

LES **7 Doigts**
&
REPUBLIQUE
present

BOSCH DREAMS

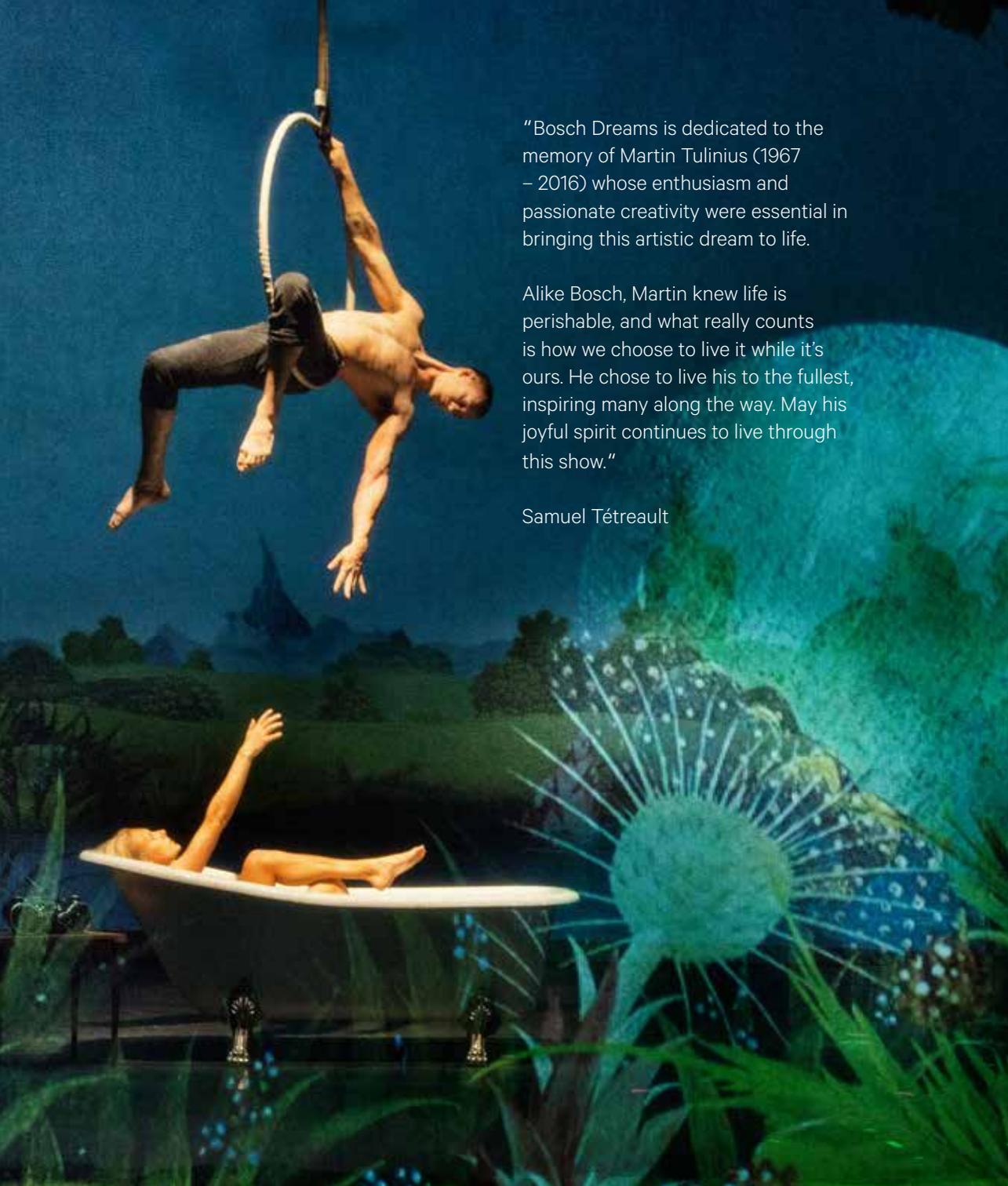
ACROBATS GIVE NEW LIFE TO
500-YEAR-OLD PAINTINGS



Jheronimus
Bosch
500



circolo
CIRCUSTHEATER
PERFUMATI COCCOLE



"Bosch Dreams is dedicated to the memory of Martin Tulinus (1967 – 2016) whose enthusiasm and passionate creativity were essential in bringing this artistic dream to life.

