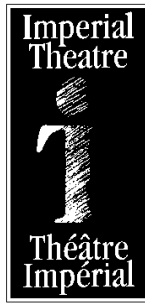


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Unexpected, delightful, refreshing . . . Let it rain!
Cirque Éloize: RAIN
Imperial Theatre — Tuesday, February 23 at 7 p.m.

Picture it: you're in the audience, watching some of the most sensational acrobatics you've ever seen on Imperial Theatre's stage — high-flying trapeze artists, quick handed jugglers, twirling tumblers, mind-bending contortionists — when all of a sudden it starts to rain. Indoors. Right there, before your very eyes, soaking the performers, flooding the stage. What you are witnessing is not an unfortunate accident, but one of the circus-theatre world's most dazzling showcases — **Cirque Éloize's** international touring sensation **RAIN**. Coming to the Fort Reliance Auditorium at Imperial Theatre, **Cirque Éloize** brings its captivating production **RAIN**, complete with acrobatic athleticism, whimsical storylines and about 500 gallons of rain.

At the heart of the circus arts revival, **Cirque Éloize** has been creating moving performances filled with magic since 1993. Continually striving for artistic perfection, it is one of the leading companies in contemporary circus arts. **Cirque Éloize** finds itself amongst the *crème de la crème* of non-animal circus spectaculars such as Cirque du Soleil. But unlike its contemporaries, **Cirque Éloize** trades the big arena shows for the intimacy of the theatre stage with a stunning show that combines time-honoured circus acts with music, dance and theatre in a new, exciting way.

Drawing from centuries old circus artistry, yet entirely original, **Cirque Éloize's RAIN** is a delectable visual feast filled with sensational visual effects, magical feats of skill, imaginative movement and touching moments — and yes, even a little indoor rain! This show feels like the first summer storm after a long hot spell: unexpected, delightful and refreshing. A thrilling performance and fun for the whole family, **RAIN** brings to life a jubilant world filled with drama, surprise, high-flying flips and mind-bending acrobatics evocative of a child at play: fearless, free, unencumbered and ready for adventure.

Cirque Éloize had been touring internationally for over a decade but is returning to Canada to perform two highly anticipated performances of **RAIN** at the Vancouver 2010 Cultural Olympiad. But before Vancouver, **Cirque Éloize** will bring their Broadway hit and international touring sensation across the country, giving audiences of all ages an opportunity to have a theatrical experience of Olympic proportions in their own backyards.

Based on the multidisciplinary talents of its artists, **Cirque Éloize** expresses its innovative nature through theatricality and humanity, and combines circus arts with music, dance and theatre in a break-through and original manner. With six original productions to its credit, **Cirque Éloize** has presented more than 3,000 performances in 330 cities and 30 countries around the world. Amongst its award winning productions, **Cirque Éloize** has garnered eight medals and prizes at the Festival Mondial du Cirque de Demain in Paris, and a Gemini Award for Best Performance in a Performing Arts Program or Series for *Cirque Orchestra* and *Nomade: At Night the Sky is Endless*. The company has also taken part in many festival and events in prestigious venues around the world, such as the Sydney Opera House, New York's Lincoln Center, the Hollywood Bowl and Les Folies Bergères in Paris among many others, and has conquered Broadway with its show **RAIN**. Artist Web site: www.cirque-eloize.com

Don't miss **Cirque Éloize's** spectacular production, **RAIN**. Tickets are \$45, \$40, \$35; Children 12 & under: \$30; FAMILY-4-PAK: \$120 and can be purchased online at www.imperialtheatre.nb.ca, by visiting Imperial Theatre Box Office, or by calling 674-4100 (or 1-800-323-SHOW for out-of-town callers).

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Presented with: