

CircusNext

Supporting emerging creators in the field of circus arts in Europe



A project coordinated by Jeunes Talents Cirque Europe

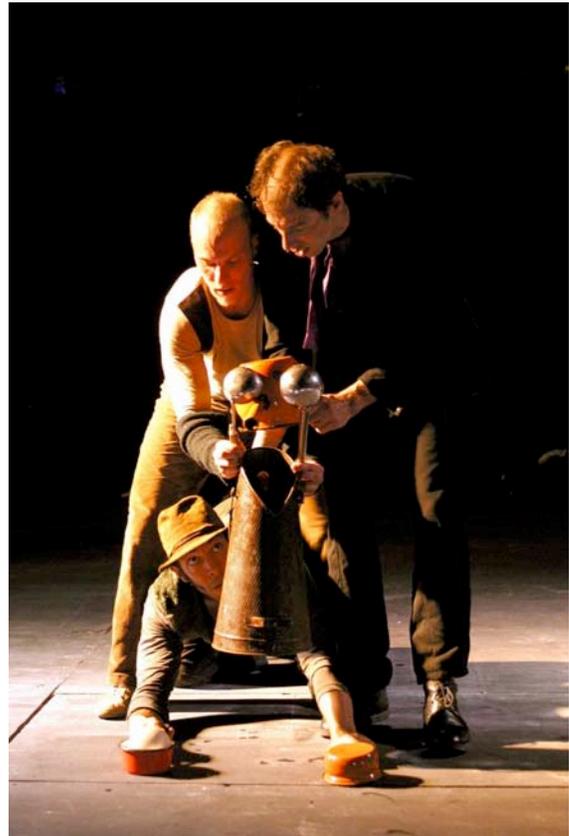
JEUNES TALENTS CIRQUE
EUROPE



From Jeunes Talents Cirque to CircusNext

Jeunes Talents Cirque scheme was created in 2001-2002, on the occasion of the year of circus arts led by the French Ministry of Culture. Carried out by the French organization "Scènes de cirque", this innovating and concrete project aims at identifying young contemporary circus artists, and at supporting their emergence through a grant and residencies. This first edition was a success: in October 2002, thirteen young companies presented their creation projects at Théâtre de la Cité Internationale (Paris, France). Among them were Camille Boitel, Baro d'ével cirk cie or Ludor Citrik, now leaders of the French circus arts scene; all of them benefited from Jeunes Talents Cirque's support to create their shows in good conditions and make a name for themselves.

This support scheme was renewed by cycles of 2 years, and extended to other European countries. In 2007, the organization Jeunes Talents Cirque Europe was created. It is entirely dedicated to the production and organization of the support scheme, and implementing a network of European partners. In 2009-2010, the first officially European edition was carried out: it will be renewed 3 times since then and will be named CircusNext from 2012-2013 on.



Baro d'ével cirk compagnie – *Bechtout'* (JTC 2002)



Oktobre – Oktobre (2013)
© Milan Szypura

Over the years, Jeunes Talents Cirque Europe / CircusNext has become a key scheme in the development of contemporary circus and for the acknowledgement of circus as an art form in itself. The supported artists have been developing diverse and innovative aesthetics, and have distinguished themselves through their will of experimenting new forms. As contemporary circus is multidisciplinary, they have been opening to other performing arts (dance, theatre, music) and to new technologies (video, digital arts). Their shows have been broadly presented across France, where Jeunes Talents Cirque Europe is now well known, Europe – along with

the development of the network – and the whole world (Asia, Africa, America). Contemporary circus has gone through a true development, and even the Avignon Festival programmed two contemporary circus shows in 2010; one of them, *Singularités ordinaires* (Le GdRA), was created with the support of Jeunes Talents Cirque Europe.



Going deeper into its Europeanization, Jeunes Talents Cirque Europe scheme became CircusNext in 2012-2013: platform and cooperation project designed at European level, CircusNext offers optimal conditions to contemporary circus authors.

The scheme proposes an important support program and favors maximal mobility of the artists across the European territory.

The current CircusNext project takes place from 2013 to 2017 with the support of the Culture program of the European Commission. It also aims at qualifying creation processes, renewing production methods, strengthening European cooperation, and encouraging the evolution of national cultural policies.

It includes 2 editions of CircusNext support schemes, a European season of circus arts, and a cooperative work on reflection, evaluation, and documentation.

