



UtahPresents

# CIRCA HUMANS 2.0

OCTOBER 25, 2023



Photo by Yaya Stempler

Humans 2.0 is commissioned by The Mondavi Center, UC Davis

# CIRCA



Queensland  
Government



Australian Government



Circa acknowledges the assistance of the Australian Government through Creative Australia, its principal arts investment and advisory body and the Queensland Government through Arts Queensland.



# CIRCA HUMANS 2.0

October 25, 2023 • 7:30PM  
Kingsbury Hall

**For the legal and physical safety of the artists  
and for the comfort of the audience,  
cameras and other recording devices  
are not permitted in the theater during the performance**

Please silence your phones and other noisemakers

# THANK YOU TO OUR 2023-2024 SEASON SPONSORS



NANCY PEERY MARRIOTT



Funded by  
**Utah Legislature**



Utah Division of  
**Arts & Museums**

ALICE & KEVIN STEINER

STEINER FOUNDATION

KYLE TREADWAY & GREG PEDROZA

DINESH & KALPANA PATEL



Hampton Inn & Suites  
Salt Lake City-University/Foothill



DOUBLE TREE SUITES  
BY HILTON™  
SALT LAKE CITY



# WESTAF

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSOR



CORNERSTONE

FOR SUPPORTING THIS  
PERFORMANCE OF CIRCA



## CREATIVE TEAM:

Yaron Lifschitz - Director  
Ori Lichtik - Original Music  
Paul Jackson - Lighting Designer  
Libby McDonnell - Costume Design

## CAST:

Jon Bonaventura	Marty Evans
Sam Letch	Oscar Morris
Kimberley Rossi	Sophie Seccombe
Zachery Stephens	Luke Thomas
Georgia Webb	Christina Zauner

---

Connect with Circa on social media:



[instagram.com/circapresents/](https://www.instagram.com/circapresents/)



[facebook.com/circacontemporarycircus](https://www.facebook.com/circacontemporarycircus)



[linkedin.com/company/circa\\_2/](https://www.linkedin.com/company/circa_2/)



[vimeo.com/circapresents](https://vimeo.com/circapresents)

# INDIGENOUS LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The University of Utah has both historical and contemporary relationships with Indigenous Peoples. Given that the Salt Lake Valley has always been a gathering place for Indigenous Peoples, we acknowledge that this land, which is named for the Ute Tribe, is the traditional and ancestral homelands of the Shoshone, Paiute, Goshute, and Ute Tribes and is a crossroad for Indigenous Peoples.

The University of Utah recognizes the enduring relationships between many Indigenous Peoples and their traditional homelands. We are grateful for the territory upon which we gather today; we respect Utah's Indigenous Peoples, the original stewards of this land; and we value the sovereign relationships that exist between tribal governments, state governments, and the federal government.

Today, approximately 60,000 American Indian and Alaska Native peoples live in Utah. As a state institution, the University of Utah is committed to serving Native communities throughout Utah in partnership with Native Nations and our Urban Indian communities through research, education, and community outreach activities.

# THANK YOU TO OUR LEVELUP PATRONS

Jestene Ahn  
Captain Dallen Allred  
Kathie and Scott Amann  
Tika Beard and Catherine Harlin  
John Bergerson  
Carol Bergstrom  
Toni Byrd  
Patricia Callahan  
Metta Nelson Driscoll  
Robert and Mary Gilchrist  
MJ Gregoire  
John and Ilauna Gurr  
Shanna Hall  
Gordon and Connie Hanks  
Greg Hatch and Terry Kogan  
Laurie Hofmann and David Classen  
Carolyn and Pete Kowalchik  
Lisa and Terry Mott  
Duyen Nguyen  
Lucy Osborn  
David Schiffhauer  
Sallie Dean Shatz  
Jill Smith  
Barbara Svee  
Michelle and Sean Thompson  
Ellen Tolstad  
Grace Tran  
Kyle Treadway and Greg Pedroza  
Thomas Weed  
Cindy Williams  
Jody and Wai-Ming Wong  
Anonymous

