

# LES 7 DOIGTS DE LA MAIN (THE 7 FINGERS) DUEL REALITY ALL'S FAIR IN LOVE AND WAR

Shana Carroll, director Thursday-Friday, September 26-27, 2024, at 7:30pm Tryon Festival Theatre

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# **PROGRAM**

#### **DUEL REALITY**

#### ALL'S FAIR IN LOVE AND WAR

A Les 7 doigts de la main (The 7 Fingers) production

Direction and staging by Shana Carroll

Originally produced and created with Virgin Voyages

Commissioning Partner: ArtsEmerson (Boston)

#### WITH

Daniela Corradi Adam Fullick Gerardo Gutiérrez Michelle Hernandez Marco Ingaramo Miliève Modin-Brisebois Per Einar Kling Odencrants Anton Eric Persson Ashleigh Roper Santiago Rivera Arata Urawa

#### LIGHTING DESIGNER

Alexander Nichols

#### **COSTUMES DESIGNER**

Camille Thibault-Bédard

#### **PRODUCTION DIRECTOR**

Maude St-Pierre

#### **TECHNICAL DIRECTOR**

Simon Carrière

## TECHNICAL COORDINATOR

Audrey Belzile

# ASSISTANT TO THE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Anna Kichtchenko

#### **ACROBATIC COACH**

Francisco Cruz

# MUSICAL DIRECTOR AND COMPOSER

Colin Gagné

#### **LYRICS**

Colin Gagné and Ricardo Isaias Collier

#### **MUSICAL ARRANGEMENTS**

Colin Gagné, Jean-Sébastien Leblanc, Ricardo Isaias Collier

#### **VOCALS**

Sophie Beaudet, Katee Julien, Ricardo Isaias Collier, Alexandre Désilets, Mykalle Bielinski.

#### **INSTRUMENTS**

Violin: Guido del Fabbro Upright Bass: Cédric Dind-Lavoie Clarinet: Jean-Sébastien Leblanc Trombone: Olivier Hébert Piano: Gabriel Godbout-Castonguay Upright Bass: Mathieu Roberge Drums: Jonathan Gagné Saxophone: Alexandre Dodier Electric Guitar: Raphaël D'Amours Cello: Sheila Hannigan

The soundtrack contains an excerpt from Sergei Prokofiev's Dance of the Knights and lyrics from William Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet.

#### **TOURING TEAM**

Tour Manager: Christelle Vitupier Technical Director and Sound Engineer: Delphine Quenneville Light Operator: Alejandro Ahumada Rigger: Pascal Lacas

Tour made possible thanks to the touring assistance program of the Quebec Council for the Arts and Letters.

Special thanks to Gypsy Snider, Héloïse Bourgeois

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Price, Alice Renucci, Naomie
Slabber, Véronique St-Germain,
Mark Eden Towle, William
Underwood

# **PROFILES**



Born in Buenos Aires, Argentina, **Daniela Corradi** is a circus artist specialized in juggling. She started developing her skills in the year 2014 while traveling through South America, studying with numerous artists from Argentina and Brazil. She

has performed in multiple festivals and circus conventions, winning an accolade in 2018 for her act in the IJA (International Jugglers Association) Regional South American Competition. She has also been an active member of groups that have an inclusive and independent focus, like the Centro Cultural Ocupação Ouvidor 63 and the circus collective 6/12 Circus as a performer, and she has also been involved in events production and technical teams. Since 2022, she has worked with The 7 Fingers in *Duel Reality*.



Adam Fullick spent 12 years competing at the international level in sports acrobatics, finishing his sporting career as a British champion in 2016. He then went on to graduate from the National Centre for Circus Arts in 2018, specializing in

hand-to-hand, general acrobatics, and Cyr wheel. Since then, he has performed in many venues within the performing arts space, including: world tours with award-winning contemporary circus shows (*Bromance, Fauna*); an award-winning cruise line (Virgin Voyages); acclaimed film and TV companies (Disney, Apple TV, Marvel, Channel 4, BBC, Sky Sports); various international cultural art festivals (Glastonbury Festival, Lattitude Festival, Edinburgh Fringe Festival, Brighton Fringe Festival); and

numerous prestigious international events and ceremonies (Dua Lipa performance at the Brit Awards, 2024; Commonwealth opening ceremony 2022; Riyadh season opening ceremony 2021; Indian luxury wedding in 2017; amongst many others).



