

PROGRAM OF DISPLAYS

A FANFARE FOR CIRCUS FESTIVITIES

Producers John and Brigitte Pugh and Cole Bros. Circus, Incorporated, welcome you to the 117th Edition of the World's Largest Circus Under the Big Top. We're having a party - and we're delighted that you could come. So if you're ready, our Ringmaster Mr. Jimmy James and the Singing Ringmistress Miss Bonnie Bale will kick-off tonight's performance, accompanied by the musical score of Leigh Ketchum, our Director of Music. Now settle back and enjoy an evening that your child will never forget! On with the show!

TED McRAE'S KINGDOM OF LIONS AND TIGERS

Proudly we introduce one of America's homegrown Circus sensations, Mr. Ted McRae, as he enters the Center Ring's steel coliseum to face an awe-inspiring spectacle of large exotic cats. Witness the gladiatorial grandeur of this mixed display of both royal Bengal tigers and a pride of African lions and you'll also agree - this Rosaire family production deserves yet another royal "thumbs-up" of approval.

WILSON DOMINGUEZ - THE WHEEL OF WONDER

With reckless disregard for gravity, Wilson Dominguez "wows" the world over and over again in a dizzying and dangerous one-man marathon performance atop this colossal contraption. An uncanny sense of balance is needed to see him through another hellbent challenge to surf a virtual tsunami of slippery revolving steel.

THE CASALINOS CLOWNS' GUIDE TO CULTIVATING COMEDY

This season's crop of Casalinos Clowns is out to prove that they indeed possess the green thumbs needed for growing grins here under the Big Top. With a few well-planted gags and the seeds of silliness sown, they manage to once again plow those fertile fields of mankind's most fabled foibles and yield a harvest of humor in such abundance, that there's more than plenty for everyone to enjoy.

AMAZING HOUSEPET PRODIGIES

You've got to see this! The Russian-born sorceress, Svetlana Shamsheeva, brings to the Circus Center Ring a true rarity of animal handling mastery, featuring those famously fastidious and felonious felines - everyday housecats - in a flabbergasting face-to-face fellowship with a few of our fine feathered friends.

MAXIMUM ACROBATICS

In a lively and colorful collaboration, those Czars of the Russian Balance Bar, the Dotsenko Troupe, are joined by the Rhythmic Gymnasts, the lovely all-girl alumni from Bulgaria's famous State-run finishing school for funambulists. This accumulation of acrobatic A-types springs into action - literally - in a frolic of tumbling fun and finesse.

AERIAL ARISTOCRATS

In this manifestation of lighter-than-air excellence, Cole Bros. Circus offers a celebrated celestial crescendo for 2001. Sophisticated stylings are staged high overhead as suspended debutantes present a stunning panorama of dramatic ladder ascension. Over Rings 1 and 3, we introduce a terrific teaming of Russia's premier Mother and Daughter solo trapeze stars, Tatanya and Jana. And as the featured centerpiece attraction — behold the superhuman herculean strength of aerial strap artistry — the Amazing Miro!

CIRCUS PARTY PARADE

A celebration for children of all ages spills into the Big Top as the festive and magical pageantry of the Circus on parade comes to life in a procession around the hippodrome floor. Our entire international cast is on hand to welcome you in Clyde Beatty-Cole Bros. fashion — up close and personal — to this season's special Circus Party Parade!

GLORIA BALE'S LILLIPUTIAN PONIES

The premier appearance of these pint-sized palfreys has proven to be a particularly popular attraction as they present a polished and perfectly darling diminutive demonstration of their equestrian lessons learned, after semesters spent as students in Gloria Bale's Academy of Equestrian Excellence.

THE DOTSENKO'S SEASIDE SHOW-OFFS

Look out ladies! Lifeguard Lotharios strut their stuff down by the old seashore in this send-up of a silent-screen pantomime performed by members of the Dotsenko Troupe. A stalwart quartet of musclebound beach bums bumbles and tumbles through hilarious turn-of-the-century heroics, in this Victorian era's answer to the Chippendale dancers.



THE 117TH EDITION



NO SMOKING PLEASE



In cooperation with prevailing local ordinances, no smoking is allowed inside the Big Top. Thank you.