Learn more about levelUP benefits  
at [utahpresents.org/levelup](http://utahpresents.org/levelup)

The amount of actual stuff in a human is miniscule. We are made up of distantly spaced atoms, each of which is almost all empty space. If we remove all the empty spaces, the amount of stuff in each of us is roughly a small speck of dust. That is all the matter we are. The physical space we occupy beyond that – our form, our force, our dreams, hopes, aspirations and fears – is created by energy. It might be more apposite to think about us as energy fields very sporadically interspersed with a tiny amount of stuff. We are galaxies, constellations of energies, not lumps of humanness. If you want to seriously challenge our Ptolemaic sensibilities, let's add to this that no more than 10% of the cells in our bodies are actually human. We are mostly empty space, connected by energy, and the matter we are made up of is significantly not made of us!

So instead let's see ourselves as a hurly-burly of energy, a glorious soup of possibility. Let's think of 'human' not as a noun but rather as a kind of verb.

*Humans 2.0* is inspired by this verbness. It is not what we are but how we are that fuels the show – how we connect, attract, repel and attach. On a petri dish humans like small strands of DNA combine, separate and intertwine. Great complexity is generated as are moments of clarity, form and beauty. Skill, virtuosity, individuality can all be glimpsed but mostly it is the group and its endless forms and variations that creates a show as intriguing as it is unclassifiable. Just like all of us.

Yaron Lifschitz  
Artistic Director, Circa





**YARON LIFSCHITZ**  
**Circa Artistic Director and CEO**

Yaron Lifschitz is a graduate of the University of New South Wales, University of Queensland, and National Institute of Dramatic Arts (NIDA), where he was the youngest director ever accepted into its prestigious graduate director's course.

Since graduating, Yaron has directed over 80 productions including large-scale events, opera, theatre, physical theatre, and circus.

His work has been seen in over forty countries and across six continents by over one and a half million people and has won numerous awards including six Helpmann awards and the Australia Council Theatre Award. His productions have been presented at major festivals and venues around the world including Brooklyn Academy of Music, the Barbican, Les Nuits de Fourvière, Chamaleon and all the major Australian festivals. His film work was selected for the Berlin and Melbourne Film Festivals. He was founding Artistic Director of the Australian Museum's Theatre Unit, Head Tutor in Directing at Australian Theatre for Young People and has been a regular guest tutor in directing at NIDA.

He is currently Artistic Director and CEO of Circa and was Creative Director of Festival 2018: the arts and cultural program of the 21st Commonwealth Games.



**ORI LICHTIK**  
**Musician, member of the artistic crew of L-E-V Dance Company of Sharon Eyal & Gai Behar, DJ and drummer**

Lichtik is one of the founders of the Tel-Aviv techno scene in the 1990s where he started his career as a DJ and producer of techno parties and raves. Since 2006, Ori has been collaborating with Sharon Eyal and Gai Behar as a musician in the artistic team. Rather than composing the soundtracks, Ori performs in L-E-V performances in which he constructs, plays and characterises the music in each performance.

The uniqueness of Lichtik's work is the combination of the various musical worlds into an evolving and refined soundtrack, full of passion and groove,

which alongside the choreography gives the spectator a complete and hypnotic experience. Lichtik soundtracks are influenced by different styles and textures, from industrial and African tribe recordings, through hip-hop to baroque music. Ori's music is one of the most prominent and unusual hallmarks of Sharon Eyal and Gai Behar's dance performances.

Over the years, Ori has created various works for L-E-V, dance companies and opera houses around the world.

Lichtik has created alongside Sharon & Gai throughout the choreographic process, reflecting off of the dancers' movements, and as often inspiring and prompting them with the tone and pace of his percussive sounds and rhythms.



**PAUL JACKSON**  
**Lighting designer**

Paul Jackson is a multi-award-winning lighting designer and theatre maker whose work has featured across Australia, New Zealand, United States, Asia, Europe and the United Kingdom.

