



2018-19 New Victory Season Features Nine U.S. Premieres

Highlights include:

MACHINE DE CIRQUE

Award-winning Circus from Québec
Opens September 28

VELOCITY

Britain's Got Talent's David Geaney Joins "Fastest Feet in the World" James Devine
U.S. Premiere Opens November 16

CIRCUS ABYSSINIA: ETHIOPIAN DREAMS

An Ethiopian Circus Spectacle for the Holidays
U.S. Premiere Opens November 30

AJJAAK ON TURTLE ISLAND

Contemporary Native American Fable by IBEX Puppetry from
Grammy Winner Ty Defoe and Heather Henson
Featuring Puppets from Jim Henson's Creature Shop
Opens March 1

SNAP

From South Korea's GRUEJARM Production,
Asian Arts Awards' "Best Production" and Broadway World's "Best Magic Show."
U.S. Premiere Opens April 13

SILENT VOICES: LOVESTATE

Third Installment by Grammy-winning Brooklyn Youth Chorus
Featuring commissions by Pulitzer Prize winners David Lang and Caroline Shaw,
Nico Muhly, Bryce Dessner, Paola Prestini, Toshi Reagon
Opens May 2

Jules Verne's

AROUND THE WORLD IN 80 DAYS

A High-speed, Globe-trotting Comedy from the UK
Adapted by Emmy-nominated Laura Eason and Directed by Theresa Heskins
U.S. Premiere Opens May 10

New York, NY (June 21, 2018) -- The New Victory Theater, dedicated to bringing high quality international productions to New York kids and families, announces its 2018-2019 season. **From September 28, 2018, through June 9, 2019, the New Victory 2018-2019 Season will include nine U.S. Premieres among its 16 productions of theater, circus, dance, puppetry and music from nine different countries around the world.**

The new season begins with madcap mayhem when *MACHINE DE CIRQUE* opens September 28 and runs through October 7, 2018. Recipients of the Trophée Charlie-Chaplin, Québec's Machine de Cirque boasts performers from Cirque du Soleil, Cirque Eloize and 7 Fingers (Les 7 Doigts), who fly high above the stage, swing by their toes, bicycle upside-down and backwards, and flip and fly with a Guinness World Record-holding count for the most consecutive backflips on a teeterboard.

In dance, Ireland's **James Devine** (Guinness World Record Holder for "Fastest Feet in the World"), five-time World Irish Dance Champion **David Geaney** (*Britain's Got Talent*) and

AnneMarie Keaney team up for *VELOCITY* (U.S. Premiere November 16 - 25, 2018). A bold and blazing tap performance backed by a rocking Celtic band and a scratch DJ, *VELOCITY* celebrates the past, present and future of Irish dance.

Making its U.S. Premiere November 30 - December 30, *CIRCUS ABYSSINIA: ETHIOPIAN DREAMS* expertly fuses heart-stopping stunts with the irresistible rhythms of African music and song in a production inspired by the success story of the show's producers, famed juggling duo **Bibi and Bichu** (Tim Burton's *Dumbo*, BBC's *Justin's House*, Olivier Award-winning English National Opera production of *Akhnetan*, Gandini Juggling, Giffords Circus). A troupe of 12 fills the New Vic with agile tumblers who ricochet around the stage, elastic contortionists who twist into unfathomable shapes and expert jugglers who exchange an endless array of objects in a circus spectacle for the holiday season.

Written by Grammy Award winner **Ty Defoe** (*Straight White Men, Come to Me Great Mystery*) and featuring music by **Kevin Tarrant** of The SilverCloud Singers and Grammy nominee **Dawn Avery** with Grammy winner **Larry Mitchell** (*Totemic Flute Chants*), *AJJAAK ON TURTLE ISLAND* (March 1 - 10, 2019), based on original storyboards by **Heather Henson** and featuring puppets from **Jim Henson's Creature Shop™**, brings together an ensemble of North American First Nations Peoples. A production by IBEX Puppetry, this spectacle of artistry weaves together indigenous songs, languages and dance into an allegory about the dangerous effects of living out of balance with our Mother Earth.

The Grammy-winning **Brooklyn Youth Chorus**, conducted by Founder & Artistic Director Dianne Berkun Menaker, returns to The New Victory with *SILENT VOICES: LOVESTATE* (May 2 - 5, 2019), the third installment of their captivating *Silent Voices* series. Driven by their own personal stories and struggles, Brooklyn Youth Chorus harnesses the power of their voices to confront the challenges of racism, sexism and their own identities and orientations. *SILENT VOICES: LOVESTATE* will feature commissions by Pulitzer Prize winners **David Lang** and **Caroline Shaw**, **Nico Muhly**, **Paola Prestini**, **Toshi Reagon** and **Bryce Dessner** of the band The National, among others.

Brilliantly staged and boggling to the mind, GRUEJARM Production's *SNAP* (U.S. Premiere, April 13 - 28, 2019) is a wild mix of illusion, mime and media featuring an eclectic ensemble of South Korean artists who will astonish you with dexterous sleight of hand, Chaplin-esque vaudevillian comedy and ingenious visual effects. When three tricksters with strange and unusual abilities stumble through a mysterious door, they meet a variety of mystical characters to play with space, time and the otherworldly in a marvelous, magical cabaret that won Asian Arts Awards' "Best Production" and Broadway World's "Best Magic Show" at Edinburgh Festival Fringe.

From **New Vic Theatre Staffordshire** to The New Victory Theater in New York comes Jules Verne's *AROUND THE WORLD IN 80 DAYS* (U.S. Premiere May 10 - 19, 2019), adapted by Emmy-nominated **Laura Eason** (*House of Cards, Sex with Strangers, Blue Night*) and directed by **Theresa Heskins** (*Snow Queen*, 2017 UK Theatre Award for Best Show for Children and Young People). Featuring a cast of 8 who play over 125 characters, this fast-paced, globe-trotting theatrical romp co-produced with Olivier Award winners **Kenny Wax** (*The Play That Goes Wrong, Once On This Island, Top Hat*) and **Simon Friend** (Douglas Carter Beane's *The Closet*, Florian Zeller's *The Height of the Storm*) is jam-packed with slapstick hilarity, six trains, five boats, four fights, three dances, two circus acts and an elephant!

