

Wolfgang

BY CIRCA

**circus
music
mischief**



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A child is selected from the audience. They are dressed in an 18th century coat, given a ruff and a wig. A huge puff of powder and they are handed a conductor's baton. A couple of musicians gather - a motley crew. The child waves her arms and the musicians begin to play. They respond to her gestures, she is driving them but the music is Mozart.

Acrobats enter. They tumble all around. More powder, more wigs. Soon the stage is full of music, mayhem and, of course, powder.

Welcome to *Wolfgang*. Where Mozart's music is boldly rescored by the phenomenal Quincy Grant (Circa, Slingsby) and played live by a klezmer infused band. Where Circa's acrobats perform feats of unmitigated skill and irrepressible humour. Where everyone deserves a wig, and a ruff and a heap of powder.

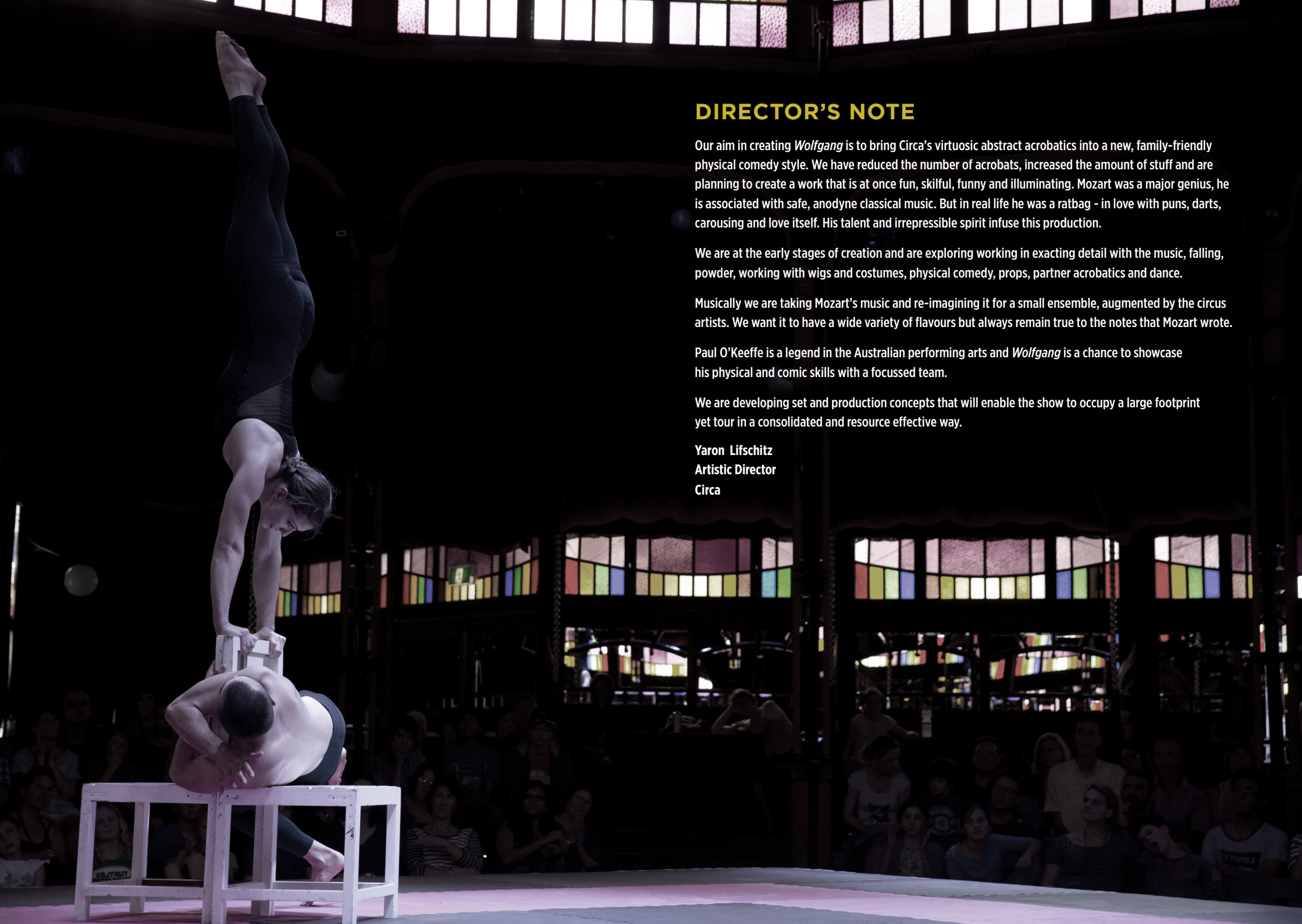
Created by Yaron Lifschitz and the Circa Ensemble, *Wolfgang* follows the hugely successful *Carnival of the Animals*, *Spanish Baroque*, *How Like an Angel* and *Opus* as a post-classical work of circus art. *Wolfgang* is suitable for the whole family - running for 60 madcap minutes.

Suitable for mid to large scale theatres

Ages 3+ | Length 60 minutes

4 performers, 2 crew, same day open

Premiering 2018



DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Our aim in creating *Wolfgang* is to bring Circa's virtuosic abstract acrobatics into a new, family-friendly physical comedy style. We have reduced the number of acrobats, increased the amount of stuff and are planning to create a work that is at once fun, skilful, funny and illuminating. Mozart was a major genius, he is associated with safe, anodyne classical music. But in real life he was a ratbag - in love with puns, darts, carousing and love itself. His talent and irrepressible spirit infuse this production.

We are at the early stages of creation and are exploring working in exacting detail with the music, falling, powder, working with wigs and costumes, physical comedy, props, partner acrobatics and dance.

Musically we are taking Mozart's music and re-imagining it for a small ensemble, augmented by the circus artists. We want it to have a wide variety of flavours but always remain true to the notes that Mozart wrote.

Paul O'Keefe is a legend in the Australian performing arts and *Wolfgang* is a chance to showcase his physical and comic skills with a focussed team.

We are developing set and production concepts that will enable the show to occupy a large footprint yet tour in a consolidated and resource effective way.

Yaron Lifschitz
Artistic Director
Circa

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Circa Contemporary Circus is one of the world's leading performance companies. Since 2004, from its base in Brisbane, Australia, Circa has toured the world - performing in 39 countries to over a million people. Circa's works have been greeted with standing ovations, rave reviews and sold-out houses across six continents.

Circa is at the forefront of the new wave of contemporary Australian circus - pioneering how extreme physicality can create powerful and moving performances. It continues to push the boundaries of the art form, blurring the lines between movement, dance, theatre and circus, and is leading the way with a diverse range of thrilling creations that 'redraw the limits to which circus can aspire' (The Age).

Under the direction of circus visionary Yaron Lifschitz, Circa features an ensemble of exceptional, multi-skilled circus artists who have been a regular fixture at leading festivals and venues in New York, London, Berlin and Montreal with seasons at Brooklyn Academy of Music, The Barbican Centre, Les Nuits de Fourvière, Chamäleon Theatre as well as major Australian Festivals.



CIRCA

Artistic Director Yaron Lifschitz

+61 7 3852 3110 | hello@circa.org.au | circa.org.au



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