Paul has designed lighting for The Australian Ballet, Royal New Zealand Ballet, West Australian Ballet, Berlin Staatsballett, Victorian Opera, West Australian Opera, Sydney Theatre Company, Melbourne Theatre Company, Gordon Frost Organization, TML, The Production Company, Bell Shakespeare, Playbox, Malthouse, Belvoir, Circa, Ballet Lab, Lucy Guerin, Chunky Move, World of Wearable Art New Zealand, KAGE, La Mama, Chamber Made Opera and many others.

Paul was Artistic Associate at Malthouse Theatre from 2007–2013. Paul has received a Helpmann Award, two Sydney Theatre Awards, three APDG Awards, seven Green Room Awards and a Critics' Award for Theatre in Scotland.


**LIBBY MCDONNELL**
**Circa Head of Design**

Libby is a designer and choreographer and she is currently Head of Design at Circa. Libby works in diverse genres and forms. At the heart of her work is people and movement.

Libby has a Bachelor of Fine Arts (Honours) in Visual Art from Queensland College of Art -Griffith University and an Associate Degree in Dance from Queensland University of Technology. Her professional career has included performing and making independent dance work, as an Artistic Director of Ballet Theatre of Queensland and Choreographer for Blue Room Theatre Company. For eleven years Libby has worked with the team at Circa to imagine, develop and deliver their productions locally, nationally and internationally. During her time at Circa she has designed costumes for over thirty productions, co-directed 3 main stage productions and led many of the company's engagement projects including the pilot of the Circability program.

Libby is based in Brisbane with her family.


**JON BONAVENTURA**
**Circa Artist**

Discovered on a friend's trampoline in Melbourne, Jon caught his big break at the age of 12, working as a stunt double for Warner Brothers *Where The Wild Things Are*.

After over a decade in gymnastics, Jon went on to study at the National Institute of Circus Arts, specialising in rope. Jon graduated in 2014 and began touring independent projects around Australia before performing internationally with some of the country's best circus companies – Circa, Casus and Circus Oz. Jon can be found hiding in a cafe, hanging from his rope or standing on people all around the world.


**MARTY EVANS**
**Circa Artist**

Marty Evans came to circus by a more roundabout route than most. After watching nothing but circus videos during his lunchbreaks at Australia's only nuclear reactor, Marty left behind his published scientific career, embracing his

physical sports background to pursue a career in circus.

His first taste of circus came at the University of Sydney in 2010 as he tried to entertain himself during free periods by learning to throw people into the air and trying to catch them again. Marty trained at the National Institute of Circus Arts in Melbourne. He is a fiercely determined and hardworking hand-to-hand base that enjoys exploring new challenges and techniques.

Marty joined the Circa Ensemble full time in 2015, and has been involved in the creation of numerous Circa productions including *When One Door Closes* and *Humans*.



**SAM LETCH**  
**Circa Artist**

Instead of paying attention at school, Sam Letch focused all of his energy on throwing himself around in the cold and rainy north west of England, where he grew up.

At the ripe old age of 15, Sam decided that doing back tucks off sand dunes wasn't enough. The answer to his problem: Parkour.

He trained for 3 years until his acrobatics took him to the National Centre for Circus Arts (London) where he picked up such skills as teeterboard, hand to hand, banquine, floor and group acrobatics. After graduating Sam's first job performing at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival lead him on to work with such companies as Cirque Eloize.

Sam's primary love is performing, shortly after that is his moustache, followed by singing musicals at the top of his lungs for anyone who will listen.



**OSCAR MORRIS**  
**Circa Artist**

From a very young age, Oscar's parents knew that sports weren't really for him, when they tried to enrol him in soccer but all he wanted to do was put on the uniform and sit on the sideline. Born and raised in Brisbane, Oscar fell in love

with circus at the age of 8 when he was enrolled in youth circus classes at Flipside Circus. He trained primarily under Alex Weckes-Huck and Amy Stuart, specialising in various forms of ground acrobatics including hand to hand, banquine, and group acrobatics, as well as juggling. Since graduating from Flipside's performance troupe in 2021, Oscar has worked as an independent artist around Brisbane performing with companies such as Sparkle Society, Collective Circus, Counterpilot and Casus Creations.