Also from England, New International Encounter brings us *BEAUTY AND THE BEAST* (U.S. Premiere October 26 - November 11, 2018), directed by Alex Byrne and produced with Cambridge Junction and Tobacco Factory Theatres. This rowdy and rustic re-telling of the French fable features an ensemble of six actor-musicians who weave spellbinding narration, clever dialogue and a live, Jazz Age score into a ferociously fun show about love, family and the notion that beauty—and beastliness—are only skin-deep.

In the spring, London-based Theatre Re creates a compellingly powerful narrative about a father experiencing early onset dementia in *THE NATURE OF FORGETTING* (March 23 - 31, 2019).

Through intricate choreography and a cinematic live musical score, and with consultation from neuroscientist Kate Jeffery, Theatre Re creates an entrancing physical production on the fragility of the human condition that will move you to places where words cannot.

And all the way from Adelaide, Australia, Helpmann-nominated Gravity & Other Myths (Winner of an Australian Dance Award, Best Circus Adelaide Fringe Award and a Green Room Award for Outstanding Circus) brings a bare bones, bared souls performance that is simultaneously raw, frantic and delicate in *A SIMPLE SPACE* (February 9 - 24, 2019). With additional limited onstage seating, the audience is brought in close to feel the heat, see the sweat and hear every breath as this talented, tight-knit troupe saturates their stripped-down spectacle with high-energy athleticism.

For the youngest New Yorkers, The New Victory brings two U.S. Premieres and a brand new work for babies by New York's own Spellbound Theatre (developed as part of the theater's new work development program, New Victory LabWorks). Committed to nurturing a love of theater for the littlest theatergoers, The New Victory presents at The Duke on 42nd Street:

- *BOING!* (U.S. Premiere December 7 - 23, 2018) bursts with the holiday spirit in this dance-theater work created for ages 2-5. Recipient of a 2017 OFFIE (Off-West End) Award for Best Production for Children and Young People, *BOING!*, directed by **Sally Cookson** (Bristol Old Vic, National Theatre's *Jane Eyre* and *Peter Pan*), combines comedy, acrobatics and breakdance to dazzling effect, perfectly capturing the delirious excitement of waiting for Santa to arrive on the most magical night of the year.
- *THE WORLD INSIDE ME* (March 29 - April 7, 2019)
Created by Spellbound Theatre (American Alliance for Theater and Education's 2017 Outstanding New Children's Theater Company), *THE WORLD INSIDE ME* uses gentle interactive play, live music, dance and visual effects to illustrate the inner life of our growing bodies in an innovative production presented in two iterations: one for ages 0-2 and another for ages 2-4.
- *BOUT A BOUT* (U.S. Premiere May 31 - June 9, 2019)
For ages 2-4, an ordinary piece of rope transforms into a lovable little hero who sets out on an adventure full of challenges and excitement. Along the way, this intrepid bit of twine encounters curious aquatic creatures, a cranky motorist and some springy, stringy playmates, all brought to life through the wondrous and inventive puppetry of Le Clan des Songses (*Cité*, New Vic 2016; *Fragile*, New Vic 2013).

To welcome kids ages 4-7 to the "big theater," The New Victory presents:

- Kenya's *TINGA TINGA TALES - THE MUSICAL* (U.S. Premiere October 13 - 20, 2018)
A new musical brimming with African folklore and based on the popular BBC and Disney cartoon series, *TINGA TINGA TALES - THE MUSICAL* is directed by Emmy Award-nominated *Tinga Tinga Tales* producer and writer **Claudia Lloyd** (*Charlie and Lola*), Kenyan celebrity pop singer-songwriter **Eric Wainaina** (*Mo Faya*, New York Theatre Festival) and producer **Sheba Hirst**.
- England's *EMILY BROWN AND THE THING* (U.S. Premiere January 26 - February 3, 2019)
Tall Stories (*Gruffalo*, New Vic 2015; *The Snail and the Whale*, New Vic 2014) returns to the New Vic with an imaginative musical adventure based on the much-loved book by **Cressida Cowell** (*How to Train your Dragon*) and **Neal Layton** following sell-out runs on its UK tour and the Sydney Opera House, among other international engagements.
- *FIESTA CON SONIA DE LOS SANTOS* (World Premiere March 15 - 16, 2019)
Sunny songstress Sonia De Los Santos will play songs in both English and Spanish from *Mi Viaje: De Nuevo León to the New York Island* (Parents' Choice Gold Award winner) and her newest album, *Alegria*, when her musical friends from all over Latin America bring instruments from their homelands to celebrate each other's heritage and culture.

Programs, artists and ticket prices are subject to change. Please see attachment for complete show descriptions, profiles and pricing for all New Victory 2018-2019 season programming.

Access & Engagement

The New Victory invites families to explore, experiment and engage with the performing arts in **free arts-based activities before and after every show**. This thoughtfully designed content, led by New Victory Education staff and Teaching Artists, changes to reflect the current production so that families discover new and exciting hands-on opportunities to learn more about the art forms, artists and themes on stage with every visit.

The New Victory lobbies, recently redesigned with the modern family in mind, boast improved accessibility, energy-efficient restrooms, an updated merchandise stand and a new cafe with kid-friendly food and beverage options, as well as the free lockers, stroller parking and booster seats New Victory patrons know and love.

Additionally, The New Victory continues to provide **TXT Marks the Spot**, a free text-based scavenger hunt about the Theater and the show on stage, **Talk-Backs**, an opportunity to ask questions and hear from the show's cast and creative team and online **Family Activities**, free creative play activities, inspired by the current New Victory show, for families to try at home.

Lastly, in consultation with Autism Friendly Spaces, Inc., select performances of *Beauty and the Beast*, *Circus Abyssinia: Ethiopian Dreams*, *Emily Brown and the Thing* and *Ajijaak on Turtle Island* will be **Autism-Friendly Performances**, modified to accommodate and support the sensory, social and emotional needs of individuals with autism spectrum disorder. The New Vic also provides **Sign-Interpreted** and **Audio-Described** performances throughout the season.

