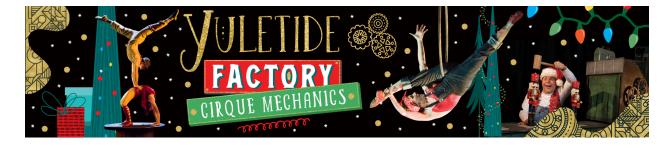


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## CIRQUE MECHANICS RETURNS TO THE NEW VICTORY THEATER THIS HOLIDAY SEASON WITH WORLD PREMIERE OF *YULETIDE FACTORY*



*The Acrobatic Circus Spectacle Runs From November 23 - December 29 Tickets Start at \$29!* 

**November 4, 2024** - Cirque Mechanics is returning to the New Victory Theater with a holiday-themed circus spectacle, full of festive flips, powerhouse stunts, and high-flying fun! *Yuletide Factory* marks Cirque Mechanics' sixth time on the New Victory stage following the Drama Desk-nominated *Zephyr* in 2023. Their first holiday-themed show, *Yuletide Factory*, is recommended for ages 5+ and runs November 23 - December 29.

Cirque Mechanics was founded by Cirque du Soleil veteran Chris Lashua. Their productions, including *Birdhouse Factory, Pedal Punk, 42FT*, and *Zephyr*, have been performed across the U.S., Europe and Asia and hailed as "evocative" and "engrossingly entertaining" by *The New York Times*.

"We are thrilled to welcome Cirque Mechanics back to the New Victory Theater for a record sixth time!" said **New 42 Artistic Director Mary Rose Lloyd.** "Their signature style of combining acrobatics and mechanics makes for a wholly unique and show-stopping spectacle, and our audiences just love every production they have presented. It's an honor to have them back with the world premiere of *Yuletide Factory* this holiday season, and we can't wait for the high-flying fun they have in store."

Sparkling with holiday spirit, the ever energetic ensemble of acrobats transforms a drab assembly plant into a holly jolly *Yuletide Factory*! From the wonder of the German wheel to festive flips from the trampoline wall, they dash and dance through a pageant of powerhouse stunts with grins and goodwill. It's fun, comfort and joy for the whole family!

"In 2008, we had the honor of presenting our first touring production, *Birdhouse Factory*, on the New Victory stage," said Co-Producers **Chris and Aida Lashua.** "Returning now, with a holiday adaptation of that beloved show, is thrilling and feels like a full-circle moment!"

Cirque Mechanics has a signature style wrapped in acrobatics, mechanical marvels and a bit of clowning around. For every new show, founder and Cirque du Soleil veteran Chris Lashua starts by sketching an elaborate machine that will serve as the onstage centerpiece. In and around these creative contraptions, the ensemble of aerialists, jugglers and gymnasts builds enchantingly theatrical circus experiences fit for every season. *Yuletide Factory* is an adaptation of Cirque Mechanics' first and most successful show, *Birdhouse Factory* (New Victory, 2008), which they've performed over 800 times across the U.S., Europe and Asia.

## Photos for *Yuletide Factory* can be downloaded **HERE**. *Photo Credits: Maike Schulz and Darin Basile*

The show on stage is just one part of the visitor experience! For 45 minutes before and 20 minutes after every show, the lobby of the New Victory Theater features free do-together activities in which families can try new performance skills or explore the show's themes. Whether they are wild, wallflowers or somewhere in between, New Victory will guide children through fun family engagement inspired by the show.

*Yuletide Factory* is produced by Chris Lashua and Aida Lashua. It is written by Steven Ragatz and features co-direction, choreography, and costume design by Aloysia Gavre, set design by Sean Riley, and lighting design by Anthony Powers, Joe D'Emilio and Leo Hidalgo. The composers are Cody Westheimer and Julia Marie Newmann. Janeen Johnson and Brendan Mullenix serve as Production Stage Managers.

Tickets start at \$29 and are available at the New Victory Box Office (209 W 42nd Street) leading up to the performance and starting two hours before curtain time on performance days. For box office hours, please visit NewVictory.org/BoxOffice. Tickets can also be purchased online at NewVictory.org and via phone by calling 646.223.3010.

Powered by New 42, the New Victory Theater is supported, in part, with public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council; the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of the Office of the Governor and the New York State Legislature; the National Endowment for the Arts; as well as the New 42 Board of Directors, and our dedicated foundation, corporate and individual donors.

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## **About New Victory Theater**

The New Victory opens new worlds to young people and families through extraordinary performances, education and engagement programs. Bringing kids to the arts and the arts to kids since 1995, this nonprofit theater has become a standard-bearer of quality performing arts for young audiences in the United States. Reflecting and serving the multicultural city it calls home, The New Victory is committed to arts access for all communities of New York to experience and engage with the exemplary international shows on its stages. A global leader in arts education, youth development and audience engagement, the New Victory Theater has been honored by the President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities with the National Arts and Humanities Youth Program Award, by Americans for the Arts with a national Arts Education Award, and by the Drama Desk for "providing enchanting, sophisticated children's theater that appeals to the child in all of us, and for nurturing a love of theater in young people."

## About New 42

Under the leadership of President & CEO Russell Granet, New 42 is a cultural nonprofit whose mission is to make extraordinary performing arts a vital part of everyone's life from the earliest years onward. Driven by a deep commitment to performing arts access, New 42 connects people to world-class performances, essential education and employment programs, and creative communities that push culture forward. Through New Victory and New 42 Studios, the nonprofit serves artists, educators and New Yorkers of all ages with invaluable arts engagement and resources in and beyond the performing arts. Together with our supporters, New 42 opens new perspectives, incubates new works and creates new opportunities to move us all.