When not doing circus, Oscar enjoys listening, playing and writing music – with him being able to play several instruments including; piano, double bass, bass guitar, guitar, percussion, and the smallest amount of trombone.



**KIMBERLEY ROSSI**  
**Circa Artist**

Kimberley grew up in Queensland, and as a Brisbane local it didn't take long before she stumbled upon Circa.

Beginning her circus training at age 13, in just 3 short years she was given the opportunity to be the first member of Fast Track, a program designed for young and aspiring performers within Circa. With the support of her family, Kimberley decided to leave school and pursue a career in the circus industry. Shortly after she found herself on a plane flying out to perform her first show, 'Nocturne' in Seoul, South Korea.

Over the years Kimberley has been a part of over 30 productions, visited some of the worlds most beautiful locations and logged over 4000 hours in her favourite video game.



**SOPHIE SECCOMBE**  
**Circa Artist**

Sophie has loved free movement since she was born. Her slightly impetuous nature led her parents to enrol her in ballet lessons when she was two, and competitive gymnastics a few years after that. While formal training gave her a foundation, she preferred handstands in trees and acrobatics on the roof.

Sophie discovered circus at the West End markets in 2021. Immediately enthralled, circus exposed her to a world where gymnastics could be meshed with artistic expression without constraints. After a year of coaching by members of Gravity & Other Myths, she began touring nationally and internationally in Rouge. Outside of acrobatics Sophie may be found listening to Mazzy Star and swimming in any body of water she can find.



## ZACHERY STEPHENS

### Circa Artist

Zachery began his circus career following in the footsteps of his siblings and aspires to one day perform alongside them. With a background in competitive gymnastics and Olympic weightlifting, Zachery is no stranger to lifting weight above himself and has a terrible habit of asking anyone regardless of size to stand on him.

Undertaking his circus studies at the National Institute of Circus Arts, he has trained for 4 years as a handbalancer and hand to hand base. However, his true love and the place where Zachery thrives most is in an ensemble, where he can explore group acrobatics in collaboration with creative movement. Zachery's ambition as an artist is to become as versatile as possible, to never become comfortable and most importantly, to show the world why circus is the most powerful and beautiful expression of what it means to be human.



## LUKE THOMAS

### Circa Artist

As a child, Luke was always driven to pursue an acrobatic career, constantly found swinging upside down on the hills hoist in his backyard. At age 11, he joined Circus 35° South, and trained aerials, tumbling and manipulation for seven years before studying at the National Institute of Circus Arts, graduating in 2017.

During his study, Luke specialised in tissu, foot juggling and group acrobatics. Luke co-created and performed *Out of This World Children's Show*, with seasons at Woodford Folk Festival and Melbourne Fringe Festival. Luke also performed in *One Fell Swoop's By a Thread* at Mullumbimby Circus Festival, Perth Fringe Festival, Adelaide Fringe Festival and the Circa Festival at Auch, France.



Luke joined the Circa Ensemble in 2018, performing in the world premiere of Circa's *Peepshow*.



## **GEORGIA WEBB**

### **Circa Artist**

Born and raised in outback Western Australia, Georgia was a competitive gymnast and dancer for 13 years. This background gave her the discipline and work ethic which now informs her circus practice.

After both parents insisted that their only child join the military, Georgia decided to forgo those plans to follow her own dream of running away with the circus. Graduating from the National Institute of Circus Arts in 2019, Georgia joined Circa as a full-time ensemble member in January 2020.

In her spare time Georgia enjoys motorbike riding, surfing and free diving. She also hopes to travel the world skydiving someday.



## **CHRISTINA ZAUNER**

### **Circa Artist**

Christina grew up on the country side in Austria. She started dancing when she was four years old, and participated at her first competition at the age of six. Christina graduated with a Bachelor in Classical and Contemporary Dance at MUK

Vienna. During her education she started to train aerials and vertical dance.

After graduating, she worked at the Vienna State Opera as an Aerial Double, followed by a role in the musical *Cats* in Switzerland. Christina worked with the Irish Company Fidget Feet and as a performer and Choreographer at Krystallpalast Varieté Leipzig.