Ticket & Membership Information

Full price tickets range from \$17 - \$59 based on seating location and show. Theatergoers who buy tickets to three or more New Victory shows automatically save up to 40% on tickets all year long and qualify for free Membership benefits, including free unlimited exchanges up to 48 hours in advance, early access to New Victory programming, free invitations to New Victory LabWorks events and savings on New Victory Family Workshops.

Tickets are available online (NewVictory.org) and by phone (646.223.3010). For box office window hours, please visit NewVictory.org/BoxOffice. Beginning September 4, The New Victory Theater box office window (209 West 42nd Street) will be open Sunday and Monday from 11am-5pm and Tuesday through Saturday from 12pm-7pm.

Credits

As part of the nonprofit The New 42nd Street, The New Victory Theater is supported, in part, with public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council; the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and the New York State Legislature; and the National Endowment for the Arts, as well as the Board of Directors, the New Vic Council, and our dedicated foundation, corporate and individual donors.

About The New Victory Theater

The New Victory Theater brings kids to the arts and the arts to kids. Created in 1995 on iconic 42nd Street, this nonprofit theater has become a standard-bearer of quality performing arts for young audiences in the United States. Reflecting and serving the multicultural city it calls home, The New Victory is committed to arts access for all students, teachers, kids, families and communities of New York to experience and engage with the exemplary international programming of theater, dance, circus, music, puppetry and opera on its stages. A leader in arts education, youth employment and audience engagement, The New Victory Theater has been honored by the President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities with the National Arts and Humanities Youth Program Award, by Americans for the Arts with a national Arts Education Award, and by the Drama Desk for "providing enchanting, sophisticated children's theater that appeals to the child in all of us, and for nurturing a love of theater in young people."

About The New 42nd Street

Founded in 1990, The New 42nd Street is an independent nonprofit organization charged with the continuous cultural revival of 42nd Street between 7th and 8th Avenues, building on the foundation of seven historic theaters to make extraordinary performing arts and cultural engagement part of everyone's life. The New 42nd Street fulfills this purpose by ensuring the ongoing vibrancy of 42nd Street's historic theaters; supporting performing artists in the creation of their work at the New 42nd Street Studios and The Duke on 42nd Street; creating arts access and education at The New Victory Theater, New York's premier theater for kids and families; and through the New 42nd Street Youth Corps, its model youth development initiative, which pairs life skills workshops and mentorship with paid employment in the arts for NYC youth. Inspired by the city it serves, The New 42nd Street is committed to the transformational power of the arts.

The New Victory Theater 2018-2019 Season

NY Premiere

MACHINE DE CIRQUE

Machine de Cirque

Québec City, Canada

September 28 - October 7, 2018

The New Victory Theater

Full price tickets are \$17, \$22, \$31 or \$42 based on seat locations.

Direction and Original Concept by Vincent Dubé

Music by Frédéric Lebrasseur

Costume Design by Sébastien Dionne

Lighting Design by Bruno Matte

Sound Design by René Talbot

Mechanical Engineer: David St-Onge

Represented by Elsie Management, Laura Colby, Director

Cast includes circus artists Ugo Dario, Raphaël Dubé, Maxim Laurin, Yohann Fradette-Trépanier and musician Frédéric Lebrasseur

Hello? Is anyone out there? The five circus artists of *MACHINE DE CIRQUE*, whose performers are from Cirque du Soleil, Cirque Eloize and 7 Fingers (Les 7 Doigts de la Main), are building a contraption to communicate with the outside world. Thing is, their fun-loving natures keep distracting them! Courageous, touching and funny, these awe-inspiring acrobats, including the Guinness World Record-holding duo for the most consecutive backflips on a teeterboard, masterfully bicycle upside-down and backwards and flip and fly high above the stage. Making mayhem of their scrap metal set with a live percussive soundscape, these recipients of the Trophée Charlie-Chaplin at the Festival International de Cirque Vaudreuil-Dorion dazzle with stunning feats and endless comedic madness.

Founded in 2013 by **Vincent Dubé** (2017 recipient of the Prix du Rayonnement International), Machine de Cirque is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to bring together various artists from the arts and technology world to create original circus show productions. The Québec City company also encourages exchange and collaboration with other regional cultural organizations to promote home-grown talent and develop local and regional expertise.

U.S. Premiere

TINGA TINGA TALES - THE MUSICAL

Tinga Rain Productions

Nairobi, Kenya

October 13 - 20, 2018

The New Victory Theater

Full price tickets are \$25.

Directed by Claudia Lloyd

Produced by Sheba Hirst

Music by Eric Wainaina

Choreographed by Edu Ooro

Cast includes Alvan Gatitu, Ray Kibet, Eddie Kimani, Miriam Macharia, Elsaphan Njora, Kendi Nkonge, Atemi Oyungu, Karimi Wamae Rimbui and Eric Wainaina.
The band includes Chris Adwar, Benjamin Kabaseke, Victor Kimetto, Marvin Maveke, Ted Mwangi and Tetu Shani.

“Jambo, human beings!” Welcome to *TINGA TINGA TALES - THE MUSICAL*, where Lion, Monkey, Elephant and their larger-than-life animal friends leap onto the stage from the pages of the beloved books and the popular international cartoon series. Brimming with African folklore, storytelling, and live music, *TINGA TINGA TALES - THE MUSICAL* is directed by Emmy Award-nominated producer and writer **Claudia Lloyd**, Kenyan celebrity pop singer/songwriter **Eric Wainaina** (*Mo Faya*, New York Theatre Festival), who also plays the role of Monkey, and producer **Sheba Hirst**. With a live, onstage band, this lively musical explores mysteries from the animal kingdom like: Why do giraffes have long necks? And why do chameleons change color?