Artists supported by Jeunes Talents Cirque Europe / CircusNext

2002: Compagnie Mö, Suzanne da Cruz , AKYS project, Camille Boitel (Cie La mère Boitel), Les Objets volants, Compagnie du Singulier, Ludor Citrik, Baro d'evel CIRK compagnie, Pina Blankevoort, Laure Pique, Lunatic, Johanna Gallard, Clément Debailleul

2004: João Paulo dos Santos (Cie O último Momento), Tr'espace , Le Petit Travers, Ockham's Razor, Boris Gibé (Cie Les Choses de Rien), Cirq'Ulation locale, Cie Adrien M, Prêt-à-porter, Furinkai, Circo Saudade, Le Tourbillon, Jongleur de fables, Sycoum Cyr

2006: Cie Un loup pour l'homme, Cie Pire que debout, Cyrk Nop, Cie Libertivore, Le GdRA, Jur Domingo et Julien Vittecoq (Cridacompany), Pierre-Jean Carrus et Vincent Warin, Cie Morosof, Cie La manœuvre , La compagnie singulière

2008: Tobias Wegner, Guillaume Top, Olivier Pasquet, Serge Lazar et Anke Bucher (Cie Les mains sales), Rémi Luhez, Guillaume Sauzay, Julien Le Cuziat (Cie Im-posture), Isak Lindberg (Tide Company), Cie leto, Nicolas Leresche et Anne Delahaye

2010: Race Horse Company, Subliminati Corporation, Room 100, Ivan Mosjoukine, My!Laika, Cie DeFracto, Desastronauts, Sirkus Aikamoinen, Kecca Rocca, Babafish

2012: Oktobre, Sisters, La Boca Abierta, Nuua, Iona Kewney

2014: Darragh McLoughlin, Kévin, Julia Christ, Ouroboru / Z Machine, MarionKa, Nacho Flores, Alexander Vantournhout

2016 : Circus Katoen, Compagnie du Chaos, Motchok / Dymitry Szypura, La Migration, Galactik Ensemble, Two, Sandrine Juglair

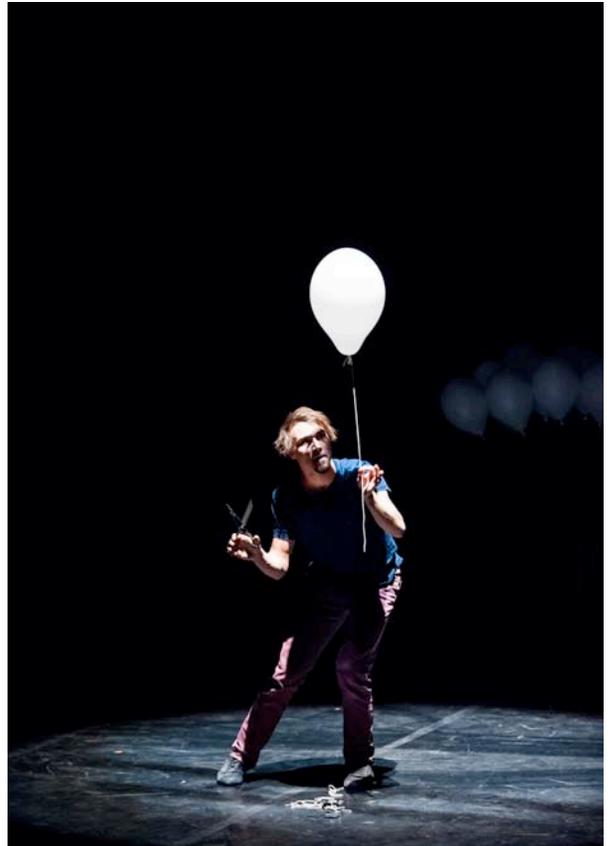
CircusNext 2013-2017

A comprehensive scheme to support emergence

> *CircusNext scheme*

The selection process takes place in six major steps:

- **Call for projects:** published throughout Europe. Applying artists are required to have completed their education and to be involved in a creation project, which must be either their first or second professional show.
- **Selection on application files:** a jury gathering European artists and performing arts professionals is in charge of selecting fifteen highly promising projects.
- **Pre-selection residencies:** an innovation of CircusNext, pre-selection residencies aim at equalizing the preparation to the selection for pre-selected applicants.
- **Selection week:** the pre-selected artists present a 20-minute work-in-progress of their projects to the jury. At the end of the week, seven projects are selected.
- **Support phase:** laureates benefit from at least one month of artistic residency in one or several partner venues in Europe, from mentoring (artistic, technical, administrative...), and from a creation grant.
- **Public presentations:** laureates present a finalized extract of their future show to an audience of performing arts professionals and artists, but also general public. A public presentation gathering about 250 European professionals is held in Paris for each CircusNext edition, at Théâtre de la Cité Internationale, and concludes this support scheme.