Alike Bosch, Martin knew life is perishable, and what really counts is how we choose to live it while it's ours. He chose to live his to the fullest, inspiring many along the way. May his joyful spirit continue to live through this show."

Samuel Tétreault

An impressive, wildly visual performance of the highest international standards.

A heavenly show. Here are beauty and endless idyll – along with sleek muscles performing brilliant acrobatics with great elegance.

Information (Denmark)

The artists move beautifully in breathtaking visuals. Beauty and inspiration are everywhere!

Frederiksborgs Amtsavis

Ange Potier's video animations enchant us, bringing the audience in and out of Bosch's paintings.

Berlingske,

A delightful experience that can - and should - be seen by audiences of all ages for its magical blend of dreamlike visuals and sensual artistry.

Teatre1

Video animations have never before been used this powerfully on stage!

Out & About

Everybody gets both an educational and an aesthetic experience.

DansTidningen

★★★★★

Gregersdh.dk

★★★★★

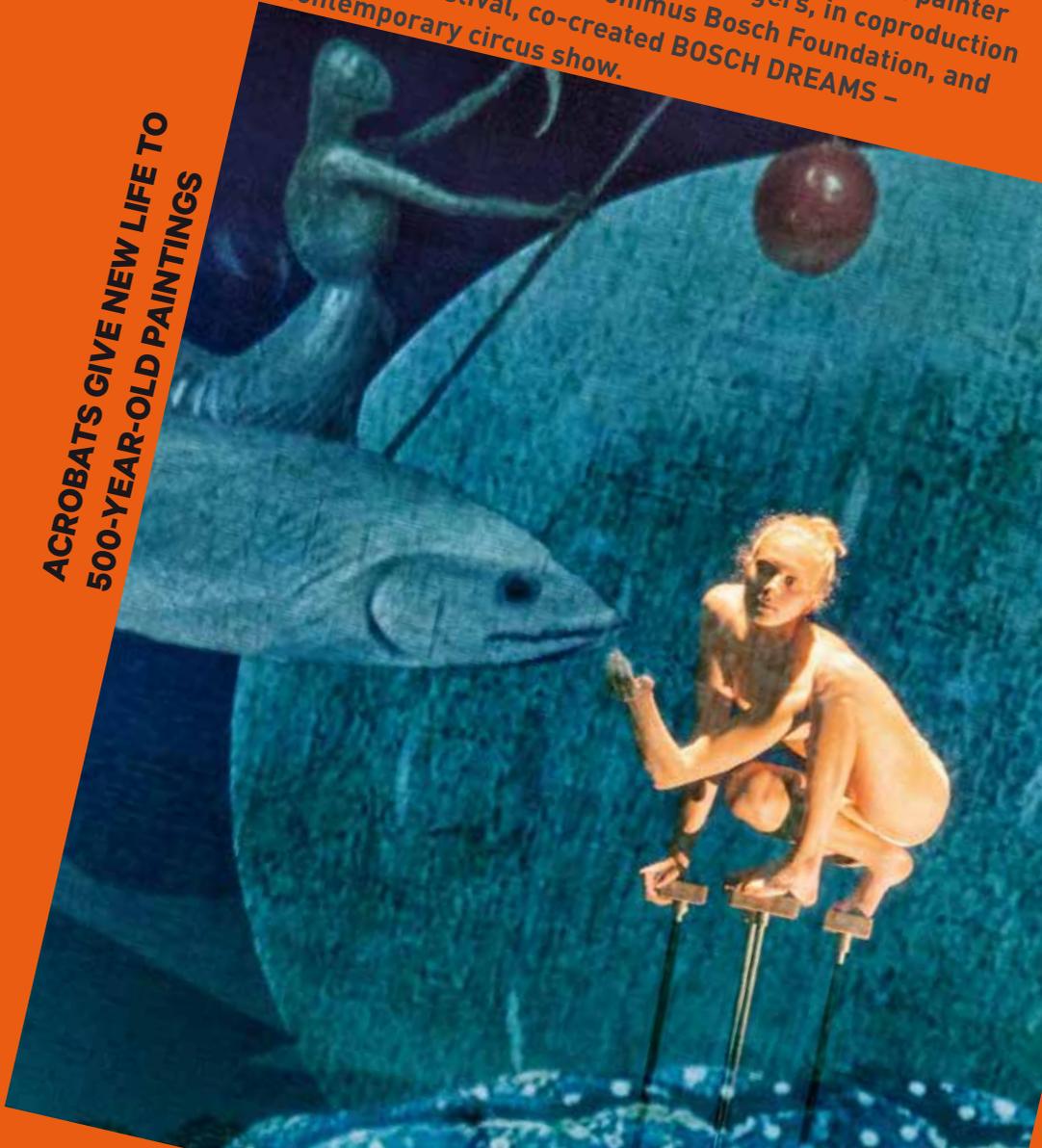
KOP Kultur

★★★★★

Kulturkupeen

**ACROBATS GIVE NEW LIFE TO
500-YEAR-OLD PAINTINGS**

To commemorate the 500th anniversary of Dutch painter Hieronymus Bosch's death, *The 7 Fingers*, in coproduction with Republique, the Jheronimus Bosch Foundation, and the Circolo Festival, co-created **BOSCH DREAMS** – a contemporary circus show.



A WORLDWIDE HOMAGE

“With **BOSCH DREAMS**, we commemorate Bosch’s death and celebrate his life and creativity – just like the hundreds of thousands of tourists who flocked to the Dutch Noorbrabant Museum in the painter’s native town, Den Bosch, this past spring. In 2016, following nine years of research, the museum assembled the complete collection of 39 original paintings and drawings by Bosch, reunited for the first time in 500 years and collected from museums all over the world. The exhibition *Visions of Genius* was a part of a worldwide celebration.

We do not know very much about Hieronymus Bosch himself. Thoughts and personal notes about his paintings have never been revealed. He lived almost all his life in his native town – and even took his name after it. Today, art critics consider Bosch one of the world’s greatest painters, whose motifs and themes reflect humanity’s deepest desires and fears.