The musical is based on the cartoon series *Tinga Tinga Tales*, created by Lloyd in collaboration with Nairobi-based Homeboyz, which aired on BBC and Disney US and was later translated into a series of popular children’s books by the same name. Lloyd is also lauded for her work on the groundbreaking children’s series *Charlie and Lola* for which she received three British Animation Awards and four BAFTA Awards, the highest prize given by the British Academy of Film and Television Arts.

Tinga Rain Productions is a new stage production company established by Hirst, Lloyd and Wainaina to produce world class theater, media and music events for Kenya and beyond. They collaborate with the very best of Kenyan musical and acting talent, and produce truly rewarding and professional experiences for a diverse and burgeoning theater audience. In an increasingly fractured world, Tinga Rain’s ambitions are to celebrate coming together and promoting a world that benefits from sharing stories, music, art and happiness.

U.S. Premiere

BEAUTY AND THE BEAST

New International Encounter (NIE), and a
Cambridge Junction and Tobacco Factory Theatres co-production
Cambridge & Bristol, England, and Asker, Norway
October 26 - November 11, 2018
The New Victory Theater
Full price tickets are \$17, \$22, \$31 or \$42 based on seat locations.

Directed by Alex Byrne
Produced by Sarah Crompton
Set Design by Stefanie Mueller
Lighting Design by Trui Malten
Musical Direction by Elliot Davis
Cast includes Martin Bonger, Elliot Davis, Greg Hall, Sara Lessore, Samantha Sutherland and Ben Tolley
Funded by the Arts Council of England

Brimming with surprises and broad comic delights, this rowdy and rustic re-telling of the familiar French fable features a feisty heroine, a preposterous pair of loudmouthed, spoiled sisters and an enchanted prince with some monstrously bad pick-up lines. Devised by **New International Encounter** (NIE), Cambridge Junction and Tobacco Factory Theatres, and directed by NIE founder and artistic director Alex Byrne, ***BEAUTY AND THE BEAST*** features an ensemble of six actor-musicians who all play instruments whilst performing. This play with music weaves spellbinding narration, clever dialogue and a Jazz Age score into a ferociously fun show about love, family and the notion that beauty—and beastliness—are only skin-deep.

NIE (*Museum of Memories*, New Vic 2015; *Past Half Remembered*, New Vic 2008), recipient of the ASSITEJ Award for Artistic Excellence, is an international and multilingual theater company producing work for and with young people based in Cambridge, England and Asker, Norway. NIE delivers high-quality creative projects with an international outlook, working in a way that allows people of all abilities to access our work as audience, participants, collaborators and creative artists. Bringing together theater artists from different countries to combine physical theater, multiple languages, live music and storytelling, NIE has created 32 shows and toured to 34 countries, touring across four continents, since 2001.

U.S. Premiere

VELOCITY

David Geaney & James Devine

Dingle and Clare, Ireland

November 16 - 25, 2018

The New Victory Theater

Full price tickets are \$17, \$22, \$31 or \$42 based on seat locations.

Created and Choreographed by James Devine and David Geaney
Featuring Principal Dancers James Devine and David Geaney with Dancer AnneMarie Keaney
Band includes Alec Brown, Moises Mas Garcia, Sean Leahy, Duncan Wickel and DJ Jack Bunga Dempsey

Don't miss your chance to see **James Devine**, the "Fastest Feet in the World" and five-time World Irish Dance Champion **David Geaney** in a bold and blazing tap performance for the ages. Two illustrious Irish hoofers come together in an intimate, no-nonsense jam session of impossible scuffles, shuffles and every time step in between. Backed by a rocking Celtic band and a scratch DJ, and featuring the award-winning dancer AnneMarie Keaney, **VELOCITY** is a high-octane celebration of the past, present and future of Irish dance. **VELOCITY** premiered at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe in 2017, and is scheduled to embark on its world tour in August 2018.

Dingle native David Geaney is a five-time World Champion Dancer who went on to national acclaim as a semifinalist in *Britain's Got Talent*. At age 16, he became the lead male dancer in several Irish dance shows and in 2014 he received the Man of the Year by *Irish Dancing Magazine*. Most recently, he appeared on Ireland's leading talk show, RTE's *The Late Late Show*. After amassing numerous major titles including All Ireland, European, All Scotland and Great Britain Championships, he now set his sights on choreographing and performing original dance works.

James Devine (*Tapeire*, New Vic 2007), a three-time World Champion Dancer, is officially certified by Guinness World Records as "The Fastest Dancer in the World" with 38 taps per second. From a young age Devine starred in popular Irish dance shows *Lord of the Dance* and *GaelForce*. He has guest performed with the bands Cherish The Ladies and The Chieftains on their world tours, and has appeared on major television shows worldwide, including *LIVE with Regis and Kelly* (New York), the *Royal Variety Show* (London) and MTV Italia (Milan), as well as performing live at the 69th Annual Academy Awards in Los Angeles.

U.S. Premiere

CIRCUS ABYSSINIA: ETHIOPIAN DREAMS

Bibi and Bichu

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

November 30 - December 30, 2018

The New Victory Theater

Full price tickets are \$17, \$22, \$31 or \$42 based on seat locations.

Created by Bibi and Bichu Tesfamariam
Featuring the Circus Abyssinia Troupe: Etsegenet Ashenafi, Endalkachew Belaynehe, Tesfamichael Bilal, Betelhem Dejene, Befekadu Esmael, Fikir Gebremedhin, Semeret Getachew, Daniel Gezahegn, Abraham Lemma, Ermiyas Manayeh, Alemayehu Mulugeta, Ezera Nigusse, Helen Shimelse, Abraham Tadesse and Tarekegn Teshome

This holiday season, experience the magical journey of two Ethiopian brothers, Bibi and Bichu, who realize a lifelong wish to run away with the circus. In ***CIRCUS ABYSSINIA: ETHIOPIAN DREAMS***, two young boys discover a world of wonder full of dreamers like them--agile tumblers who ricochet around the stage, elastic contortionists who twist into unfathomable shapes and expert jugglers who exchange an endless array of objects. ***CIRCUS ABYSSINIA: ETHIOPIAN DREAMS*** weaves together heart-stopping stunts with the irresistible rhythms of Ethiopian music and song to create a spectacle of infectious joy and effervescent energy.

