhelming yes!

Celebri! SEA: "un funerales a Seattle!"

WHERE: Seattle, Washington (USA)

WHAT: Cirque du Soleil's Corteo & Teatro Zinzanni

WHEN: May.02.2008 - May.04.2008

Any time Cirque du Soleil rolls into the Seattle area, Keith Johnson and Rich Alford, good friends and fellow CirqueCon conceptors who live in the area, get a group of friends and family together to see the show. Usually one or the other hosts a pre-show party at their house before-hand, inviting Cirque fans and friends over for drinks and tapas to kick-start a festive mood. For Dralion in 2002 and Alegria in 2004, Keith hosted a party at his place; however, for Varekai in 2006 the party shifted to Richie's Le Petite Chapiteau. And when Corteo rolled into Seattle in May 2008, Rich once again hosted at his yellow-colored bachelor pad



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yellow-colored bachelor pad in Bothel, north of the site in Marymoor Park. There he had set up for us a wonderful menu of Tapis Rouge proportions! It was the promise of a wonderful adventure...

On Friday, I spent most of my time with Heather and Jim (CirqueCon alums from New York's Long Island) GeoCaching around the city (my first experience) and seeing the sights. Our first search took us to Kubota, a Japanese gardens in a residential area of town. There we hunted (and found) a multi-cache by gathering the information requested from the gardens' guide and using those answers to calculate the cache's final location coordinates. With the flowers in bloom, and a crisp, cool morning air, meandering around the gardens was definitely a treat. And I took some good pictures to boot! The second cache was a quickie along side the highway, which ended up being more trouble than it was worth (for me that is, Heather and Jim loved climbing in the underbrush on the hill-side and traipsing through the woods...). We found it, though, and made our way back to the car virtually unscathed. The third, another multi-cache, was hidden at Olympic Sculpture Park, and I must say that I preferred exploring the park in this way. It made the time there very interesting and fun. The sculpture is very abstract (for me) but viewing the pieces while also solving the puzzle was the best way to experience it. We even stopped by ground zero of the geo-caching movement - Groundspeak - for an intimate and private tour of the facility, a chance to get at their private stash, and meet one of the founders. Boy was I thrust into the Geocaching world, or what? But I loved it!

The evening was capped off by a wonderful performance of Teatro Zinzanni whereby most sat in attendance, including: Rich, Jim, Heather, Eric, Keith, Lucy, Barb, Shelly, and myself. *A Suitcase Named Desire -- Master illusionist Voronin returns to the tent, his travel-stained trunk bursting with new secrets and surprises. With the help of two mysterious cohorts - the perfectly Parisian contortionist Aurelia Cats and the sexy, snakelike juggler Viktor Kee, Voronin slowly enchants the entire tent. Join us as Madame ZinZanni (London's West End singing sensation Melanie Stace) and her merry band of waiters, clowns and acrobats including audience favorites trapeze artists Duo Artemiev, rally to defend Teatro ZinZanni in the name of Love, Chaos and Dinner!*

Wait, Viktor Kee?

The same Viktor Kee, master juggler, from Dralion?

Yes! And he came over to our table for a while and chatted!

Saturday was spent in and around the Emerald City with Heather and Jim. In the early morning we made our way down to Pike Place Market to catch the flying fish. While there wasn't any fish-a-flying, I did get a chance to grab a Grande Mocha at the very first Starbucks store. It was busy, yes, but well worth the time and effort. I'm a fan, what can I say? Later on we took Bill Spidel's famous Seattle Underground Tour, a trip into the subterranean passages that were once the main roadways and first-floor storefronts of old downtown Seattle. It was actually very interesting and informative. Who knew Seattle and Walt Disney World had so much in common -- it's built on the "Second Floor" too! Then it was down to the site of the 1962 World's Fair - Seattle Center - and the Pacific-Northwest's most prominent landmark: The Space Needle. While neither Heather, Jim or I went up to the observation deck this go-round (I've been up before), we did have a good time in the shop trying on funny sun-glasses and taking

pictures of ourselves, and wandering about the grounds looking for other micro-caches. (of course!)

By late afternoon, we were rolling into Rich's driveway for a wake, er, I mean Corteo Pre-show party. Master Chef Rich Alford dazzled our taste buds and enlightened our souls with his original, masterful tapas concoctions. Just what was on the menu? Behold! Garlic and Mustard Grilled Filet Mignon, Grilled Pork Tenderloin with Ginger Dipping Sauce, and Bacon Wrapped Chicken Breast with Dijon Dipping Sauce, Thai Chicken Bite with Spicy Peanut Sauce, Filet Mignon Bite on Crostini with Bleu Cheese Sauce, Cream Cheese Empanada with Puff Pastry, Garlic Shrimp Shots, Cream Cheese Brownies, and more!