With its grand format, **BOSCH DREAMS** will lead you through a fantastical universe, complete with tales of Bosch’s life and revelations about his truly unique work.

BOSCH – FORERUNNER OF SURREALISTS AND PSYCEDELIC ROCK ARTISTS

Hieronymus Bosch lived from 1450 to 1516 and took his name after his native town, Den Bosch, in the southern part of the Netherlands, which is also where he lived and worked throughout his life. Recurring themes in many of his paintings are death, doomsday, and hell, inspired in part by his watching his hometown burn to the ground as a child. The *Garden of Earthly Delights* is one of Bosch's most famous paintings - it is a triptych depicting heaven and hell. The painting has been on display at the Prado Museum in Madrid since 1939.

DALÍ AND BOSCH

Bosch's paintings are fantastical in the most literal sense of the word. Fable animals move amongst oversized strawberries and bodies covered with musical notes. His artwork has both fascinated and inspired artists for several hundred years. Salvador Dalí, perhaps the greatest surrealist painter of all, may very well have defined himself as "anti-Bosch," but it is difficult for art historians – and the general public – not to acknowledge some sort of kinship in the surreal worlds of both painters.

AND THEN THERE IS JIM MORRISON

So what is the lead singer of the Doors doing in a show about Bosch? Well, the famous singer was fascinated by the painter. In 1965, as a student in Florida, Jim Morrison wrote a paper on Bosch, which was greatly appreciated by his teacher. We can see Morrison a few years later, captured on 8mm film, absorbed by Bosch's painting *The Garden of Earthly Delights* at the Prado Museum. In 1970, the Doors released the song *Ship of Fools*, which is also the title of one of Bosch's paintings.



Without the faintest idea that more than four hundred years later, the world would witness the surrealist movement and psychedelic rock, Hieronymus Bosch nonetheless became a forerunner and inspiration for both. All this, down in a tiny village in the medieval Netherlands!



CREATING A CIRCUS SHOW ABOUT BOSCH

**SAMUEL TÉTREAUULT,
ARTISTIC DIRECTOR**

How did it occur to you to make a contemporary circus show about a medieval painter?