Gerardo Gutierrez was born and raised in Mexico City. He began his passion for the circus at the age of 15, practicing juggling and floor acrobatics in a self-taught way. At the age of 22 he entered the Cirko de Mente diploma program,

graduating in floor acrobatics and hoop diving. Shortly after, he and his partner, Michelle Hernandez, began their hand-to-hand training with Professor Vladimir Lissovky at Cirko de Mente in Mexico City. After four years of arduous training, Gerardo and Michelle began working in circuses, companies, television shows, and festivals in their country. They had their first work experience abroad traveling to Canada, then to Germany and Austria. In 2022 they had the privilege to be part of the beautiful cruise show *Duel Reality*, produced by The 7 Fingers and Virgin Voyages, in the main roles of Romeo and Juliet.



Michelle Hernandez was born and raised in Mexico City. Since childhood, she has been passionate about the world of dance. She graduated in ballet from Mexico City's National Institute of Fine Arts in 2012. At the age of 20, she felt drawn to

the circus arts. She began her training with aerial apparatus such as canvas and ribbons. A year later, she and her partner, Gerardo Gutierrez,

began hand-to-hand training with teacher Vladimir Lissovky at Cirko de Mente in Mexico City. After four years of arduous training, Michelle and Gerardo began to work in cique companies, TV shows, and festivals in their country. Their first professional experience abroad was in Canada, followed by Germany and Austria.

In 2022, they had the privilege of being part of The 7 Fingers and Virgin Voyages' magnificent cruise show *Duel Reality* in the lead roles of Romeo and Juliet.



Marco Ingaramo was born in Buenos Aires, Argentina in 1988. A sports enthusiastic since he was a kid, he is always looking for outdoors adventures. After high school, at the age of 22, he discovered the circus school La Arena, where he took his first

acrobatics class. Since then, he knew that nothing would give him as much joy as circus did. In 2011, he auditioned for the University of San Martin's circus formation, directed by Gerardo Hochman, where he trained in acrobatics, teeterboard. Trampowall, Chinese pole, and cradle. He also started taking contemporary dance classes in different studios in Buenos Aires. He worked in Argentina in different kind of shows, from musicals to traditional circus, and in 2017 he got his first job outside Argentina with the Hungarian company Recirquel. After this, in 2018, he started working in Mystere by Cirque du Soleil, where he performed Chinese poles and teeterboard. By the end of 2019, he auditioned for the 7 Fingers in Las Vegas and was selected to be a part of the inaugural cast of Duel Reality, directed by Shana Carroll, onboard the Virgin Voyages cruise ship Scarlet Lady. After the pandemic, he performed in *Duel Reality* again and then went to Germany to perform his Chinese pole solo act with Cirque Bouffon, directed by Frederic Zipperlin. Besides being on stage, Marco

also helped The 7 Fingers in two *Duel Reality* remounts as a line director, teaching and coaching the new casts.



Santiago Rivera, born in Guatemala in 1997, is a multidisciplinary artist and owner of his own Circus Cie. Zirconium. Dedicated to the arts since an early age and influenced by contemporary dance and physical theater,

Santiago specializes in juggling and has developed other disciplines such as hoop diving and Chinese pole. Santiago is the first Central American to be accepted into Montreal's National Circus School in Canada, which is recognized as one of the best circus schools in the world.

Santiago has performed for different art institutions in Guatemala, including the art ministry En el arte producciones, Teatro Fantasia at IRTRA Petapa, and the Batz circus school. His work has been recognized by multiple organizations such as Guatecirko, Montreal Completement Cirque, TOHU, and Cirque Éloize.

Representing Guatemala internationally in the circus field is overly complicated and, due to the lack of support for art from the Guatemalan government, much of this artist's work came from private and personal funding and the ability to create beautiful things out of simple materials. The support from each person who has influenced or promoted the development of circus arts in this artist has been of greatly appreciated.



Miliève Modin-Brisebois is an acrobat from a family of artists. Growing up surrounded by music, theatre, painting, and circus arts, Miliève stands out for her playfulness and straightforwardness. These

qualities are evident in her performances and artistic approach. A graduate of the École de cirque de Québec in Chinese pole, she has joined several different companies and shows. She often says, "If you don't make me laugh, I don't want to know," in the nicest way, of course.