Christina found her way into the circus world as a self-taught Aerialist, specialized in Straps. At the age of 24, she started to enjoy to climb on people or have them climb on her. A very determined person, Christina loves to challenge herself and explore what her body is capable of. She also plays accordion and loves to design and sew costumes.





UtahPresents

# NEXT UP ON THE 20232024 SEASON



## THE INDIGO ROOM TIMOTHY WHITE EAGLE AND THE VIOLET TRIANGLE

November 9-11, 7:30PM

*Space is very limited for this special performance experience.*

THE INDIGO ROOM is an immersive, ritualistic theater and installation work by Timothy White Eagle and The Violet

Triangle. Elemental and meditative, with a touch of divine magic, audiences are invited into new considerations and possibilities as we emerge from isolation.



## THE LOWER LIGHTS CHRISTMAS CONCERTS

December 6-9, 7:00PM

Don't miss the festive sounds of The Lower Lights, bringing irreverent and rollicking holiday fun to Kingsbury Hall once again. They're serving up a mix of classic Christmas favorites and some surprise tunes that are sure to become new favorites. With their infectious energy and playful spirit, The

Lower Lights will have you tapping your toes and singing along in no time.

BUY YOUR TICKETS NOW AT [UTAHPRESENTS.ORG](https://UTAHPRESENTS.ORG)



SALT LAKE COUNTY SIZ  
Thank you to the people of  
Salt Lake County for supporting  
Zoo, Arts and Parks



Hampton Inn & Suites  
Salt Lake City-University/Foothill

Nancy Peery Marriott  
Alice & Kevin Steiner  
Steiner Foundation  
Dinesh & Kalpana Patel  
Kyle Treadway & Greg Pedroza



NATIONAL ENDOWMENT for the ARTS  
[arts.gov](http://arts.gov)



Funded by  
**Utah Legislature**



Utah Division of  
**Arts & Museums**

WESTAF



DOUBLE TREE SUITES  
BY HILTON™  
SALT LAKE CITY

Scott and Kathie Amann  
Marney & Peter Billings  
R. Harold Burton Foundation

Herbert I. and Elsa B Michael Foundation  
Gordon and Connie Hanks  
Lee & Audrey Hollaar



XMISSION



NEW ENGLAND FOUNDATION FOR THE ARTS



COLLEGE OF FINE ARTS  
THE UNIVERSITY OF UTAH



Summit

Sotheby's  
INTERNATIONAL REALTY



GEORGE S. AND DOLORES DORÉ ECCLES  
FOUNDATION



CORNERSTONE

Carolyn Abravanel  
Jestene Ahn  
Kathleen and R. Scott Amann  
Association of Performing Arts  
Professionals  
B.W. Bastian Foundation  
Tika Beard and Catherine Harlin  
John Bergerson  
Carik Berstrom  
Michael Billings  
Peter and Margaret Billings  
Gregg Bissict  
Kathleen Boben  
Donna Branson  
Catherine Burnett  
Dennis Busch  
Darryl and Ann Butt  
Toni Byrd  
Patricia Callahan  
Dhiraj Chand  
Erik Christiansen and  
Christina Jepson  
Havilah Clarke  
David Classen and  
Laurie Hofmann  
Patricia and John Clay  
Community Foundation of Utah  
Rainey Cornaby  
Cornerstone  
Annie and Jahn Davis  
Tami Derezotes  
Kara DiOrio and  
David Goldsmith  
DoubleTree Suites by Hilton  
Metta Nelson Driscoll  
Eric and Shellie Eide  
Sarah George and Richard Ford