Bibi and Bichu are two real-life brothers who saw a circus on the television and vowed to one day be in the Big Top. But for all its rich and vibrant cultural traditions, Ethiopia had no circus tradition so the brothers taught and trained themselves, flipping and tumbling for the jostling crowds of their hometown. As

teenagers, they joined the emerging Circus Jimma and toured throughout Europe, eventually moving to London over twenty years ago. Since then, Bibi and Bichu have become an acclaimed juggling duo, appearing on BBC's *Justin's House*, the Olivier Award-winning English National Opera production of *Akhnetan* and with the performing groups Gandini Juggling and Giffords Circus. Bibi and Bichu will appear in Tim Burton's upcoming film, *Dumbo*, scheduled for release in 2019.

To support the next generation of circus artists in Ethiopia, Bibi and Bichu have sponsored Circus Wingate in Addis Ababa since 2010. There, they discovered a troupe of incredible acrobats who started out like they did, as buskers and street performers honing their skills with no expectation of pay on city streets. In 2017, the brothers established their own company and teamed up with this troupe to create the first circus created for and by Ethiopians: **CIRCUS ABYSSINIA**.

U.S. Premiere

BOING!

Travelling Light Theatre Company

Bristol, England

December 7 - 23, 2018

The Duke on 42nd Street

Full price tickets are \$20.

Choreographed and performed by Wilkie Branson and Joël Daniel

Understudy: Will Pegna

Directed by Sally Cookson

Music Composition by Alex Vann

Designed by Katie Sykes

Lighting Design by Tim Streader

Dramaturgy by Mike Akers

Puppetry Direction by Chris Pirie

Produced by Heidi Vaughan

"If you want Santa to come, you have to go to sleep..." But Joël and Wilkie are way too excited for snoozing! Recipient of a 2017 OFFIE (Off-West End) Award for Best Production for Children and Young People aged 0-7, ***BOING!*** is an energetic and enchanting piece of dance-theater, which captures the delirious excitement of waiting for Santa to arrive on the most magical night of the year. Rambunctious pillow fights, robot dance battles and silly sibling shenanigans guarantee to leave kids bursting with holiday spirit!

Directed by Sally Cookson (Bristol Old Vic, National Theatre's *Jane Eyre* and *Peter Pan*) and choreographed and performed by award-winning b-boys Wilkie Branson (Sadler's Wells' *Varmints*, Unicorn Theatre's *The Velveteen Rabbit*, New Vic 2016) and Joël Daniel (Tobacco Factory Theatres' *Cinderella*, Bristol Young Vic's *Pictures at an Exhibition* and Bristol Old Vic's *Peter Pan*), ***Boing!*** combines comedy, acrobatics and breakdance to dazzling effect when their bed turns into a giant trampoline.

Travelling Light (*Into The West*, New Vic 2000) creates outstanding theater for and with young people that inspires their thinking, engages their emotions and fires their imaginations. For over 30 years the Bristol-based company has received international acclaim and toured to theaters and festivals throughout the UK, in Europe and beyond. Central to the company's core values is the importance of taking enough time to create high quality work through an extended period of research and development, exploring new ideas, artforms and inspirations. Travelling Light also runs an extensive program of education and creative projects, enabling young artists aged 0 – 25 to grow and shape the work of the company.

U.S. Premiere

EMILY BROWN AND THE THING

Tall Stories

London, England

January 26 - February 3, 2019

The New Victory Theater

Full price tickets are \$25.

Directed by Olivia Jacobs

Creative Producer: Toby Mitchell

Designed by Isla Shaw

Puppet Design by Yvonne Stone

Lighting Design by James Whiteside

Choreography by Luanna Priestman

Music by Jon Fiber & Andy Shaw for JollyGoodTunes

How will Emily Brown ever get to sleep with The Thing making such a racket?! A friendly but woeful creature, The Thing has lost his Cuddly in the Dark and Scary Wood and won't stop crying. Plucky, brave and determined to save the day, Emily and her trusty sidekick, Stanley the rabbit, leap into action. **Tall Stories** (*Gruffalo*, New Vic 2015; *The Snail and the Whale*, New Vic 2014) returns with an imaginative musical adventure based on the much-loved book by **Cressida Cowell** (*How to Train your Dragon*) and **Neal Layton**. Following sell-out runs at Edinburgh Festival Fringe, a UK tour and international performances at Sydney Opera House, IPAY, Dubai, Hong Kong and Paris, ***EMILY BROWN AND THE THING*** makes its U.S. Premiere at The New Victory Theater to begin its North American tour.

Tall Stories brings great stories to life for audiences of all ages. The company was founded in 1997 by joint artistic directors Olivia Jacobs and Toby Mitchell. Since then, the company has produced 27 original shows, toured throughout the UK, Europe, North America, Asia and Australia. Tall Stories is a registered charity which has become internationally recognized for its exciting blend of storytelling theater, original music and lots of laughs.

NY Premiere

A SIMPLE SPACE

Gravity & Other Myths

Adelaide, Australia

February 9 - 24, 2019

The New Victory Theater

Full price tickets for onstage seating are \$49.

All other seats are \$22, \$31 or \$42 based on seat locations.

Created and Performed by Gravity & Other Myths

Directed by Lachlan Binns, Jascha Boyce, Jacob Randell, Martin Schreiber and Triton Tunis-Mitchell

Music by Elliot Zoerner

The seven audacious acrobats of Helpmann-nominated Gravity & Other Myths set audiences alight with non-stop feats of unbelievable acrobatic ability and exhilarating human physicality in ***A SIMPLE SPACE***. With limited onstage seating, the audience is brought in close to feel the heat, see the sweat and hear every breath as this talented, tight-knit troupe and their dynamic drummer saturate their stripped-down spectacle with high-energy athleticism for a performance that is simultaneously raw, frantic and delicate.