It's important for me to stress that Hieronymus Bosch was not just any painter. His artworks were a tremendous inspiration for Salvador Dalí and the entire surrealist movement, which emerged hundreds of years after Bosch's death. He painted fantastical worlds, obscene monsters, and flying creatures. I can't think of any genre that is better suited to bring these images to life than contemporary circus!

I met Ange Potier (the video artist) who had created a small animation based on Bosch's famous painting, *The Garden of Earthly Delights*. The film was incredibly beautiful and it left a huge impression on me. So, when two years later, the Jheronimus Bosch 500 Foundation asked me to produce a show for the 500th anniversary of Bosch's death, I didn't hesitate. I asked Ange if he wanted to collaborate on creating a contemporary circus show with Bosch's paintings as the setting. Together with him and Artistic Director of République Martin Tulinius, we combined our fascination to give birth to this unique show.

Why is delving into paintings that are 500 years old pertinent to audiences in 2016?

Bosch produced art during the cusp of the Middle Ages and the Renaissance. His paintings challenged existing belief systems, and he pushed forward a more individualistic way of thinking, with human beings at the centre. He dared to portray the evil temptations of his time as well as divine hope. And he asked the same existential questions that we ask ourselves today: What is good and what is evil? What do we believe in? Is there a God? Bosch held up a mirror to his fellow human beings – it's a mirror we will borrow to learn more about how we, as well as our audiences, go about living our lives?"



THE MAN BEHIND THE VIDEO,
MASKS, AND SET DESIGN

ANGE POTIER

Wherein lies your fascination with Bosch's universe?

Bosch is generous. His paintings provide us with so much to look at and think about. And on top of that, he was an incredibly accomplished painter, technically speaking. He observed his own time and transferred what he saw onto canvas in amazing detail.

Naturalistic, everyday occurrences unfold alongside fantastical worlds filled with fire, explosions, imaginary creatures, and special effects. If Bosch were alive today, his ability to bring images to life would make him an amazing filmmaker.

Many people consider his paintings paradoxical, with a sharp line dividing good and evil. But Bosch actually made a point of conveying nuances. As human beings, we are both civilized and lustful, both emphatic and bestial.

What will the audience experience on stage?

The audience will get a sense of moving in and out of Bosch's paintings. The 25 different characters, wondrous masks, and moving artists will bring the paintings to life. We strive to stay as true to Bosch's spirit as possible throughout the piece.

THE TEAM BEHIND THIS PRODUCTION



Co-Production

REPUBLIQUE & LES 7 DOIGTS DE LA MAIN

Idea and Concept

SAMUEL TÉTREULT

Script

SAMUEL TÉTREULT, MARTIN TULINIUS & ANGE POTIER

Artistic Direction & Staging

SAMUEL TÉTREULT

Dramaturgy Consultation

SIMON BOBERG

Staging Support

MATIAS PLAUL, CHARLOTTE BIDSTRUP & GYPSY SNIDER

Video & Animation

ANGE POTIER

Texts

SAMUEL TÉTREULT, MARTIN TULINIUS & SIMON BOBERG

Performers

VLADIMIR AMIGO REYES, KERREN MCKEEMAN, RÉMY OUELLET, MATHIAS REYMOND, LEAH WOLFF, SUNNIVA LØVLAND BYVARD, MATHIAS UMAREUS

Technical manager

SIMON CARRIÈRE LEGRIS

Tour manager

SOPHIE CÔTÉ

Sound and video

MAGNUS HANSEN

Head of Light

KARL SØRENSEN

Head of Rigging

ARIELLAH WINTHER

Stage manager

MIA LUISE HEIDE

Masks, Costumes & Set Design

ANGE POTIER

Lighting Design

SÚNI JOENSEN

Sound Design

JANUS JENSEN

Props & Accessories

METTE HAMMER JUHL

Costumes Production

BENTE NIELSEN / KRISTINE WIDRIKSEN

Fish Monster Costume

MATHIEU RENÉ

Masks Realization

KARIN ØRUM

Make up & Wings

LINE EBBESEN

Music

CLAIRE GIGNAC - LA NEF, NANS BORTUZZO, VIVIAN ROOST, THE DOORS, PHILIP GLASS, AHN TRIO, GRAPELLI, DUKE ELLINGTON, TOM WAITS, CHILLY GONZALES

Executive Producer

REPUBLIQUE

Touring Producer

LES 7 DOIGTS

Initiated by

FESTIVAL CIRCOLO, THE NETHERLANDS

Supported by

WILHELM HANSEN FONDEN & THE JHERONIMUS BOSCH 500 FOUNDATION

With the support of

CONSEIL DES ARTS DU CANADA, CONSEIL DES ARTS DE MONTRÉAL AND CONSEIL DES ARTS ET DES LETTRES DU QUÉBEC.