Per Einar Kling Odencrants is a Swedish teeterboard jumper. He studied at the University of Dance and Circus in Stockholm. After graduating, Einar flipped his way around the world performing and competing internationally. He has a gold

medal from Cirque de Demain, a Gold Elephant from Moscow International Circus Festival, and a Bronze Clown from Monaco International Circus Festival. He is also an accomplished circus designer and photographer. @ekopics



Anton Erik Persson is a teeterboard artist and acrobat from a small town in Sweden who loves to fight against the laws of gravity. He started off with gymnastics and later upgraded to a one-year circus school in Denmark, where he met the teeterboard for the first

time and became obsessed with the sensation of flying and flipping. To carry on with this obsession, Anton continued his circus studies at CNAC in France for three years, perfecting his technique. Anton has flipped around in Hungry, Sweden, France, Spain, and Australia, among other places

Anton is a sucker for trampoline, snowboard, cliff diving, circus, parkour . . . basically anything fun!



Ashleigh Roper was born in South Africa and moved to the United Kingdom at age five, where she started gymnastics. She immediately found out she had a passion and a natural ability for the sport. A few years later when her family moved

again, this time to Australia, she transitioned to rhythmic gymnastics where she discovered her natural flexibility and her love for the hula hoop. She continued on in rhythmic gymnastics until she was 18 years old. Soon after finishing gymnastics, she felt the pull of performing life and left university to study at the National Institute of Circus Arts specialising in hula hoops and aerial hoop. Since graduating, Ashleigh has performed in multiple productions in spiegeltents and theatres across the globe. Most notably, she performed in the 7 Fingers show *Duel Reality* on board the Virgin Voyages cruise line and is now part of the *Duel Reality* touring cast.



**Arata Urawa** is a diabolist.

He was born and grew up in Japan.

He is a former Japan juggling champion and Asian diabolo champion, therefore circus festivals started to invite him. He decided to get into

the professional circus world and studied in the Montreal National Circus School after he graduated from the Tokyo University of Science. He won the bronze medal in the 39th Festival Mondial du Cirque de Demain.

Being a part of The 7 fingers was a dream too far away from him. However, he is now in his dream.

# THE 7 FINGERS

#### WE ARE A CREATIVE COLLECTIVE

WE ARE WRITERS, DIRECTORS, CHOREOGRAPHERS

WE MERGE ACROBATICS AND THEATRE, DANCE AND MULTIMEDIA, MUSIC, AND STORYTELLING

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WE PUSH THE DEFINITION AND POTENTIAL OF LIVE PERFORMANCE

WE TELL HUMAN STORIES WITH SUPERHUMAN SKILLS

The 7 Fingers is an arts collective unlike any other. In 2002, the seven founders set out to redefine circus by stripping down the spectacle to its thrilling essence.

The contemporary company tells stories using death-defying acrobatics with a life-affirming theatricality that is unique to The 7 Fingers. Since its inception, the company has expanded from its own signature touring shows to creating theatrical experiences as diverse as the very artistic directors themselves: original productions varying from intimate one-man shows to large-scale arena performances; Broadway musicals; artistic collaborations with renowned international artists and companies; production design and direction; special events; Olympic ceremonies; televised performances; fashion, art and music events;, immersive experiences; and much more.

Every one of these projects carries The 7 Fingers' unequivocal mark. The company has consistently spread its horizons by mixing genres and exploring new ways to tell stories. Fascinated by the human condition, The 7 Fingers create performances that celebrate our world, our time, and our humanity. Their shows tour the globe and bring audiences to their feet wherever they go.

In 2018, The 7 Fingers opened their very own Centre of Creation and Production. Situated in the heart of Montreal's downtown theatre district, the new centre houses all of the company's activities, departments, and dreams under one roof.



#### LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The University of Illinois System carries out its mission in its namesake state, which includes the traditional territory of the Peoria, Kaskaskia, Piankashaw, Wea, Miami, Mascoutin, Odawa, Sauk, Mesquaki, Kickapoo, Potawatomi, Ojibwe, Menominee, Ho-Chunk, and Chickasaw Nations. These lands continue to carry the stories of these Nations and their struggles for survival and identity.

