

Mumbai welcomes Cirque du Soleil to India with the iconic Big Top Raise

World premiere of its 43rd original production BAZZAR to be held on November 14th

Mumbai, October 26, 2018: Taking months of excitement and anticipation to the next level, the world leader in live entertainment Cirque du Soleil finally arrived in India today! Symbolising the onset of its 43rd original production BAZZAR in its signature style, Cirque du Soleil raised its iconic Big Top in Mumbai's MMRDA grounds. The 62 feet gigantic structure was raised all at once with over 100 metal poles supporting it, and will remain deeply infused with the city's skyline and its culture until December 9, 2018, before moving to New Delhi. The Big Top will be home to Cirque du Soleil's breathtaking and never seen before acts by BAZZAR artists. The raising of the Big Top is a collaborative activity and houses a structure that is truly special – an all-encompassing stage and a show waiting to unravel!

Brought to India exclusively with BookMyShow, Cirque du Soleil BAZZAR, presented by Citibank with Jio as the digital partner, has seen an overwhelming response from the audiences across ages and geographies. Present at this occasion and helping with the Big Top raise were V.K. Gautam, Maharashtra Principal Secretary, Tourism and Cultural Affairs Department and BookMyShow Founder and CEO Ashish Hemrajani. With the world premiere of BAZZAR slated to take place in Mumbai on November 14, the Big Top Raise marks the commencement of the visual spectacle that is about to unfold in the city.

“With BAZZAR, we offer Indian audience the occasion to live the genuine little Big Top experience that has made Cirque du Soleil famous worldwide for more than 30 years. The proximity with the artists and the thrilling atmosphere felt by the members of the audience is truly exhilarating. We have welcomed more than 190 million spectators in our universe so far and we are thrilled to finally bring in the Indian people”, said **Finn Taylor, Senior Vice-President, Cirque du Soleil Touring show Division.**

“We are thrilled to welcome Cirque du Soleil to India! The iconic Big Top raise is only the start of something truly spectacular. The excitement in Mumbai for their newest show BAZZAR is palpable and we cannot wait to bring to them the ultimate form of live entertainment loved by millions across the world”, said **Ashish Hemrajani, Founder and CEO, BookMyShow.**

V.K. Gautam, Principal Secretary, Tourism and Cultural Affairs Department, Govt. of Maharashtra said, “We welcome Cirque du Soleil to Mumbai. Today marks a momentous occasion as the Big Top raise symbolises their arrival in our city and we invite the people of Mumbai to witness the performance of these incredible artists.”

After entertaining the audiences in Mumbai and Delhi in India, Cirque du Soleil BAZZAR will head to other countries across the globe.

Catch the glimpse of Cirque du Soleil BAZZAR here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aT1eCZm0Uwo>

Notes to the Editor:

About The Big Top: Cirque du Soleil BAZZAR will be performed by Cirque du Soleil artists under the newest version of its famous Big Top Tent, which is 19 meters (62 feet) high and is 41 meters (135 feet) in diameter and will seat more than 1500 guests.

About BAZZAR:

Cirque du Soleil BAZZAR, an eclectic lab of infinite creativity where a joyful troupe of acrobats, dancers and musicians craft an awe-inspiring spectacle. Lead by their maestro, they band together to invent a whimsical one-of-a-kind universe. In a place where the unexpected is expected, the colourful group imagines, builds and invents vibrant scenes in an artistic and acrobatic game. Come and claim your place amidst this marketplace of merriment and creative camaraderie. You just might find that the end of the story is really only the beginning! The high-energy excitement, collision of sounds and colours, and meeting place of diverse characters you'd find at a traditional 'bazaar', inspired the name of the show. BAZZAR perfectly captures the spirit! The spelling is slightly different, where the double 'zz' represents the time loop you sense during the adventure. As a word, BAZZAR is also read almost the same frontwards and backwards. Like the performance, just when you think you know where the story is going— there's a twist!

Follow #BAZZAR and #cirquedusoleil on social media: [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#) | [YouTube](#)

About Cirque du Soleil Entertainment Group

Originally composed of 20 street performers in 1984, Cirque du Soleil Entertainment Group completely reinvented circus arts and went on to become a world leader in live entertainment. Established in Montreal, the Canadian organization has brought wonder and delight to over 190 million spectators with productions presented in close to 450 cities in 60 countries. Cirque du Soleil Entertainment Group currently has over 4,000 employees, including 1,400 artists, from nearly 50 countries.

Cirque du Soleil Entertainment Group creates content for a broad range of audacious projects. On top of producing world-renowned shows, the organization has extended its creative approach to a large variety of entertainment forms such as multimedia productions, immersive experiences, theme parks and special events. Going beyond its various creations, Cirque du Soleil Entertainment Group aims to make a positive impact on people, communities and the planet with its most important tools: creativity and art. For more information about Cirque du Soleil Entertainment Group, please go to cdsentertainmentgroup.com.

About BookMyShow

BookMyShow is India's biggest entertainment destination. Over the years, the company has transformed from a purely online ticketing player for movies, sports, plays and events. Today, with presence in over 650 towns and cities in India, BookMyShow works with partners across the industry to provide unmatched entertainment experiences to millions of customers, on par with global entertainment standards. It is constantly innovating to increase its ownership share in the Indian entertainment value chain by relying heavily on its analytic capabilities and incisive understanding of customers. Along the way BookMyShow has produced music concerts and theatricals, introduced audio entertainment service Jukebox, built India's largest organic reviews and ratings engine for movies and has driven technology innovations, such as the m-ticket, impacting both users and the industry at large.

Since its launch in 2007, BookMyShow has been committed to its customers. With continued support from investors Stripes Group, Network 18 (Reliance), Accel Partners and SAIF Partners, BookMyShow (which is part of Bigtree Entertainment, founded in Mumbai in 1999), is invested in providing the best user experience, whether it's on ground at an event or online. Demonstrating category leadership, BookMyShow has expanded its operations to Sri Lanka and Indonesia and has invested in companies including Do-It-Yourself events registration and ticketing platform Townscript and Fantain, a fantasy sports platform for Cricket and Kabaddi. It is also committed to society at large by way of their charity initiative BookASmile, which provides entertainment experiences to the underprivileged. For more information, please visit www.bookmyshow.com

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