And food wasn't the only surprise on the menu -- Quidam astonished everyone by making an unscripted, personal appearance! (Hint: It's me!)

Many of the CirqueCon crowd were on-hand: Keith Johnson and LouAnna Valentine (from Seattle, Washington), Barb Houde and Shelly Blakeslee (from Missoula, Montana), Rolf and Karen Mogster (from Seattle, Washington), Eric Meadows (from Atlanta, Georgia), Heather and Jim (from Baldwin, New York), and a hand-full of others I had never met before! After feeding heartily, we made our way to the blue-and-yellow swirled Grand Chapiteau where many of the group would be taking in Corteo for the first time.

Excitement coursed through the group the moment our eyes fell upon Corteo canvas home. Corteo, which means "cortege" in Italian, combines the craft of the actor with the prowess of the acrobat to plunge the audience into a world of playfulness and spontaneity situated in a mysterious area between Heaven and Earth. Corteo is a grand procession, a festive parade imagined by a clown. Juxtaposing the large with the small, the ridiculous with the tragic and the magic of perfection with the charm of imperfection, the show highlights the strength and fragility of the clown, as well as his wisdom and kindness, to illustrate the portion of humanity that is within each of us. The clown is Everyman, a cunning idiot, a colorful loser who shines a light on all that is difficult and beautiful in life. Corteo evokes the full spectrum of emotion and experience: love, friendship, pain, joy, wisdom, beauty, life and even death. Corteo, a timeless revel in which illusion teases reality.

By the end we were all singing with friendship, love and joy! The weekend was closed out with a fabulous brunch buffet at Salty's on Alki Beach with Rich, Heather and Jim. It was yummmmmmmmmmmmy!

Celebri! LAS: "beLIEve it!"

WHERE: Las Vegas, Nevada (USA)

WHAT: Criss Angel BELIEVE & More

WHEN: Sep.12.2008 -

Sep.14.2008

"Are you a plant?"

"Me? No!"

"Did you know that was going to happen tonight?"

YES! It's finally happened to me. After so many years of watching others get the opportunity to be placed out (almost to the day). He had



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front and center at a Cirque du Soleil show, I finally got my 15 minutes of fame. There are some within our special group of friends who can lay the same claim, some who have been at the mercy of the Generics in Quidam, or taken hostage by the Les Cons in La Nouba, or even subjected to the pickpocket in Koozâ. My friend Rich had this very same honor not but two years previous (almost to the day). He had the dubious honor of claiming 6057, but 6992 was mine - tonight I became an honorary inductee; an official member of... "THE PAPPALUB!"

"PAPPA!"

And it was an experience I will forever cherish.

What lead me to the Mystère Theater at this time and place was set some months earlier. When Cirque du Soleil announced the premiere date for their newest spectacle in Las Vegas - Criss Angel BELIEVE - Rich and I were all about grabbing tickets to this and other Cirque du Soleil shows as quickly as we could and organize the next Celebri! What better reason do you need to get together with friends and other Cirque du Soleil fans than the premiere of a brand new show, right?

Of course, Rich and I had an ulterior motive - we already had an invite to BELIEVE's Gala Premiere and after-show party being held on September 12th (which Rich won during CirqueCon 2006 in Las Vegas - I was his "date"), so why not just stay in town and take in other shows? That was the plan when we began the endeavor; however, as you may know delays at BELIEVE pushed the premiere off our weekend and later delays even pushed off the previews -- so we never even got to see the show!

By the time we sat in for Mystère, though, that was the furthest thing from my mind. By then I had a huge baby in front of me, bouncing a big red rubber ball...

"It's yours! It's yours! Go get it!" Rich exclaimed as quietly as he could.

I hesitated for a moment. I didn't want to show I was *that* eager.

But after a pause, when it seemed no one else was going to jump up and return Béb 's ball, I rushed right in, hoisted it triumphantly over my head and tossed it back, just as it had been tossed over to me.

B  b   Francois giggled and recovered his big red ball.
Bounce. Bounce. Giggle. Bounce.

I wasn't chosen yet. He could still decide to pitch it off in another direction, I knew. If he tossed it back at me I was in. I was going to be poppa.

My heart was pounding through my chest. Breath grew short. Sweat was dripping from my brow.

Was it to be?

From the moment Rich and I stepped into the Myst  re theater, I felt this fantastic, electric buzz; something that I can only describe as acute excitement. We'd already been bothered once -- our seat neighbors, who were also fellow Orlando, Floridians, had been chosen by resident clown "Le Petit" to experience the show from outside of the theater. So it seemed as if 103-A-2 would wind up being the best spot.

Bounce. Bounce. Giggle. Bounce.

By now flashes of Rich's prior experience began to float across my thoughts -- what if he played me like the girl baby played Rich? Tossing the ball somewhere else? Oh man, I couldn't take it!

But then he tossed it...

And it came right to me!

I scrambled to bounce to back to him! I was excited!

"POPPA!"

Everyone laughed. I cheered!

And then he scrambled over in little baby feet, toward me - here was the part he'd come down to the railing and try to give me a hug, only to spray me with his baby bottle instead. I knew the routine having seen the show a half-dozen times before, yet, rather than come down to the railing, B  b   Francois just stood in the middle of the stage.

His arms held out wide waiting for a hug.

What?

"Okay," I thought. *"What's gonna happen now?"*

B  b   held out his arms again and motioned me up on stage.

Step 1. Step 2. Step 3. And at that moment...

*SQUIRRRRRRRRRT! SQUIRRRRRRRRRT! SQUIRRT!
SQUIRRT!*

Giggle! Giggle! Giggle!

I hung my head and shook my head, really playing up the part! As B  b   ran away in fits of giggles, I shrugged my shoulders and returned to my seat. But was I mad? NO! I was ecstatic! I was soaked, but I was poppa! WOOHOO!

Rich was beside me with a huge grin on his face and big pat on the back. He was so happy for me! For my part, I was so dazed and confused at the interaction, I was beside myself. I could hardly watch the show!

Just as the Bungee act came to a close, B  b   rocketed out in his over-sized baby buggy - a golf cart retrofitted to contain his enormous size. Unlike Rich, who popped out of his seat the moment B  b   came to get him, I sat and watched, playing up the uncertainty factor. But only for a moment. I could hardly contain myself when B  b   called for me, so I ended up rushing up the stairs - two at a time, no less - to meet him. And just as I took a seat, we took off and flew backstage.

Behind the scenes at Myst  re was not nearly as hectic as I had expected. All around me stood artists in costume waiting for their next queue or act. Most of them sat silently and off to the side, throwing up a hand or nodding as I looked over at them. A nice lady came over as soon as we arrived and helped get me dressed -- all I had to do was stand on two yellow feet painted on the floor. In a flash I was transformed from spectator to a huge baby, complete

with diapers and a pacifier. She explained what I was about to do, although I already knew, and the next thing I knew I was back on the cart, ready to go on stage.

"You know what to do with that?" She asked, handing me the baby bottle.

"Oh yeah!" and I immediately put it in my mouth. She laughed and we took off!

ZOOOOM! And just like that I was on stage during the middle of the show - oh my god!

The crowd roared with laughter and I smiled back, baby bottle in mouth. We rolled up toward the front of the stage and I spotted Rich. He had out his camera trying to capture the moment for me. I waived, looked out over the crowd and smiled. God, I couldn't believe it. And then we took off and exited stage right.

I was met on the other side of the stage with more awaiting artists and another crew member, ready to help for my quick changeover. She explained the next scene for me: since the cart "crashed" when we left the stage, it was going to be my job to "push" it back across. This was a farce, she told me, and that Francois would be controlling the cart at all times.

"No problem!" I said. "Let's do it!"

Bébé Francois and I appeared on stage again moments later - he at the wheel and I behind, pushing as "hard as I could." I wanted to keep the appearance that I was really pushing the cart back across the stage, so even though I could hear the crowd react to my re-appearance and subsequent condition, I looked up only to appear exasperated at these turn of events. Within moments, though, we disappeared - the Korean Plank/Trampo artists got on with their performance - and my turn as PAPPÀ had come to an end.

"Yatta!!" I exclaimed. "That was awesome!"

I was quickly undressed and escorted back to the theater.

And Mystère played on.

Celebri! is a coming together of family and friends to celebrate our friendship and Cirque du Soleil in various parts of the world. We desire to ensnare the jubilant, ecstatic, and euphoric feelings that well up inside each avid Cirque fan and nurture that festivity into a joyous and wonderful occasion with friends and fellow fans alike.

Through these first four events we've had a chance to meet and be with great people who have become fast friends - folks we could call family. And while we don't always see them at every event we hold, they're always with us in spirit.

