

BRECK CREATE

PRESS RELEASE

ANNOUNCING

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Breckenridge International Festival of Arts • Aug 11 – 20

BIFA 2023 Welcomes Resident Artist Circa

Extreme acrobatics meet extreme beauty as one of the world’s greatest contemporary circus companies brings their groundbreaking presentation *What Will Have Been* to Breckenridge, Colorado, featuring violinist Kathryn Hatmaker.

More Information at breckcreate.org

Breckenridge, CO - From sell-out seasons all around the world including London, Melbourne, Edinburgh and New York, Brisbane-based Circa contemporary circus brings three of their world-renowned ensembles of acrobats to Breckenridge, Colorado, to present the company’s new show *What Will Have Been (WWHB)* at the Riverwalk Center on Saturday, August 19th during the Breckenridge International Festival of Arts (BIFA). Circa serves as this year’s resident artist at BIFA, which means attendees will get several chances to experience what the *Daily Review* of Australia calls “...circus at its purest and most thrilling.” Reserved seats for the live performance are on-sale now for \$25 – \$65 at breckcreate.org.

“BIFA enjoys a long history with dance, circus and acrobatics,” says Tamara Nuzzaci Park, president/CEO of Breck Create, the organization that produces BIFA, noting past BIFA performances by L’Homme Cirq (2016), Casus Circus (2017), Gravity & Other Myths (2018), Bandalooop (2019) and Pilobolus (2022). “Circa, like these extraordinary past performers, will captivate and delight audiences with their physicality. Fans of circus, contemporary dance and classical music will love Circa.”

The Breckenridge and Summit County communities of active outdoor enthusiasts, snowsport adventurers, yogis and endurance athletes will appreciate the extreme physicality demonstrated by Circa, regardless of whether they are traditional performing arts aficionados. These types of performances—dance, circus and acrobatics—are rarely offered in Summit County, Nuzzaci Park says, which is why Breck Create makes sure it is represented annually at BIFA.

“The Riverwalk Center is the only performance venue in Summit County presenting a spectacle cirque-style performance, and it only happens once a year...at BIFA,” she says with a smile.

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WWHB is a current work which has sold out performances across the globe. Accompanied by baroque violin played live on stage and a spine-tingling electronic [soundtrack](#), Circa's finest artists create a show infused with tender humanity and savage physicality.

"*WWHB* will challenge your perceptions of what is possible with the human body and draw you deep into a world of physical daring," says Yaron Lifschitz, creator of *WWHB* along with the Circa Ensemble.

"Where other companies tend to add elements (story, character) Circa's work is a stripped back circus of the heart," Lifschitz says. "It finds new emotional landscapes inside what is generally considered to be a spectacle. Audiences watch, bewildered, at the human body's fragile and astonishing beauty under extreme pressure. It's an important new work, and I'm thrilled to bring it to BIFA."

In *WWHB*, three circus artists and a violinist stretch the boundaries of contemporary circus. Hauntingly beautiful and truly virtuosic, *WWHB* is a sublime display of interlocking bodies, awe-inspiring movement and pure physical beauty. Accompanied on stage by a live violinist and fusing together the music of Bach and Philip Glass as well as spine-tingling electronica, this explosive production is guaranteed to tug at your heartstrings and have you on the edge of your seat. The BIFA performance features San-Diego Symphony Orchestra Violinist Kathryn "Kate" Hatmaker, who has performed during the Breckenridge Music Festival.

Designed to move "the heart, mind and soul," Circa has a reputation for producing sophisticated spectacles that have been rapturously received by audiences, presenters and critics around the world. Since 2006, Circa has sold-out theaters and been met with standing ovations in 32 countries across six continents. In 2014, Circa performed over 350 shows to over 130,000 audience members locally, nationally and internationally.

Additionally, BIFA attendees will have the opportunity to see Circa perform the following shorter performances for free:

- 5:00 p.m. Wednesday, August 16 at the Blue River Plaza
- 5:00 p.m. Thursday, August 17 at the Blue River Plaza
- 4:00 p.m. Friday, August 18 at the Ridge Street Square during the AirStage Summer Après

Younger audience members ages eight to 18 may register at breckcreate.org for a free Youth Circus Workshop by Circa at 11:00 a.m. Saturday, August 19th on the Riverwalk Center lawn. Participants can build physical and creative skills in a safe, non-competitive environment with some of Australia's best trainers. The lawn will be

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decked with acrobatic mats and immersive beats as the group explores the action-packed world of contemporary circus and tackles tumbles, handstands and more.

Circa acknowledges the assistance of the Australian Government through the Australia Council, its arts funding and advisory body and the Queensland Government through Arts Queensland.

ABOUT BIFA: BIFA is a 10-day celebration of Adventure + Creativity + Play. Local, national and international artist talent and organizations, both traditional and unconventional, mingle together to create an eclectic mix of music, dance, film, visual arts and family entertainment. Throughout the festival, Breck Create produces dozens of events across the Town of Breckenridge's cultural venues, public parks, trails and open spaces. The festival begins on Friday, August 11, 2023, runs through Sunday, August 20, 2023, and includes ticketed performances, art installations in addition to art classes and workshops with dozens of opportunities for free, family-friendly experiences. Learn more at breckcreate.org/bifa.

ABOUT BRECK CREATE: Breck Create aims to build a dynamic, year-round creative community in Breckenridge. The organization's mission is to deliver inspiring creative experiences that enrich the quality of life for all residents and quality of place for visitors. Breck Create supports and serves artists, creatives, cultural enthusiasts, visitors and the community at large by providing a year-round schedule of performances, exhibitions, screenings, art classes and workshops as well as other engagement opportunities.

The organization maintains, manages and operates the Town of Breckenridge's exceptional cultural facilities and also hosts arts-based events in public gathering spaces throughout Breckenridge. Breck Create's core attractions are the Riverwalk Center—a 750-seat, heated, indoor performance venue—and a lively Arts District campus of renovated historic structures that now function as studio spaces for art classes and workshops. These structures also include affordable rentals for local artists and visiting artist-in-residence participants. The Breckenridge Arts District is a certified district within the [Colorado Creative Industries](https://coloradocreativeindustries.com) Creative Districts program.

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