Chicago Philharmonic & Cirque de la Symphonie

Sunday, May 26 2019, 7:30pm
Harris Theater, Chicago
Scott Speck conductor

Victor Young (1900-1956)
*Greatest Show on Earth*
Prelude

John Williams (b. 1932)
*Aerial Silks*
*Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone*
Harry's Wondrous World

John Williams (b. 1932)
*Juggling*
*The Witches of Eastwick*
Devil's Dance

Carlos Gardel (1890-1935)
*Scent of a Woman*
Por una cabeza (Tango)

Leonard Bernstein (1918-1990)
*Hula Hoops*
*West Side Story*
Overture

John Barry (1933-2011)
*Out of Africa*
Main Theme

John Williams (b. 1932)
*Aerial Straps*
*Superman*
Main Title

*Intermission*

John Williams (b. 1932)
*The Cowboys*
Overture

John Kander (b. 1927)
*Quick Change*
*Chicago*
Selections

John Williams (b. 1932)
*Star Wars Episode IV: A New Hope*
The Throne Room End Title Medley

John Williams (b. 1932)
*Aerial Duo*
*Star Wars Episode II: Attack of the Clones*
Across the Stars

Nikolai Rimsky Korsakov (1844-1908)
Electric Juggling
*Tsar Saltan*
Flight of the Bumblebee

Hans Zimmer (b. 1957)
Strength and Balance
arr. John Wasson (b. 1956)
*Gladiator*
Main Theme

Performance time approximately 2 hours
Program subject to change

Chicago Philharmonic & Cirque de la Symphonie

Roll up, roll up, for the greatest show on earth! Ladies and gentlemen, boys and girls, children of all ages: step right up to the most spectacular performance Chicago has ever seen! Come in to the concert hall, hear the music, laugh at the clowns and bassoonists, be thrilled by the perilous leaps of the acrobats and violinists, and marvel at everything the performers do...only at Chicago Philharmonic and Cirque de la Symphonie!

Cirque de la Symphonie

"...a breath-taking display of agility and incomparable beauty" – Examiner.com

Cirque de la Symphonie is an exciting production designed to bring the magic of cirque to the music hall. For more than 10 years, it has thrilled and bedazzled veteran cirquegoers and new patrons as they see accomplished aerial flyers, acrobats, contortionists, dancers, jugglers, balancers, and strongmen perform to live symphony music. They include world record holders, gold-medal winners of international competitions, Olympians and some of the most experienced cirque talent ever seen. Their performances are uniquely adapted to stage accommodations shared with the symphony, and each artist's performance is choreographed to the music arranged in collaboration with the maestro. When the artists of Cirque de la Symphonie perform in front of the full orchestra, an incredible fusion of these two great art forms takes place. The aerialists and acrobats turn the concert into a three-dimensional entertainment extravaganza, and the orchestra seems to play with enhanced enthusiasm.

Christine Van Loo

is a seven-time consecutive National Champion, Female Olympic Athlete of the Year, and Athlete of the Decade in acrobatic gymnastics. She was inducted into the USSA (acro gymnastics) Hall of Fame and the World Acrobatics Society Gallery of Honor. As a professional aerialist and acrobat, she has performed in the 2002 Winter Olympics, at the Grammy Awards (with No Doubt and with Ricky Martin), at the American Music Awards (with Aerosmith), the Miss Universe pageant, and Paul McCartney's European tour. She was a trainer and performer with NBC's Celebrity Circus, and she choreographed the aerials for Britney Spears World Tour and the Stars on Ice US tour. Christine provides spell-binding performances of aerial silks, rope, lira, and trapeze with Cirque de la Symphonie.

Vitalii Buza

began his gymnastic training in the Republic of Moldova and soon competed as an elite gymnast with the Russian national team. At the age of 16, Vitalii joined the Moscow State Circus as a professional acrobat and toured throughout Europe. After a move to the US, he starred in productions at Sea World, Universal Studios and Walt Disney World. He has been featured in numerous TV ads and won a role in the Walt Disney movie *Enchanted*. Vitalii also performed at the 2006 Latin Grammy Awards, the 2007 NFL Pro Bowl, 2010 Academy Awards and the 2011 Latin Billboard Awards. He has performed for celebrities and at corporate events for major companies. Vitalii excels in multiple cirque acts, such as duo hand-balancing, straps, Cyr wheel, spinning cube, Chinese pole, and the Russian bar.
The amazing strength and balancing act of Acro Duo consists of Vitaliy Prikhodko and Pavel Korshunov. Vitaliy is a native of Ukraine, where he graduated from Kiev State Circus College. He began his career with the National Circus of Ukraine, winning first place at the New Ukrainian Circus Festival. His acrobatic experience includes worldwide tours with Nikulin’s Moscow Circus. Pavel, a native of Voronezh, Russia, is a three-time national champion of Russia, two-time World Champion and two-time Champion of the World Cup in acrobatic sport. A former veteran with Cirque du Soleil’s “Varekai”, Pavel is a multi-talented performer on straps, Russian swing, trampoline, and acrobatics. Acro Duo’s performances with Cirque de la Symphonie create spontaneous eruptions of applause and emotion, as they display a stunning display of strength and balance.

Vladimir Tsarkov Jr

comes from a famous circus family rich in the traditions of Russian circus artistry. Trained by masters in the circus arts, he exhibits exceptional talents and skills in all of his performances. His “mystery guest” juggling act is a fascinating blend of illusion and juggling skills. Vova is a worldwide star, having performed in major productions spanning from Las Vegas to Korea. He enchanted audiences at Busch Gardens’ cirque shows. His impressive performing range includes various juggling acts, spinning shapes, mystery guest, and diablos.

Alina Sergeeva

is a third generation circus performer from Russia. She began performing on stage at the age of three with her father, later branching out into various acts such as aerial silks, lira, and hoops. Alina’s professional performances have taken her around the world to countries in South America, Europe, and Asia. Along the way, she won the “most talented” award for youth performers in Brazil. Alina’s career in the US includes numerous circus tours, corporate shows, cruise ship productions and special events. Alina has starred in numerous Cirque de la Symphonie productions as an amazing hula hoops performer, with accompanying hand balancing, acrobatic and contortion skills. Her mastery of illusion includes the amazing quick change and magic jacket acts.