

BAM

2017 WINTER/SPRING SEASON

BROOKLYN ACADEMY OF MUSIC PETER JAY SHARP BUILDING 30 LAFAYETTE AVENUE BROOKLYN, NY 11217—1486

BAM presents an engrossing and topical US premiere physical theater event from Sweden's renowned Cirkus Cirkör

“Contemporary circus activism,” thrilling skill, and striking aesthetics meet in *Limits*

Bloomberg Philanthropies is the Season Sponsor

Cirkus Cirkör: Limits

Conceived and directed by Tilde Björfors

Music by Samuel “LoopTok” Andersson

Set design by Fanny Senocq, Stefan “Drake” Karlström, Joel Jedström, and Tilde Björfors

Costume design by Jonna Bergelin

Video scenography and projections by Johannes Ferm Winkler, Tom Waldton, and Per Rydnert / Visual Relief

Lighting design by Fredrik Ekström

Choreography by Olle Strandberg

Make up design by Madelene Söderblom

BAM Howard Gilman Opera House (30 Lafayette Ave)

June 7—10 at 7:30pm

Tickets start at \$30

Master Class: Cirkus Cirkör

Co-presented by BAM and Mark Morris Dance Group

June 8 at 11am, Mark Morris Dance Center (3 Lafayette Ave)

Price: \$25

In association with Dance for PD®, a program of the Mark Morris Dance Group

Visit BAM.org/master-classes for more information and to register

Artists from Cirkus Cirkör lead this workshop for persons living with Parkinson's disease and their accompanying care partners

“It is shocking to watch Europe close border after border, when our circus has dedicated the last 20 years to pushing boundaries.” —Cirkus Cirkör Artistic Director Tilde Björfors

Brooklyn, NY/May 1, 2017—In 2013, after reading about the mass drowning of Eritrean and Somali migrants off the coast of Lampedusa, Tilde Björfors, artistic director of acclaimed

Swedish contemporary circus company Cirkus Cirkör (*Wear it like a crown*, 2012 Winter/Spring; *Inside Out*, 2009 Next Wave) was inspired to create a new body of work on the topic of borders. In 2015 she became more personally involved in establishing a transitional housing facility and opened her own home to boundary-crossers. Her personal and creative experiences permeate the engrossing and topical *Limits*, in which five world-class circus artists catapult and tumble through an imaginatively rendered ocean-, land-, and cityscape, struggling to connect across the walls, fences, and other obstacles that spring up between them.

The live score is by frequent collaborator Samuel “LoopTok” Andersson. In *Limits* what is possible—such as soaring over boundaries that separate—must be balanced against an individual artist’s (and the overall group’s) limits for physical pain and risk. As such, the work serves both as high flying spectacle and trenchant acrobatic exploration of an EU and world in flux. Conceived and directed by Björfors, *Limits* features young teeterboard artists Anton Graaf and Einar Kling-Odenkrants (recipients of the gold medal at the prestigious Festival Mondial du Cirque de Demain in Paris), contortionist Manda Rydman, and hand-to-hand acrobat and juggler Peter Åberg and his aerial acrobatic partner, Saara Ahola. The production won a 2016 Swedish Theater Critics Association Award, as well as *Expressen’s* Theater Prize, the first time the honor has been awarded to contemporary circus. See trailer at BAM.org/Limits.

Inspired by a desire to change the world, Artistic Director **Tilde Björfors** founded **Cirkus Cirkör** as an independent contemporary circus group in Stockholm, Sweden in 1995. Grounded in art and education—and with a propensity for thrilling action and daredevil humor—Cirkus Cirkör tours widely to critical acclaim around the world, extending its reach through educational programs that impact 20,000 young people every year. In addition, the company’s internationally renowned School of Dance and Circus at Stockholm University was Sweden’s first professional full-time course of study for circus artists.

In 2015 Cirkus Cirkör celebrated its 20th anniversary of crossing boundaries. It has consistently explored and defied limits through performances and research projects, as well as through the interactions of circus and society, audiences and participants. However, in light of Europe’s ever-tightening boundaries against the world beyond its borders, and the consequences that closed borders bring in their wake, Cirkus Cirkör’s voice has grown stronger. After seeing Cirkör’s 2015 production *Borders*, the Swedish daily *Dagens Nyheter’s* reviewer proclaimed Cirkus Cirkör the creator of a new genre: contemporary circus activism. <http://cirkor.se/>

For press information, please contact Adriana Leshko at aleshko@BAM.org or 718-724-8021.

Credits

Bloomberg Philanthropies is the Season Sponsor.

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Support for the Signature Artist Series provided by Howard Gilman Foundation.

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Limits was partly developed in residence at the Watermill Center, NY as well as in residence at Västmanland's Teater. *Limits* is a coproduction with Archaos, Pôle National des Arts du Cirque Méditerranée. With support from: Statens kulturråd, Stockholms läns landsting, Stockholms stads kulturförvaltning, and Botkyrka kommun.

General Information

BAM Howard Gilman Opera House, BAM Rose Cinemas, and BAMcafé are located in the Peter Jay Sharp building at 30 Lafayette Avenue (between St Felix Street and Ashland Place) in the Fort Greene neighborhood of Brooklyn. BAM Harvey Theater is located two blocks from the main building at 651 Fulton Street (between Ashland and Rockwell Places). Both locations house Greenlight Bookstore at BAM kiosks. BAM Fisher, located at 321 Ashland Place, is the newest addition to the BAM campus and houses the Judith and Alan Fishman Space and Rita K. Hillman Studio. BAM Rose Cinemas is Brooklyn's only movie house dedicated to first-run independent and foreign film and repertory programming. BAMcafé, operated by Great Performances, offers a dinner menu prior to BAM Howard Gilman Opera House evening performances. BAMcafé also features an eclectic mix of live music for BAMcafé Live on Friday and Saturday nights with a bar menu available starting at 6pm.

Subway: 2, 3, 4, 5, Q, B to Atlantic Avenue – Barclays Center (2, 3, 4, 5 to Nevins St for Harvey Theater); D, N, R to Pacific Street; G to Fulton Street; C to Lafayette Avenue
Train: Long Island Railroad to Atlantic Terminal – Barclays Center
Bus: B25, B26, B41, B45, B52, B63, B67 all stop within three blocks of BAM
Car: Limited commercial parking lots are located near BAM. Visit BAM.org for

information. For ticket information, call BAM Ticket Services at 718.636.4100, or visit BAM.org.

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