Cie Nuua – *Lento* (2013) - © Milan Szytura

A selection process led by renowned artists and professionals

In order to enhance the emergence of truly innovative researches and aesthetics, the selection process is carried out by a jury gathering European experts, including renowned artists and performing arts professionals (members of the CircusNext platform).

> *Laboratories (« labs »)*

In parallel to the selection process, CircusNext has created an innovative support process: the laboratories ("labs"). Labs are gatherings of about ten days, targeted to European artists identified over the course of the selection process (but not necessarily laureates). 10 to 15 artists are invited to work freely and collectively under the supervision of experienced and renowned artists (director, choreographers, academics...). The labs can be dedicated to a specific theme (writing a contemporary circus performance, using new technologies, etc.) or consist of open sessions around the creation projects of each participating artists. They are held on specific territories and always include a local dimension of circus arts development. They might also be organized in partnership with a non-European country ("third countries").



Un loup pour l'homme – *Appris par corps* (2006)
© Riccardo Musacchio & Flavio Ianniello

> *An area for exchanges with performing arts professionals*

CircusNext platform offers an opportunity for the artists to meet performing arts professionals (producers, promoters, institutions...), in particular during the selection process and public presentations. This networking is essential to the development of their projects and their viability.



Iona Kewney (2013)

© © Milan Szytura

> A European Season of Circus Arts

In 2016-2017, a "European Season of Circus Arts" is organized with the aim of identifying the CircusNext project, of promoting its results, especially in terms of creation, and of reaching out to audiences as diverse as possible, particularly in territories where circus arts are little developed.

European touring



Shows of the supported artistic teams will be toured on the European territory by CircusNext partners, thus participating to the promotion of circus arts and of the notion of authorship in Europe.

This season will be the opportunity for partners and cultural operators of the European territory to disseminate the shows of the authors who were Jeunes Talents Cirque, Jeunes Talents Cirque Europe and CircusNext laureates. 8 promotions of creative authors of contemporary circus, who impacted the sector of performing arts and contributed to the development of circus arts.

The presence of these authors in festivals, in seasonal programming, in specially organized events will be an opportunity for the audiences to (re)discover European contemporary creation, to have an insight in their creative process, and to discover the strong European cooperation that allowed their support.

"Les Inédits de CircusNext"

Since JTCE doesn't have a venue, we propose an event, "Les Inédits de CircusNext" (*which could be translated as "the unreleased or the unprecedented" of CircusNext*), with our partners from the Parisian region. The idea is as follows: for each partner venue, we propose to 3 or 4 authors whom we have supported in the past a special request: to propose on their own or with 1 or 2 other laureates to create in situ short propositions that will then be presented to the local audience.

The technical specifications are simple: the performances will take place either outdoors or indoors with little technical conditions. The objective is to focus on the pleasure of collective and improvised creation, far from the usual pressure of production and creation and to reach local and diverse audiences.

These events will take place in May, June, and July 2017.

The partners involved and the calendar:

- May 13 and 14: La Ferme du Buisson, Scène nationale de Marne-la-Vallée
- May 20:
 - o Théâtre de l'Agora, Scène nationale d'Evry
 - o Centre Houdremont de La Courneuve
- June 2 or 3: Fête du Chapiteau bleu / Théâtre Louis Aragon de Tremblay
- June 3: festival Parade(s) in Nanterre, in partnership with Les Noctambules
- June 17: L'Espace Périphérique / Parc de la Villette
- June 24: Mains d'œuvres in Saint Ouen, in partnership with ATLAST
- June 24 or 25: festival Solstices - Pôle national des arts du cirque d'Antony
- July 1 and 2: L'Avant-Seine Colombes

Potential other partners: Monfort Théâtre; Théâtre de Rungis; TCI; CirquEvolution en Val d'Oise.

European Conference Think circus!



JTCE will organize a European conference in Paris on May 17-19, 2017. This conference, *Think circus!*, will be hosted by La Villette.

It will aim at offering a space for reflection and debates by gathering European cultural operators, artists, and thinkers (philosophers, sociologists, journalists, architects, town-planners...) on the notions of European circus, authorship, creation, cooperation...

The objectives are as follows:

- dissemination of the project results;
- production of a real reflection on the notion of European circus and fostering of the development of a critique around circus arts;
- more generally, promotion of the program allowing its future development.

