

Cirkus Cirkör from Sweden to present contemporary circus production "Limits" in October (with photos)

Cirkus Cirkör, the pioneer of contemporary circus performance in Sweden, will entertain Hong Kong audiences in October with the production "Limits", which brilliantly deploys acrobatic techniques, stretches physical frontiers and soars beyond borders to reflect on the global refugee crisis.

"Cirkör" in the Cirkus Cirkör's name is a playful combination of the French words "cirque" (circus) and "coeur" (heart). The group eschews animal acts and conventional thrills and spills to embrace people-oriented issues in a masterly synthesis of music, drama, dance and multimedia, creating a distinctive aesthetic all of its own.

In "Limits", the focus is the global refugee crisis, with different circus arts perfectly matched to the theme. Performers engage in tumbling, are thrown in the air or swing by on trapezes, echoing the dilemmas of displacement and difficult journeys, often made across rough seas in rickety craft.

As many countries close their borders to avoid such influxes, Cirkus Cirkör's creative artists set out to spotlight the impacts of these barriers, engaging in routines that test the physical frontiers of endurance. They also illustrate how to redefine and overcome limitations by enhancing flexibility and balance, giving powerful new insights on migrants' plights and humanitarianism.

Cirkus Cirkör, founded in 1995, is the largest cirque nouveau troupe in Sweden. Its mission is to bring contemporary circus to all ages and stages, from kindergarteners to university students, adults and seniors, and to integrate circus arts with major social issues. It runs a circus training school that helps 30 000 people annually to gain greater equilibrium in life. On the social responsibility front, Cirkus Cirkör recruits from all walks of life, including street kids, earning the moniker "circus empire" from the media.

"Limits" is one of the programmes of the World Cultures Festival 2019 – The Nordics. It will be staged at 8pm on October 25 and also at 4pm on October 26 at the Sha Tin Town Hall Auditorium. The programme is performed in English with Chinese surtitles. Tickets priced at \$160, \$240, \$320 and \$420 are now available at URBTIX (www.urbtix.hk). For credit card telephone bookings, please call 2111 5999.

A "Go Nordic!" limited-time offer is valid until September 30, offering a discount of 30 per cent off all full-price tickets on stage programmes.

Organised by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department, the World Cultures Festival 2019 – The Nordics will run from October 18 to November 17. For programme enquiries and concessionary schemes, please call 2370 1044 or visit www.worldfestival.gov.hk.