If you've enjoyed what you've read about Celebri, we'd love to have you at our next adventure. We announce the city and our timetable and all that's required is for you to set your itinerary and join us. There are no sign-up fees, no restrictions and no limits on fun!

Upcoming Celebri!:

Celebri!: ICN - "Viva L'Alegría!"

WHERE: Seoul, South Korea

WHAT: Cirque du Soleil's Alegría

WHEN: Sunday, November 16th, 2008 @ 7:00pm

Attending CirqueCon 2008 in Tokyo, Japan? If so, hop over to Seoul, South Korea with us as we take in Alegría under the grand chapiteau for one night only!

Celebri!: YUL - "À l'Aventure en Montréal"

WHERE: Montréal, Quebec (CAN)

WHAT: Cirque 2009

WHEN: Friday, April 24th to Sunday, April 26th, 2009

Join us in the beautiful city of Montréal to witness the premiere of Cirque du Soleil's latest touring production, tentatively titled "Cirque 2009"! Celebrate the 25th Anniversary of Cirque du Soleil at their newest show with the hometown crowd!



CIRQUECON

Our History and Previous Events

The Genesis:

- Winter, 2004: Jeff “sfogviper” Tolotti proposed, on the Cirque du Soleil Yahoogroup, a gathering during Quidam’s Vancouver, BC run.
- Keith Johnson, who was already planning a Quidam gathering for his family and friends at a Vancouver B&B, suggested combining groups.
- This turned into a specific weekend when Cirque fans from across the country would converge on Vancouver.
- A month before the Event, André Belanger from Cirque du Soleil Montréal contacted us, offering special activities.

CirqueCon 2004: Vancouver!

- **Where** -- Vancouver, BC, Canada
- **When** -- May 21, 2004 - May 23, 2004
- **Why** -- Cirque du Soleil's "*Quidam*"
- **Total Attendees** -- 31
 - Members from British Columbia, Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana, California, Louisiana, Georgia, Virginia, Florida and Mexico
- **Official Show** -- 8:00pm, May 22, 2004
- **Hotel** -- Douglas House & Cambie Lodge B&Bs
 - Total of 15 total hotel rooms, approximately 33 room nights
- **Group Meal** -- Spaghetti Factory, Gastown

CirqueCon 2005: Montréal!

- **Where** -- Montréal, Québec, Canada
- **When** -- April 22, 2005 - April 24, 2005
- **Why** -- Premiere of "*Corteo*"
- **Total Attendees** -- 110
 - Members from more than half the United States, all Canadian provinces that touch the US except Manitoba, three locations in Mexico, Australia and Germany
- **Official Show** -- 8:00pm, April 23, 2005
- **Hotel** -- Marriott SpringHill Suites Vieux-Montréal
 - 42 rooms rented
- **Group Meal** -- Restaurant du Vieux Port

CIRQUECON

Our History and Previous Events

CirqueCon 2006: Las Vegas!

- **Where** – Las Vegas, Nevada, United States
- **When** – September 21, 2006 – September 24, 2006
- **Why** – View all five Las Vegas Resident CDS shows
- **Total Attendees** -- 190
 - Members from 26 states, Canada, four locations in Mexico, Australia, Scotland and the UK.
- **Official Shows** – Total of 643 tickets purchased
 - «O» - Sept 21, 2006 @ 10:30pm
 - 124 tickets purchased
 - LOVE - Sept 22, 2006 @ 7:30pm
 - 154 tickets purchased
 - *Mystère* -- Sept 22, 2006 @ 10:30pm
 - 140 tickets purchased
 - KÀ -- Sept 23, 2006 @ 6:30pm
 - 136 tickets purchased
 - *Zumanity* -- Sept 23, 2006 @ 10:30pm
 - 89 tickets purchased
- **Hotel** – Treasure Island Hotel & Casino (T.I.)
 - 49 rooms rented
- **Group Meal** – Dishes Buffet at Treasure Island

CirqueCon 2007: Orlando!

- **Where** – Orlando, Florida, United States
- **When** – August 9, 2007 – August 12, 2007
- **Why** – Viewing of “*La Nouba*”
- **Total Attendees** -- 51
 - Members from 15 States, two locations in Mexico, and British Columbia
- **Official Show** -- 9:00pm, August 11, 2007
 - Total of 51 tickets purchased
- **Hotel** – Disney’s Port Orleans – French Quarter
 - 17 rooms rented
- **Group Meal** – House of Blues, Downtown Disney

Coming Next!



CIRQUECON 2010

Hollywood

Stay Tuned For More Information At

www.CIRQUECON.com