Winner of an Australian Dance Award, Best Circus Adelaide Fringe Award and a Green Room Award for Outstanding Circus, ***A SIMPLE SPACE*** has achieved huge international success, receiving multiple awards, and having performed more than 500 times across 24 countries. The company's second show, *Backbone*, created in 2017, has already been nominated for multiple awards, has toured to festivals internationally and continues to receive stellar reviews.

Gravity & Other Myths is an internationally renowned circus company pushing the boundaries of contemporary circus. Formed in Adelaide, Australia, the company has rocketed to stellar acclaim with a series of disarmingly accomplished ensemble works that utilize an honest approach to performance to create shows with a focus on human connection and acrobatic virtuosity.

AJJAAK ON TURTLE ISLAND

IBEX Puppetry

New York, New York

March 1 - 10, 2019

The New Victory Theater

Full price tickets are \$17, \$22, \$31 or \$42 based on seat locations.

Co-Directed by Ty Defoe and Heather Henson

Written by Ty Defoe

Lyrics by Ty Defoe and Dawn Avery

Music by Dawn Avery & Larry Mitchell, Kevin Tarrant and Ty Defoe

Based on original storyboards written and drawn by Heather Henson

Puppet Design and Fabrication by Jim Henson's Creature Shop™

Kites morph into soaring birds and branches transform into a gentle deer when visionary puppet artist **Heather Henson** and Grammy Award winner **Ty Defoe** (*Come to Me Great Mystery*) bring together an ensemble of North American First Nations Peoples to tell the tale of Ajiiaak, a young whooping crane who must face her first migration south. Indigenous songs, languages, and dance weave together in a spectacle of artistry to create this affecting fable about the dangerous effects of living out of balance with our Mother Earth. With puppets from **Jim Henson's Creature Shop™** and music by Defoe, Grammy nominee **Dawn Avery** with Grammy Award winner **Larry Mitchell** (*Totemic Flute Chants*) and **Kevin Tarrant** of The SilverCloud Singers, *Ajiiaak on Turtle Island* takes flight in a celebration of the natural world.

AJJAAK ON TURTLE ISLAND made its world premiere at La Mama Experimental Theater in NYC in February 2018. The production was developed with an ensemble from the Arawaka, Cheyenne River Sioux, Echota Cherokee, Ho-Chunk, Hopi, Kuna, Mohawk, Nde', Ojibwe, Oneida, Rappahannock and Tsalagi Nations to tell the tale of Ajiiaak, a young whooping crane who migrates across Turtle Island (North America) from Canada down to the Gulf Coast. Ajiiaak's story puts forward visions from indigenous communities to reach the next generation of storytellers and change-makers.

IBEX Puppetry is an entertainment company dedicated to promoting puppetry in all of its mediums, including film, stage, gallery exhibits, workshops and artist presentations. Founded in 2000 by Heather Henson, IBEX has been the recipient of multiple UNIMA (Union Internationale de la Marionette) Awards. The company also produces Heather Henson's Environmental Spectacles and Sing-Along events, and nurtures the creation and continuance of contemporary puppet works by independent artists through the Handmade Puppet Dreams film series, The Puppet Slam Network and IBEX Presents.

World Premiere

FIESTA CON SONIA DE LOS SANTOS

Sonia De Los Santos

New York, New York

March 15 - 16, 2019

The New Victory Theater

Full price tickets are \$25.

¡Hola! It's fiesta time and everyone's invited! Sunny songstress **Sonia De Los Santos** is hosting a party on the New Victory stage, and her musical friends are arriving from all over Latin America to join in the fun. Everyone's brought an instrument from their homeland and is ready to sing, dance and celebrate each other's heritage and culture. Playing songs from *Mi Viaje: De Nuevo León to the New York Island* (Parents' Choice Gold Award winner) and her newest album, *Alegría*, Sonia "will show how the songs of her native Mexico have enriched her life in the United States, and vice versa" (*The New York Times*). ¡Los esperamos!

In *FIESTA CON SONIA DE LOS SANTOS*, the music and musicians will represent several Latin American countries, including Mexico, Colombia, Puerto Rico and Venezuela, with messages of joyful and communal music-making across cultures. Most songs will be sung in Spanish.

Sonia De Los Santos was born and raised in Monterrey, Mexico, and in 2007 she started touring the world singing in English and Spanish, playing guitar and jarana, and lighting up the stage with Grammy Award winning group Dan Zanes And Friends (New Vic, 2008). Now with her own multicultural band, she has created a unique concert experience filled with original songs, Latin American party tunes and new

bilingual versions of American classics for a personal, yet universal, musical story from a soulful and important new voice in family music.

NY Premiere

THE NATURE OF FORGETTING

Theatre Re

London, England

March 23 - 31, 2019

The New Victory Theater

Full price tickets are \$17, \$22, \$31 or \$42 based on seat locations.

Conceived and Directed by Guillaume Pigé

Music Direction by Alex Judd

Flying downhill on a bicycle. Whispering with a sweetheart. Wedding toasts and first dances. When the past begins to dissolve for Tom, a father experiencing early onset dementia, happy childhood moments collide with momentous adult milestones in ***THE NATURE OF FORGETTING***. Through intricate choreography and a cinematic live musical score, London-based Theatre Re creates a compellingly powerful narrative of heartwarming humanity that will move you to places where words cannot.

Collaborating with London neuroscientist Kate Jeffery, Theatre Re has created a moving articulation of the countless dimensions of memory and amnesia, linking science with real life experiences. ***THE NATURE OF FORGETTING*** premiered in January 2017 at the London International Mime Festival.

Established in 2009 by Actor and Director **Guillaume Pigé**, Theatre Re is quickly becoming an international standard-bearer for powerful physical productions on the human condition. A London-based ensemble creating thought-provoking and moving work, Theatre Re performances examine the fragility of life in a compelling mix of silently powerful narrative theater and live music. Theatre Re productions have toured widely in the UK as well as in France, Ireland, Switzerland and Germany. Festival appearances include the Edinburgh Festival Fringe, London International Mime Festival, and Avignon Off in France.

NY Premiere

THE WORLD INSIDE ME

Spellbound Theatre

New York, New York

March 29 - April 7, 2019

The Duke on 42nd Street

Full price tickets are \$20.

