

2 PÔLES CIRQUE EN NORMANDIE
LA BRÈCHE / CHERBOURG - CIRQUE-THÉÂTRE D'ELBEUF

CIRQUE THÉÂTRE D'ELBEUF
PÔLE NATIONAL CIRQUE - NORMANDIE

1.5 hours > Paris (Saint-Lazare station)
1.5 hours > CDG airport
1.5 hours > Orly airport (train or vehicle connections)
1.5 hours > Paris (by car, A13)
1 hour > Caen (A13)

CIRQUE-THÉÂTRE D'ELBEUF
PÔLE NATIONAL CIRQUE - NORMANDIE

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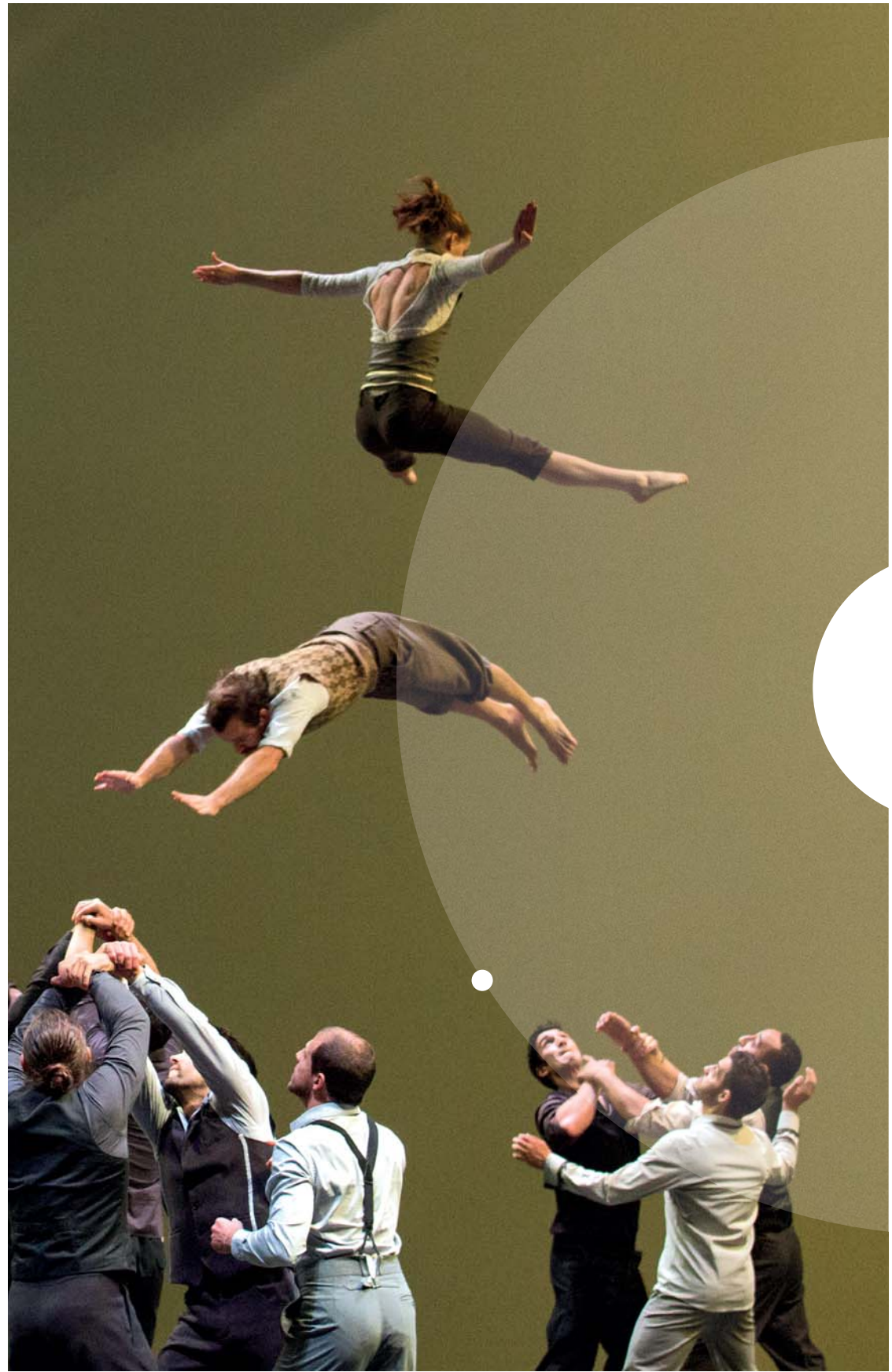
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Cover Arnaud Bertereau
Internal left page Il n'est pas encore Minuit - C° XY
Christophe Raynaud de Lage
Internal right page DR - Cirque-Théâtre d'Elbeuf

Right-hand column
1 - L'Enfer - le GdR / Nathalie Sternalski
2 - Hélène Cadiou
3 - La Spire - G. Maglio / Hélène Cadiou
4 - Ville d'Elbeuf
5 - Christophe Raynaud de Lage

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PLATFORM "2 PÔLES CIRQUE EN NORMANDIE"

Since 2015, the Cirque-Théâtre d'Elbeuf and La Brèche in Cherbourg have developed numerous collaborations as part of a new platform: "2 Pôles cirque en Normandie". The goal of associating these two organisations is based on the complementarity of the core missions of these two national centres for circus arts based in Normandy, all while maintaining the independence of each venue in their programming and management: **residency space for La Brèche**, supporting creation through hosting 20 to 30 companies in residency each year, and **performance space for the Cirque-Théâtre** with approximately 30 shows and 80 performances per season. This collaboration has led, through the Platform "2 Pôles cirque en Normandie", to the creation of one of the main centres of activity and support for contemporary circus arts in all of Europe, as well as on the international scene.