The taking of still photographs for commercial use or the taking of motion pictures, audio recordings, or video recordings of this copyrighted performance is strictly forbidden.

Management Reserves the Right: Due to the hazards of performing or existing conditions of potential danger, this program may vary.

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VLADIMIR ROUDENKO-HIGH WIRE

The world's foremost wire-walker navigates his dramatic pathway high above and across the cavernous Big Top arena in a delicate, tension-filled testament to talent, balance, faith, and incredible concentration skills. Considered by many to be the high holy man of the high wire, Roudenko's riveting pilgrimage across the silver sliver of wire is as much a journey within, requiring the mastery of such meditative pursuits as "staying focused" and "finding one's center" as few other careers demand.

THE RUSSIAN AIR FORCE EXTREME TRAPEZE

Forever pushing the envelope, these renown Russian flyers provide an awesome airborne offensive as they unleash a series of far-flung feats across the vast star-spangled expanse beneath the Cole Bros. Big Top canopy. Strongman casting, aerial bar acrobatics, and the penultimate propensity for ensemble flight add-up to produce a powerhouse performance which has taken the "greatest of ease" out of the flying trapeze, for now and forever.

INTERMISSION

It's half-time here at the Circus. Time to stretch your legs, enjoy a cold soft drink or perhaps a tasty, salty snack. We welcome you to stroll about the "circus city," ride an elephant, or get acquainted with the clowns at the autograph party in Center Ring. But don't stray too far because there's much more circus yet to come!

WHO DID LET THE DOGS OUT?

Svetlana Shamsheeva did. And as captain of a team of coordinated canines she demonstrates that her pumped-up pooches are indeed in a league all their own. These recruits from among those known breeds most eager to please are on the loose in a high-energy, high-jumping free-for-all of frisbee-fetching fidos.

RUSSIAN ROPE-SKIPPING REVELRY

Repeated feats of fast and fancy footwork are featured in this ever-escalating test of teamwork and timing. Resurrected in Center Ring, the time-honored tradition of Russian rope dancing comes to life. Served up in a series of attempts to "best" the others, a gathering of acrobats performs complex jump-rope master strokes, finely-tuned and perfectly timed tumbling, and mad impromptu outbreaks of whirling dervish cossack dancing. Once again we have tapped the talents of that most resourceful troupe of Russian repertory performers — The Dotsenkos — along with the lovely Rhythmic Gymnasts, to cast this portrait of a peasant village festival in the mountains of eastern Europe, many years ago.

THE COLE BROS. CIRCUS PERFORMING ELEPHANTS

These mightiest of our planet's land inhabitants trumpet in triumph as they thunder forward into the Big Top to take their undisputed place at the Circus's center stage. Under the command of veteran elephant handler Adam Hill, our graceful grey dames - Bessie, Jewel, and Tina - natural born performers all - present their somewhat cumbersome yet remarkably dainty dance routines. Although maybe too broad for Broadway, on the Circus these two-ton chorus girls always steal the show as our most massive cast members continue to be counted as the favorite number one attraction under the Big Top by the American Circus audience.

THE HUMAN CANNONBALL

Once again we reignite a 20th century Circus classic as the Human Cannonball prepares for his amazing and momentous flight into the wild blue yonder under the Beatty-Cole Big Top. Brace yourself. The countdown has begun. Self-styled daredevil 30-year-old Miro Pamoukov adjusts the crosshair sights as he takes aim for a shot at the record books. 3...2...1 — Boom! Miro goes ballistic in a startling split-second shot across the entire length of the football field-size arena in what could be termed the final shot of the evening before its time to once again, hit the road.

FINALE

Our entire cast of international talent reassembles front and center in this final celebration to say thank you for coming to tonight's show. We hope you've enjoyed the party as part of this season's performance and sincerely appreciate your continued patronage of this timeless family entertainment classic. We thank you for having had this opportunity to once again allow our Circus family to amaze yours.

We Bid You Farewell, Offer Our Sincere Thanks, And Look Forward to Seeing You Again Somewhere, Down The Circus Road.