Developed as part of New Victory LabWorks at The New Victory Theater in New York City.

The World Inside Me was co-produced with and received its world premiere at Chicago Children's Theatre, February 2019, Jacqueline Russell, Artistic Director.

Directed by Lauren Jost

Created by Christine Dehne and Lauren Jost

Original Music and Lyrics by Jono Waldman

Wobbly first steps, ouchie boo-boos, funny faces and lilting lullabies. ***THE WORLD INSIDE ME*** uses gentle interactive play, live music, dance and visual effects to illustrate the inner life of our growing bodies. Explore the sights, sounds and sensory surprises that come with each new day in this innovative production, presented in two iterations: one for ages 0-2 and another for ages 2-4.

Spellbound Theatre (American Alliance for Theater and Education's 2017 Outstanding New Children's Theater Company) is a leader in the emerging field of American theater devoted to creating original, multi-disciplinary performance for the very young. Spellbound crafts immediate, personal, and magical theatrical experiences that spark a life-long relationship with the performing arts. Now in its sixth year of operation, the company produces original plays for audiences ages 0-5 and conducts early childhood education programs and community events for families. Best known for their rich, sensory performance

style, Spellbound creates theater for a wide range of venues like tiny stories in a basket that can travel into a classroom, immersive and tactile studio shows and full-scale productions for mid-sized theaters.

They have performed to sold-out family audiences as a multi-year company-in-residence at the Old Stone House in Park Slope, Brooklyn, and have been 2014-15 and 2016-17 New Victory Theater LabWorks Artists. In recognition of their innovative work in theater for young audiences, Spellbound has received multiple grant awards from The Jim Henson Foundation, the New York State Council on the Arts administered through the Brooklyn Arts Council, and the NYC Department of Cultural Affairs.

U.S. Premiere

SNAP

GRUEJARM Production

Busan, South Korea

April 13 - 28, 2019

The New Victory Theater

Full price tickets are \$17, \$22, \$31 or \$42 based on seat locations.

Produced and Directed by Casa Kim

Art Direction and Lighting Design by Hyung June Kim

Production & Special Effects by Hun Lee

Stage Design by Cheol An Gwak and An-ho Lee

Costume Design by Hak Soo Kim and Young Min Kim

Sound Design by Wonil Kim

Coordinated by Sine Kim and Sang Min Choi

Cast includes Cheol Seung Choi, Tae Won Kim, Young Ju Kim, Young Min Kim, Chang Min Lee, Yeoung Min Lee, Mu Joon Joung

Poof! Presto! Snap! Brilliantly staged, ***SNAP*** is a wild mix of illusion, mime and media featuring an eclectic ensemble of South Korean artists who will boggle your mind with their impressive powers of prestidigitation. When three tricksters with strange and unusual abilities stumble through a mysterious door, they meet a variety of mystical characters to play with space, time and the otherworldly. Mixing dexterous sleight of hand, Chaplin-esque vaudevillian comedy and ingenious visual effects, ***SNAP*** conjures a marvelous, magical cabaret.

SNAP performed for sold-out crowds at Edinburgh Festival Fringe in both 2016 and 2017, and was awarded the Asian Arts Awards' "Best Production" and Broadway World's "Best Magic Show."

GRUEJARM (Glorious, Rare, Unique, Exciting, Joyful Arts and Rapt Mystery) Production aims to develop, distribute and promote Korean cultural arts through international exchange. Formed in 2010 along with the Magic Korea Federation of Cultural and Artistic Content Production Department, GRUEJARM has created and planned a variety of events, including the Federation of International Society of Magic Asian Championships. Since then, the company has produced original, interdisciplinary cultural events and performances, and served as consultants and agents for Korean artists.

NY Premiere

SILENT VOICES: LOVESTATE

Brooklyn Youth Chorus

Brooklyn, New York

May 2 - 5, 2019

The New Victory Theater

Full price tickets are \$17, \$22, \$31 or \$42 based on seat locations.

Produced and Performed by Brooklyn Youth Chorus

Conceived and Conducted by Dianne Berkun Menaker

Featuring Commissions by David Lang, Caroline Shaw, Nico Muhly, Paola

Prestini, Toshi Reagon, Bryce Dessner, Bora Yoon and Shara Nova, among others

Soaring melodies, interlacing harmonies, and the ethereal voices of the Grammy-winning **Brooklyn Youth Chorus**, conducted by Founder & Artistic Director **Dianne Berkun Menaker**, will echo through The New Victory with ***SILENT VOICES: LOVESTATE***. Driven by their own personal stories and struggles, a chorus of

culturally and socioeconomically diverse New York City youth harness the power of their voices to confront the challenges of racism and sexism, as well as their own identities, orientations, boundaries and belonging. Featuring commissions by Pulitzer Prize winners **David Lang and Caroline Shaw, Nico Muhly, Paola Prestini, Toshi Reagon** and **Bryce Dessner** of the band The National, among others, **SILENT VOICES: LOVESTATE** explores a young generation's vision of a more inclusive and compassionate future.

LOVESTATE is the third and culminating installment in the **Silent Voices** series, a multimedia, multi-composer and multi-year series of concert works with spoken word conceived, produced and performed by Brooklyn Youth Chorus. The Chorus has commissioned a dynamic roster of composers to collaborate with the young choristers in confronting the challenges of racism, sexism, social and economic disparity, immigration, our environment, and threats to our understanding of truth, as we advance towards a more inclusive and compassionate vision of the future. *Silent Voices* premiered at BAM's Howard Gilman Opera House in May 2017 and was recorded by New Amsterdam Records for an October, 2018 release. **If You Listen** at National Sawdust, the second installment in the *Silent Voices* series, featured work by female composers.