THE SPRING FESTIVAL

Together, the 2 National centres for the circus arts (both having the label "Pôle national cirque" granted by the French Ministry of Culture) organise **SPRING**, a festival dedicated to new forms in circus arts in Normandy.

SPRING is the sole festival for contemporary circus arts covering an entire region. For a period of five weeks each spring, over 40 shows are hosted in partnership with around sixty different cultural institutions of the region, communities, and the "Métropole Rouen Normandie". The programming focuses on innovative writing, international direction, and diversity of forms and aesthetics.

CIRQUE-THÉÂTRE D'ELBEUF > www.cirque-theatre-elbeuf.com
LA BRÈCHE in Cherbourg > www.labreche.fr
SPRING > www.festival-spring.eu

A unique space where circus reinvents itself all throughout the year

an artistic project dedicated
entirely to the contemporary circus arts

a project firmly
anchored in its region
allowing for the development of
numerous partnerships
with local cultural bodies.

a permanent team of 18
working side-by-side with
technicians and temporary workers.

a unique heritage building
dating back to 1892, with a ring combined
with an Italian style stage, all within a spectacular
artistic space covered by a dome reaching 17.5 meters.

a modular performance space
with a capacity of 200 to 900 spectators,
adaptable to performances in the round
or proscenium, and nearby to a vast
fairground capable of hosting big tops.

performance space
programming organised as themes that give the artistic season
its sequenced rhythm, hosting 30 or so shows and
drawing more than 20,000 spectators each year.

supporting creation
support for emerging artists and mentoring
from more established companies.

audience engagement and outreach
bespoke programming and deep
involvement in academic institutions
and the network of regional associations.

an internationally minded approach
carried out through its artistic
programming and engagement
with various professional networks.

CIRQUE THÉÂTRE D'ELBEUF

NATIONAL CENTRE FOR THE CIRCUS ARTS - NORMANDY

The Cirque-Théâtre d'Elbeuf, French national centre for the circus arts, is a performance space focused on presenting around 30 shows per season, drawing 20 to 30 thousand spectators. Built in 1892 and renovated in 2007, the Cirque-Théâtre d'Elbeuf is also a significant heritage site, listed as a historical monument and one of the eight remaining 'free standing' circuses in France. It is the only one to have both a circus ring as well as an Italian style stage (proscenium stage), making it a truly unique space. The Cirque-Théâtre d'Elbeuf is committed to its three missions: **programming contemporary circus shows, supporting creation, and audience engagement** on an international scale.

The programming is structured in themes that give the season its sequenced rhythm. "Bords de Seine" (Banks of the Seine), artistic process indoor/outdoor kicks the season off. Just before the "Temps des Créations" (Time of the creations) in the autumn, that allows the public to see first-hand the creation of new pieces and take part in the inception of the latest shows in the circus arts. In the winter, space is given to the "Grands Formats" (Large Format) to bring shows that take advantage of all the potential space in the Cirque-Théâtre, with large-scale artistry from around the globe. In the spring, it is the big annual meet-up with **SPRING**, a festival dedicated to new forms in the circus arts in Normandy. The theme "Bienvenue au jeune public" (Welcome young audiences) offers shows specially commissioned for the youngest spectators and their families.

The themes "Sous chapiteau" (Under the Big Top), "Entre voisins" (Among Neighbours - in collaboration with the city of Elbeuf) and "Résonance" in harmony with the shows that respond to the programming of local cultural partners, are held throughout the year and contribute to a diversity of aesthetics. Finally, "Hauts et courts" (High and Tight) offers a showcase of short form productions in the Cirque-Théâtre. This variation in focus allows the spectators to be guided in their choice across the vast options of aesthetic, format, and writing that represent the circus of today. This sequential style optimises the different scenic configurations available at the Cirque-Théâtre (ring, stage and tent; circle, hemi-circle, or proscenium). The project and activity of the space are developed in close connection with the artistic partners and cultural offering of the region.

The support for creation is built essentially through financial co-productions that contribute to the production of artistic projects. 3 to 4 companies are invited in residency each season, priority being given to collaborating artists. **Audience engagement and outreach, through artistic education and cultural engagement** lie at the heart of the mission of the Cirque-Théâtre: the cultural activities derive from shows performed throughout the season and specific projects are carried out with local partners (academic, socio-cultural, etc.). Meetings with artists, introductory workshops, exhibitions, artistic education in middle and high schools, training for educators, implementation of specialized training, awareness campaigns, etc.

PLATFORM "2 PÔLES CIRQUE EN NORMANDIE"

(...) is deeply engaged in
the following networks and projects:

Territoires de Cirque
The Cirque-Théâtre d'Elbeuf and La Brèche are founding members of "Territoires de Cirque". This national network brings together more than 40 production and development structures supporting the circus arts, working to create a collaborative space and professional engagement dedicated to the circus arts, on the national and international levels.

Circostrada
A European network engaged in furthering the development, empowerment and recognition of circus and street arts in Europe, today counting about 100 members from 35 countries.

CircusNext
European circus label & platform
dedicated to emerging creators.

Réseau 360
International network
bringing together a collection of
circular artistic spaces in the world.

TERRITOIRES DE CIRQUE > www.territoiresdecirque.com
CIRCOSTRADA > www.circostrada.org
CIRCUSNEXT > www.circusnext.eu

