

MEDIA RELEASE: Tuesday 11 May 2010



CIRCUS OZ'S GOT *NEW* TALENT! SIX FRESH, FUNNY, FABULOUS FACES JOIN THE TROUPE FOR WORLD PREMIERE SEASON IN MELBOURNE

Australia's internationally acclaimed circus company, **Circus Oz**, is preparing to bedazzle their hometown fans with a brand new show from June 16 to July 11 under the Big Top at Birrarung Marr. This year, Circus Oz will introduce six stunningly talented new performers to Melbourne audiences, bringing with them a swag of new acts to leave everyone gasping in disbelief and splitting their sides.

You will have to "see it to believe it" when Circus Oz raises its Big Top high into the Melbourne skyline for the world premiere season of their new show. The six new adrenalin-fuelled performers will join six regular troupe members to present two hours of incredible energy and exciting new acts such as foot juggling, rola bola, double trapeze and Chinese pole, as well as delivering a few all-time favourites such as hoop diving, the group bike and teeterboard.

Circus Oz is thrilled to welcome new, dynamic performer **Hazel Bock**, a foot juggler extraordinaire who does things with her feet you never thought could be possible!

Mason West and **Rowan Heydon-White** are two brilliant Australian acrobats who are currently flinging themselves around the rehearsal studio in Port Melbourne in preparation for their first ever appearance with Circus Oz. For years they have been working regularly in New Zealand as multi-skilled circus performers, and are both looking forward to performing for their home country crowd again as official members of the company which first inspired their circus careers.

As always, high-energy music is a crucial element in any Circus Oz performance and this show will be no different. The Big Top roof will be well and truly raised as three new incredible musicians join the Circus Oz band. Super talented **Ania Reynolds** will switch seamlessly from instrument to instrument; brilliant percussion master **Bec Matthews** aka **Bec Beat** will drive the pulsating rhythm of every show; and the amazing vocalist **Sarah Ward**, well known in Melbourne for her involvement in the hip-hop cabaret act *Sista She* and the fierce and fragile cabaret performance outfit *Yana Alana and tha Paranas*, will deliver her unique, clownish performance style to Circus Oz.

These exciting new artists will join popular Circus Oz performers **Luke Taylor**, **Jeremy Davies**, **Flip Kammerer**, **Paul O'Keeffe** and **Michael Ling** as well as musician **Carl Polke**.

The Circus Oz mob will, as always, be dressed to impress by the internationally acclaimed Circus Oz costume designer **Laurel Frank**, a founding member of Circus Oz, whilst the set will be created by the highly accomplished theatre set designer **Darryl Cordell** who recently designed the 2010 Moomba Parade.

Artistic Director Mike Finch says of the new show for 2010, "*After a couple of months of unrestrained creativity in the Circus Oz Lab, followed by some chaotic acrobatic rehearsal, our new recruits are ready to unleash their unique blend of circus and anarchy on our 2010 audiences. This year's show combines their raw energy and virtuosic skills with the irrepressible antics, of our seasoned returning cast, to create two hours of non-stop manic energy, theatrical mayhem, comic absurdity and musical genius. This is circus that is startlingly beautiful, stunningly spectacular, occasionally intelligently incisive, and almost always shamelessly silly. You really have to see it to believe it!*".

For over three decades now, Circus Oz has delivered hilarious, hysterical, raw and raucous performances in Australia and around the world. After this world premiere Melbourne season, Circus Oz will hit the road on a tour that will take the company across the length and breadth of Australia, via the Top End and on to the world.

Circus Oz 2010... see it to believe it!

CIRCUS OZ

June 16 - July 11, 2010 at Birrarung Marr, Melbourne

TICKETS ON SALE NOW!

Season Information

Duration: 2 hours (including 20 minute interval)

Venue: Birrarung Marr, Between Federation Square & Batman Avenue, Melbourne

Show Times

Wednesday 16 June 7:30pm

Thursday 17 June 7:30pm (SOLD OUT)

Friday 18 June 7:30pm (SOLD OUT)

Saturday 19 June 1:30pm & 7:30pm

*Auslan interpreted performances, bookings/info <http://artsaccess.com.au/ease-ticketing/>

Sunday 20 June 1:30pm

Wednesday 23 June 7:30pm

Thursday 24 June 7:30pm

Friday 25 June 7:30pm

Saturday 26 June 1:30pm & 7:30pm

Sunday 27 June 1:30pm

Wednesday 30 June 1:30pm & 7:30pm

Thursday 1 July 1:30pm

Friday 2 July 7:30pm

Saturday 3 July 1:30pm & 7:30pm

Sunday 4 July 1:30pm

Wednesday 7 July 1:30pm & 7:30pm

Thursday 8 July 1:30pm

Friday 9 July 7:30pm

Saturday 10 July 1:30pm & 7:30pm

Sunday 11 July 1:30pm

Ticket Prices

Adults: \$48-\$72

Concession: \$37-\$62

Kids: \$27-\$46

Family: \$123-\$190

Groups over 10 (adults): \$36-\$39

Bookings via Ticketmaster: www.ticketmaster.com.au, 136 100 or via circusoz.com

For further information go to www.circusoz.com

MEDIA: For interviews contact Clea Woods, Mollison Communications
(03) 9694 5226 / 0417 392 622 or clea.w@mollison.com