Photography

PER MORTEM ABRAHAMSEN



THE 7 Fingers

7 artistic directors, 7 visions: The 7 Fingers is a collective that is at once unified and multi-faceted.

In 2002, 7 circus artists came together and became the 7 Fingers. Over the course of 15 years, the collective has grown. Every year, projects have given way to new projects, as diverse as the very artists themselves: original productions, Broadway shows, artistic collaborations, project direction, custom designed events, performances for Olympic ceremonies, televised creations, immersive performance experiences, and much more.

Every one of these projects carries the 7 Fingers' unmistakable mark. Ambassadors of diversity, the artists have consistently spread their horizons, mixing genres to better tell their stories. Fascinated by the human condition, the 7 Fingers create performances that speak about our world and our time. Their works reach audiences across nations, with over 500 shows a year.

In 2018, The 7 Fingers inaugurates their Centre of Creation and Production. Situated in the heart of the Quartier des Spectacles in Montreal, the new centre will house all of the company's activities, departments, and dreams under one roof.

AWARDS

Winner of the "Grand Prix du Conseil des Arts de Montréal" (2016)
Evolving Circus Award (USA, 2016)
Artiste pour la Paix (Artist for Peace) award (Canada, 2015)
3 gold medals at the Festival Mondial du Cirque de Demain (France, 2012, 2009 & 2007)
2 Drama Desk Awards (USA, 2013)
Outer Critics Circle Award & Off Broadway Alliance Award (USA, 2013)
Named one of the Top 10 Plays & Musicals by Time Magazine (USA, 2011)
3 Applied Arts Photography Awards for Psy (2010)
Newcomer's Award at the Just for Laughs Festival in Montreal for Loft (2002)



RECENT HIGHLIGHTS 2017

- The 7 Fingers celebrated their 15th anniversary.
- The 7 Fingers conceived and directed the show *Vice & Vertu* in Montreal.
- Renovations were carried out in The 7 Fingers' new Creation and Production Centre.
- The 7 Fingers performed 400 shows of their original touring productions.
- The 7 Fingers designed tailor-made performances for Hermès (Asia), Bench (Asia), Festival Ile Soniq (Quebec), Education First (United States), Les Bocuses D'or (France) and Canada Day celebrations, among others.

2016

- Premiere of new touring show *Réversible* in Montreal.
- Staging of the Viennese operetta *The Circus Princess* in Moscow.
- Creation, co-direction and co-production of *Bosch Dreams* in Denmark.
- New visual identity for the collective.
- Awarded the Grand Prix du Conseil des Arts de Montréal.
- Tours of *Triptyque*, *Patinoire*, *Traces*, *Cuisine & Confessions* and *Fibonacci Project* : 350 performances booked.
- Direction of acrobatic creation and choreography of Cirque du Soleil's *Paramour* on Broadway.





NASSIB EL-HUSSEINI
C.E.O.

Political scientist, author (*L'Occident Imaginaire*, PUQ Editions), advisor and volunteer for dozens of national and international organizations, Nassib fell under the charm of a modern day tribe: The 7 Fingers. He ran away with the circus, as the saying goes, and took on the executive direction of this jewel of the Montreal stage.

Nassib is currently Chairman of the Board of the International Exchange for the Performing Arts (CINARS). He sits on the boards of the Conseil des arts de Montréal (CAM), the National Theatre School of Canada and the Société des arts technologiques.



TINA DIAB
DIRECTOR, DIFFUSION AND DEVELOPMENT

After several years in the tourism sector New York City in addition to extensive experience in communications and in advertising, most notably with agencies in Lebanon and Toronto, Tina was conquered by the unique artistic style of The 7 Fingers. She joined the collective in 2003 and has since been focusing on the development of the company across five continents.

LES 7 DOIGTS DE LA MAIN IS SUPPORTED BY





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