Robert and Mary Gilchrist  
Goldman Sachs  
John and Ilana Gurr  
Shanna and Aaron Hall  
Hampton Inn & Suites  
Gordon and Connie Hanks  
Catherine Harlin  
Janet and H. Ric Harnsberger  
Gregory Hatch and Terry Kogan  
Kimberly Hawvermale  
Christy Hepworth  
Herbert I. and Elsa B. Michael  
Foundation  
Joshua and Masha Herzbrun  
Matthew and Wendy  
Hobson-Rohrer  
Audrey and Lee Hollaar  
Tiana Hood and Steven Morales  
Brooke and Michael Horejsi  
Thelma Iker  
Marian Ingham  
Lorraine and Dan Jackson  
Sheri Jardine and Erica Casey  
Sterling and Lisa Jardine  
Cosette Joesten  
Danielle Johnson  
Edgar Joyner  
Kenworth Sales Company  
David and Lisa Kieda  
Jennifer and Alan Kinghorn  
David and Renae Kirby  
Carolyn and Pete Kowalchik  
Jill and Matthew Leonelli  
LIFEWTR  
Michael Lobb  
Nancy Peery Marriott  
Lydia Martinez

Pace and Marilyn McConkie  
Markham McGowan  
and Bruna Brito  
Lisa Terry Mott  
Donald Murphy  
Nancy Murphy  
Paul Murphy  
New England Foundation  
for the Arts, Inc  
Duyen Nguyen  
Andrew Palmer  
Frank and Joanna Pedroza  
John and Marcia Price  
Family Foundation  
Scott and Karin Pynes  
R. Harold Burton Foundation  
Margaret Reiser  
Richard K. and Shirley S.  
Hemingway Foundation  
Shelby Rickart  
Kelsey Roberts  
Mika Robinson  
Charlene and Bob Roetzel  
Salt Lake City Arts Council  
Salt Lake County  
Zoo, Arts, and Parks  
Sallie Dean Shatz  
Srilatha and Anurag Singh  
Jill Smith  
The Sorenson  
Legacy Foundation

State of Utah  
Steiner Foundation, Inc.  
Alice and Kevin Steiner  
Bob Steiner and Wendy Reed  
Ann Marie Sturm  
Summit Sotheby's  
International Realty  
Robert and Barbara Svee  
Aaron Swenson and  
Nathan Schmitz  
Valda Tarbet  
The Marjean McKenna  
Living Trust  
Michelle and Sean Thompson  
Mary and Thomas Thomson  
Ellen Tolstad and Roy Piskadlo  
Grace Tran  
Jennifer Tran  
R. Kyle Treadway and  
Greg Pedroza  
United Way of Salt Lake  
University Guest House  
Utah Division of Arts & Museums  
Utah Humanities Council  
Jeff and Stephanie Weber  
Thomas Weed  
Western States Arts Federation  
Cindy Williams  
Jody and Wai-Ming Wong  
XMission

Thank you to all our donors giving gifts of \$25+ over the last 18 months

Chloe Jones	Executive Director
Ashley Behunin	Production Manager
David Braithwaite	Master Electrician
Dennis Busch	Campaign Manager
Toni Byrd	Ticket Office Manager
Sheri Jardine	Content Manager
Patricia Madsen	Assistant Ticket Office Manager
Jacob Martinez	Audio Engineer
Keven Myhre	Finance and Administrative Manager
Stephanie Overfelt	Event Manager
Jensen Risko	Event Manager
Melissa Salguero	Community Engagement Manager
Bretleigh Sandorf	Development Officer
Aja Vogelman	Operations Director
Steve Wimmer	Stage Manager

UTAHPRESENTS ADVISORY BOARD

Tiana Hood, Chair	Josh Herzbrun	Sallie Dean Shatz
Michael A. Billings	Laurie Hofmann	Srilatha Singh
Gregg Michael Bissict	Marian Ingham*	Alice Steiner*
Johna Brems	Jill Leonelli	Anne Marie Sturm
Patricia Callahan	Lydia Martinez	Kyle Treadway*
Havliah Clarke	Shawn Treadway	Elizabeth Menlove
Rainey Cornaby	Morgan	Thomas
Annie Davis	John W. Scheib	Heather Wybrow
Metta Driscoll		*Emeritus



[facebook.com/utahpresents](https://facebook.com/utahpresents)



[linkedin.com/company/utahpresents](https://linkedin.com/company/utahpresents)



[instagram.com/utahpresents](https://instagram.com/utahpresents)