Professional encounter and CircusNext focus @ Spring

In the framework of *Spring* festival and in partnership with its organizer, Plateforme 2 Pôles Cirque en Normandie (La Brèche - Cherbourg and Cirque-Théâtre d'Elbeuf), a focus is organized from March 22 to 25, 2017:

- March 22-23: meeting of CircusNext European platform partners
- March 23: programming of the following shows: *Diktat* by Sandrine Juglair (CircusNext 2015-2016 laureate) and *Rare Birds* by company Un Loup pour l'homme (Jeunes Talents Cirque 2005-2006 laureate)
- March 24: professional encounter "how to support artists today?" and programming of the following shows: *Extravaganza* by Jordi Kerol (Jeunes Talents Cirque Europe 2009-2010 laureate with company Subliminati Corporation) and *Dummy* by Alexander Vantourhout (CircusNext 2013-2014 laureate). Installation *Mirages & miracles* by Claire Bardainne and Adrien Mondot (Jeunes Talents Cirque 2003-2004 laureate)
- March 25: programming of the show *Femme sans nom* by Netty Radvanyi / Z Machine (CircusNext 2013-2014 laureate)

Audio-visual documentary CircusNext Odyssey

An audio-visual documentary will be published in 2017: it will illustrate the creation path of certain laureates of the promotions 2013-2014 and 2015-2016. The artists will share their creation processes during their support within the CircusNext scheme, the evolution of their writing methods, the obstacles met, their thought processes as authors.

This documentary will aim at raising awareness of diverse audiences about creation processes and contemporary circus emerging authors' paths. It will be presented on the occasion of the European conference *Think circus!*

Evaluation and publications

A European evaluator, Agathe Dumont, expert researcher of contemporary circus and performing arts, has worked in close cooperation with the coordinator, the co-organizers and their partners since 2013. She will publish three evaluations in 2017 based on analyses and interviews of the stakeholders of the project.

Alongside this work, she guides the CircusNext platform partners in their cross-cutting reflection and will produce a study on the following themes:

- creation conditions in Europe (including a mapping of European residency venues)
- a charter on artistic residency hosting
- what new and innovating models in terms of support to emergence?

A full evaluation report will be published at the end of the project and a compilation of "good practices" will be disseminated throughout the whole cultural sector via professional networks (Circostrada, IETM, Culture Action Europe, etc.). CircusNext platform members will be the ambassadors of this study, which digital format will allow for a wide trans-sectorial and transnational dissemination.

A European-wide cooperation platform

CircusNext is a cooperation project, designed and organized by a variety of European partners:

> *Co-organizers:*

- La Cascade, pôle national des arts du cirque (France)
- Les Migrateurs, associés pour les arts du cirque (France)
- Centro Cultural Vila Flor (Portugal)
- Festival Mirabilia (Italy)
- Festival Circumnavigando (Italy)
- Circus Futures (UK)
- La Central del Circ (Spain)
- Cirqueon (Czech Republic)

> *Associated partners across the European territory*

CircusNext's activity program is implemented by all the platform partners. Each member of the platform hosts some of the activities and co-finances the creation grants.



La Boca Abierta – Une Aventure (2013)

- © Milan Szytura

Members of CircusNext platform

France: JTCE // La Cascade // Les Migrateurs // La Grainerie // Plateforme 2 Pôles Cirque en Normandie // Parc de la Villette // Espace Périphérique // Le Prato // HorsLesMurs...

UK & Ireland: Circus Futures // Dublin Fringe // Sea Change arts

Belgium: Circuscentrum // Dommelhof // Espace Catastrophe // Perplx // Numediart // Latitude 50

Sweden: Subtopia // Cirkus Cirkör

Norway: Circus Xanti

Finland: Cirko // CircusInfo

Spain: La Central del Circ // Carampa // Circo Nove

Italy: Festival Mirabilia, Festival Circumnavigando

Portugal: Centro Cultural Vila Flor

Czech Republic: Cirqueon

Germany: UteClassen Kulturmanagement // Initiative neuer Zirkus

Poland: Kejos

Calendars

CircusNext 2013-2017 calendar

| | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| August 2013 – December 2014 | CircusNext support scheme + Labs |
| January 2015 – June 2016 | CircusNext support scheme + Labs |
| Summer 2016 – summer 2017 | European Season of Circus Arts European Conference in Paris |
| 2017 | Project evaluation |



Sisters – Clockwork (2013) - © Milan Szytura

CircusNext European Season of Circus Arts: JTCE's calendar

| | | |
|-------------------|---|--|
| November 5, 2017 | Laureate shows programming with ATLAST | La Marbrerie (Montreuil) |
| March 23-25, 2017 | CircusNext Focus | Festival Spring La Brèche and Cirque-Théâtre d'Elbeuf |
| May-July 2017 | Les Inédits de CircusNext | Île-de-France |
| May 17-19, 2017 | European conference Think circus! | La Villette (Paris) |
| 2016-2017 | Evaluation of the project | Paris, Europe |
| 2016-2017 | Audiovisual Documentary CircusNext Odyssey | Paris, Europe |

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