As a land-grant institution, the University of Illinois has a particular responsibility to acknowledge the peoples of these lands, as well as the histories of dispossession that have allowed for the growth of this institution. We are also obligated to reflect on and actively address these histories and the role that this university has played in shaping them.

This acknowledgment and the centering of Native peoples is a start as we move forward.

Krannert Center affirms the commitment by the university to move beyond these statements, toward building deeper relationships and taking actions that uphold and preserve Indigenous rights and cultural equity.

As we gather to experience this performance, we have an opportunity to reflect on the ways that systems of oppression have shaped our society. We can work together to create systems that support human dignity, establish equity, strengthen cross-cultural relationships, and draw upon the creative capacity of all people that make up this community, state, nation, and world.



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#### Where Creativity Ignites Passion

Krannert Center is committed to providing an inclusive space where students, community members, visiting artists, and friends can gather for enriching performances and cultural experiences. The support of our donors and friends enables the Center to produce creative programming that ignites a passion for the arts that is invaluable.

Together, we can ensure that students and the greater community continue to have access to transformative performing arts experiences.

Please consider making a gift to Krannert Center today. With your help, we can sustain the high level of excellence you have come to expect, while strengthening the lasting impact of the Center's work.

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Krannert Center's dedication to the celebration, exploration, and cross-pollination of the arts is advanced through these special programs. Donors who champion such work make it possible for more people in our community to participate in life-affirming experiences.

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This passionate group of arts advocates assists Krannert Center staff in expanding the Center's leadership and financial resources.

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The Youth Series features daytime performances, online media created by performing artists, and educational activities designed especially for pre-K through high-school-aged students. Children who participate learn to appreciate the performing arts, gain knowledge, build social skills, and integrate live performance experiences into classroom work. Thank you to our Youth Series sponsors.

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If US soldiers had not been there, I would not be here.

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The University of Illinois, the College of Fine and Applied Arts, and Krannert Center are profoundly grateful for the commitment of Krannert Society members. Through donations, pledges, and residual gifts of \$1 million or more, these open-hearted visionaries help build a thriving community and encourage cross-cultural understanding. Their support sustains the extraordinary vision of Herman and Ellnora Krannert to create a vibrant gathering place like no other.



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G. WILLIAM ARENDS (1914-1997)
March 2000



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Demonstrating their steadfast dedication to the arts, members of the Foellinger Society have donated or pledged \$500,000 to \$999,999. Because of their generosity, everyone in this community can unite in joyful and engaging experiences. These magnanimous arts lovers celebrate the spirit of Helene Foellinger, whose memorial gift honored her sister, Loretta Foellinger Teeple, and established the Marquee Performance Endowment.



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University of Illinois President Emeritus and First Lady Stan and Judy Ikenberry have long demonstrated their love for the arts and their deep commitment to enhancing learning experiences for all University of Illinois students. Krannert Center gratefully acknowledges their steadfast support by introducing the Ikenberry Society to recognize donated gifts or pledges of \$250,000 to \$499,999.



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We gratefully acknowledge these individuals and businesses for their generosity and commitment to the arts. Their support enabled the Center to welcome back in-person audiences for Music, Theatre, Dance, and visiting artist productions this past season. Krannert Center continues to make accessibility improvements, co-commission works to help support artist partners, and focus on engagement work within the community. If your membership has lapsed and you'd like to renew, please contact Krannert Center Advancement at 217.333.6700 or advancement@krannertcenter.illinois.edu.

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Ushers will be happy to provide you cough drops courtesy of St. Joseph Apothecary, or disposable foam earplugs if the place starts rockin'.

If you or a companion needs medical assistance, contact an usher or other staff member.

Please take a moment before the performance to note the theatre exits nearest to you. If it becomes necessary to evacuate the theatre, please remain calm, follow the instructions of the house staff, and exit in an orderly fashion to the appropriate safe meeting location, which will be announced to you.

#### **PHONES AND DEVICES**

The use of cell phones, cameras, and recording devices during performances is prohibited unless otherwise announced from the stage.

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As a courtesy to performers and audience members, latecomers will be seated only at times selected in advance by the artist. Should you find that you've arrived late to a performance, our Patron Services staff will keep you informed about the earliest seating opportunity.

#### **LOST ITEMS**

If you are in need of Lost and Found, please visit the Patron Services counter. We will do our best to reunite object and owner!

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