Founded in 1992 by Artistic Director Dianne Berkun Menaker, Brooklyn Youth Chorus is a collective of young singers and vocal ensembles re-envisioning choral music performance through artistic innovation, collaboration, and their distinctively beautiful sound. Brooklyn Youth Chorus has appeared with acclaimed orchestras and conductors, including the New York and Los Angeles philharmonics, London and Atlanta symphonies, and under the batons of Alan Gilbert, Gustavo Dudamel, Marin Alsop, Esa-Pekka Salonen, and others. The Chorus won a Grammy Award with the New York Philharmonic for the live recording of John Adams's *On the Transmigration of Souls*, dedicated to the victims of 9/11. Brooklyn Youth Chorus has also garnered a strong reputation as an arts producer for such works as *Aging Magician* (New Vic 2017); *Black Mountain Songs*; *Brooklyn Village*; and *Tell the Way*. The Chorus has toured throughout the U.S. and Europe, including recent tours to Arizona, Chicago, Minneapolis, Washington, DC, Amsterdam, and London.

U.S. Premiere

AROUND THE WORLD IN 80 DAYS

New Vic Theatre Staffordshire, Kenny Wax Family Entertainment and
Simon Friend in association with Royal Exchange Theatre
Newcastle-under-Lyme, England
May 10 - 19, 2019
The New Victory Theater
Full price tickets are \$17, \$22, \$31 or \$42 based on seat locations.

Adapted from the novel by Jules Verne
Written by Laura Eason
Directed by Theresa Heskins
Designed by Lis Evans
Music by James Atherton
Movement by Beverley Norris Edmunds
Lighting Design by Alexandra Stafford
Sound Design by James Earls-Davis
Casting by Anji Carroll CDG

The clock is ticking! With a fortune at stake, Phileas Fogg and his silly sidekick, Passepartout, must abandon the misty streets of Victorian London and circumnavigate the globe in just 80 days, or lose everything. Adapted by **Laura Eason** (*House of Cards, Sex with Strangers, Blue Night*) from Jules Verne's classic novel, **AROUND THE WORLD IN 80 DAYS** features a hugely talented cast of 8 play over 125 characters who race across Asia on the back of an elephant, speed by steamer ship over the stormy Pacific and ride the railroad through the American Wild West. From **New Vic Theatre Staffordshire** and Olivier Award winning producers **Kenny Wax** (*The Play That Goes Wrong, Once On This Island, Top Hat*) and **Simon Friend** (Douglas Carter Beane's *The Closet*, Florian Zeller's *The Height of the Storm*), this fast-paced, theatrical romp is jam-packed with slapstick hilarity, six trains, five boats, four fights, three dances, two circus acts and an elephant!

Kenny Wax, President of the Society of London Theatre, has produced many critically-acclaimed shows for all ages that have graced the stages of Broadway, the West End, Off-Broadway and toured internationally. He has also built a reputation for being one of the most prolific providers of shows for

children in the West End through Kenny Wax Family Entertainment; titles include *Mr. Popper's Penguins* (New Vic 2016), Jacqueline Wilson's *Hetty Feather* (Olivier Award nominee), David Walliams' *Mr Stink*, Tall Stories' *The Gruffalo*, *The Gruffalo's Child*, *Room On The Broom* (Best Family Entertainment Olivier Award nomination), *The Tiger Who Came to Tea* (Best Family Entertainment Olivier Award nomination), *We're Going On A Bear Hunt* and *What the Ladybird Heard*.

New Vic Theatre Staffordshire, under Artistic Director Theresa Heskins, produces eight major productions a year and presents a varied and adventurous program that includes contemporary drama, new commissions, innovative adaptations and accessible classics. The first purpose-built theater-in-the-round in Europe, New Vic Staffordshire makes vital contributions to its community through its education department and ground-breaking New Vic Borderlines outreach team. Recent collaborations include projects with Staffordshire's Police and Crime Commissioner's Office, the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and the British Council. The New Vic also leads Appetite, part of Arts Council England's Creative People and Places program. The New Vic is funded by Arts Council England, Newcastle-under-Lyme Borough Council, Staffordshire County Council and Stoke-on-Trent City Council.

Simon Friend Entertainment Ltd is an independent theater producer and general manager. His productions have won Olivier, TMA and Critics' Circle awards. Simon was formerly Producer for Theatre Royal Bath. Select current and recent productions: *Million Dollar Quartet* (Royal Festival Hall & UK Tour); *The Philanthropist* (Trafalgar Studios); *The Graduate* (UK Tour); *The Wipers Times* (Arts Theatre & UK Tour); *The Father* by Florian Zeller, translated by Christopher Hampton (Wyndham's Theatre & Duke of York's Theatre); *Bad Jews* (Arts Theatre); *Speed- the-Plow* (Playhouse Theatre); *Relative Values* (Harold Pinter Theatre); *Fences* (Duchess Theatre).

U.S. Premiere

BOUT A BOUT

Le Clan des Songes

Toulouse, France

May 31 - June 9, 2019

The Duke on 42nd Street

Full price tickets are \$25.

Script, Direction and Puppet Design by Marina Montefusco,
in collaboration with Erwan Costadau and Magali Esteban

Lighting Design by Erwan Costadau

Puppet Manipulation by Erwan Costadau, Magali Esteban and Marina Montefusco

Original Score and Recordings by Laurent Rochelle

Production and Stage Management by Hervé Billerit

In the whimsical world of ***BOUT A BOUT*** ("end to end"), an ordinary piece of rope transforms into a lovable little hero who sets out on an adventure full of challenges and excitement. Along the way, this intrepid bit of twine encounters curious aquatic creatures, a cranky motorist and some springy, stringy playmates, all brought to life through the wondrous and inventive puppetry of Le Clan des Songes.

For over 25 years, Marina Montefusco and her company **Le Clan des Songes** (*Cité*, New Vic 2016; *Fragile*, New Vic 2013) have developed theater with powerful and dreamlike imagery whose preferred mediums are puppetry and animated forms. Their repertory of 13 original productions is primarily aimed at young children but is enjoyed by all ages. Recognized nationally and internationally for the quality of its work, Le Clan des Songes has toured throughout Japan, South Korea, Taiwan, Brazil and Israel, and to Singapore, the Assitej International Festival in Montreal, Bravo Helsinki Festival, Figurteater in Oslo, Vermont Festival, Théatralia in Madrid and Petits Bonheur Festival in Québec.