



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Tourism Calgary, in partnership with  
the Calgary Hotel Association and the Calgary  
Stampede, is proud to welcome**

**KOOZA from Cirque du Soleil**

Premieres September 16, 2010 at Stampede Park  
Tickets available this Saturday, June 12 starting 10 a.m.

**Calgary, AB – Friday, June 11, 2010** - Tourism Calgary, in partnership with the Calgary Hotel Association and the Calgary Stampede, is proud to welcome Cirque du Soleil and its critically acclaimed big top production KOOZA this fall in Calgary. Proudly presented by Desjardins, KOOZA will premiere on September 16 for a limited engagement under the trademark blue-and-yellow Grand Chapiteau at Stampede Park in Calgary – please note new site.

On Saturday, June 12, tickets will be available to the General Public online at [www.cirquedusoleil.com/kooza](http://www.cirquedusoleil.com/kooza) or by phone at 1 800 450 1480. Ticket starts at 50\$ for adults and 35\$ for Children.

#### **The Name**

The name KOOZA is inspired by the Sanskrit word "koza," which means "box," "chest" or "treasure," and was chosen because one of the underlying concepts of the production is the idea of a "circus in a box."

#### **The Show**

KOOZA is a return to the origins of Cirque du Soleil that combines two circus traditions - acrobatic performance and the art of clowning. The show highlights the physical demands of human performance in all its splendor and fragility, presented in a colorful mélange that emphasizes bold slapstick humor.

"KOOZA is 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".

The show starts with The Trickster bursting onto the scene like a jack-in-a-box right in front of The Innocent, and that is just the first of many surprises to follow. The Innocent's journey brings him into contact with a panoply of comic characters such as the King, the Trickster, the Heimloss, the Pickpocket, the Obnoxious Tourist and his Bad Dog.

### **Cast and acts**

Several of the 53 performing artists in the show have received awards from important circus arts competitions. The show presents an unprecedented approach to the High Wire and a breathtaking Wheel of Death – an act that Cirque du Soleil has never before presented under the big top.

### **The Creators**

The show brings together the following team of 13 Creators, several of whom are working with Cirque for the first time.

David Shiner	Writer and Director
Serge Roy	Director of Creation
Stéphane Roy	Set Designer
Marie-Chantale Vaillancourt	Costume Designer
Jean-François Côté	Composer
Clarence Ford	Choreographer
Martin Labrecque	Lighting Designer
Jonathan Deans	Co-Sound Designer
Leon Rothenberg	Co-Sound Designer
Rogé Francoeur	Props Designer
Danny Zen	Acrobatic Equipment and Rigging Designer
André Simard	Acrobatic Performance Designer
Florence Cornet	Makeup Designer

### **Sponsors**

Cirque du Soleil gratefully acknowledges Desjardins Presenting Sponsor of the Canadian Tour as well as CGI and Infiniti as the Official Sponsors.

### **Cirque du Soleil**

From a group of 20 street performers at its beginnings in 1984, *Cirque du Soleil* is a major Québec-based organization providing high-quality artistic entertainment. The company has 5,000 employees, including more than 1,200 artists from close to 50 different countries.

*Cirque du Soleil* has brought wonder and delight to close to 100 million spectators in 300 cities on five continents. In 2010, *Cirque du Soleil*, will present 21 shows simultaneously throughout the world. The company has received such prestigious awards as the Emmy, Drama Desk, Bambi, ACE, Gémeaux, Félix, and Rose d'Or de Montreux. *Cirque du Soleil* International Headquarters are in Montreal, Canada. For more information about *Cirque du Soleil*, visit [www.cirquedusoleil.com](http://www.cirquedusoleil.com)

### **Pressroom**

For additional information, please visit the Cirque du Soleil online Press Room at [www.cirquedusoleil.com](http://www.cirquedusoleil.com).

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