

CRÉATION



PRODUIT PAR



ATTENTION À TA TÊTE

OR THE HIGHS AND LOWS OF A JUGGLER'S LIFE

CIRCUS SHOW: JUGGLING, FOOTJUGGLING & DANCE

• cie *Le Polpesse* •

CREATION FILE

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CIRCUS SHOW: JUGGLING, FOOTJUGGLING & DANCE

• Cie LE POLPESE •

CASTING

WITH AND BY: Cecilia Zucchetti, Gioia Santini, Francesca Fioraso

DIRECTED BY: Le Polpesse

OUTSIDE EYE: Sylvain Cousin & Valentina Santori

COSTUME DESIGN: Emily Redsell

LEGAL NOTICE

PRODUCTION : Le Polpesse

EXECUTIVE PRODUCTION: La Verrerie d'Alès - Pôle National Cirque Occitanie

CO-FINANCING: Le Prato – Pôle National Cirque Lille • Cirque Jules Verne – Pôle National Cirque et Arts de la Rue – Amiens • Le Plongeur – Cité du Cirque – Pôle National Cirque Le Mans Sarthe Pays de la Loire • Espace Paul Jargot • City of Crolles • Maison des Jonglages – Jonglages Accredited Stage – Bondy

SUPPORT AND RESIDENCY HOSTING: Département du Gard within the framework of Artistes au collège in partnership with Collège Alphonse Daudet • Espace Paul Jargot • City of Crolles in partnership with the Gilbert Dalet Intercommunal Library and the Brignoud Social Center • Le Plongeur – Cité du Cirque – Pôle National Cirque Le Mans Sarthe Pays de la Loire in partnership with Collège Alain-Fournier • Alphonse Daudet Library • Alès Agglomération • Mendi Zolan Cultural Space in partnership with the City of Hendaye • Topada Fabrica in partnership with the City of Hendaye • Central Del Circ Barcelona – Spain.

EKO – Pyrénées de Cirque is a European cross-border cooperation project co-financed by the ERDF and the Interreg-POCTEFA programme.

Show supported as part of the **Circ-Ino International Broadcast and Production Center** for an international circus in transition.

2025 creation by Cirque Portatif, a series of circus shows for non-dedicated spaces, produced by La Verrerie d'Alès, Pôle National Cirque Occitanie.

ARTISTIC STATEMENT

“IF YOU FALL, I PICK YOU UP, OR I LIE DOWN NEXT TO YOU”

“**Attention à ta tête**” is a project born from the desire of three jugglers – Cecilia Zucchetti, Gioia Santini, and Francesca Fioraso – to see juggling from a different perspective: setting aside the frustration of failure to celebrate the beauty of imperfection and the joy of moving forward together.

3 JUGGLERS, 1 BATHTUB, 30 BALLS, 10 CLUBS, 12 TENTACLES

These are the elements that will bring to life an intimate and sensitive universe in which the audience will be immersed for 45 minutes: a celebration of perseverance in the face of falling, an invitation to embrace failure with lightness and humor. The performance mixes juggling, foot juggling and movement to create new forms of manipulation, far removed from traditional juggling.

Objects are tossed and caught with hands and feet; bodies merge with the juggling, and juggling merges with bodies; the bodies multiply, objects appear and disappear.

By welcoming the audience from the moment they enter the space, the artists create an initial, intimate, and sincere connection even before stepping onto the stage. This bond continues through the artists’ presence, gestures, glances, and shared actions.

In this creation, the artists develop a common language from their different juggling techniques. Gravity, the shared and inseparable foundation of juggling, invites us to reflect on falling. Around it unfold mistakes, successes, doubts, the act of falling, and rising together. Gradually, this theme expands and reaches each of us: juggling becomes a natural and delicate metaphor for life.

In a society that constantly pushes us to conform to models, how can we celebrate failure and embrace frustration?

“**Attention à ta tête**” is designed to address a broad audience, from children to adults, and aims to be accessible and human-scale, welcoming the most diverse audience possible.

PROJECT TEASER: <https://youtu.be/rCz3hFleO2o>



PRESENTATION

Company **LE POLPESSE**

Three Italian women, from Rome, Milan, and Vicenza, meet in France: Gioia and Cecilia live in the Drôme, and Francesca in Toulouse.

The company "**Le Polpesse**" was born from their desire to come together to play lightly, share their practices in a spirit of non-competition, juggle among women, reflect on their discipline, and build a common language to bring to the stage.

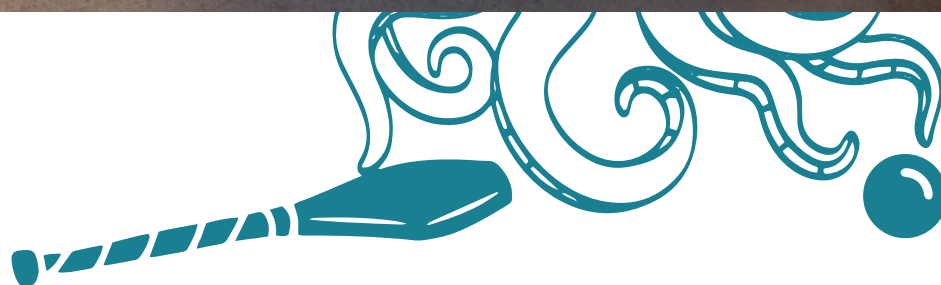
"**Attention à ta tête**" will be the company's first creation, sketched out during a first residency in April 2024.



**Cecilia
Zucchetti**

**Gioia
Santini**

**Francesca
Fioraso**



THE TEAM

Cecilia Zucchetti

Born in 1991, Cecilia grew up and studied in Milan. She graduated from the classical high school "Salvatore Quasimodo" in Milan in 2009.

EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

She began her circus experience very early, attending the amateur circus school "Piccola Scuola di Circo" in Milan from 2005 to 2009. In 2010, Cecilia was admitted to the Contemporary Circus Academy "Académie Fratellini" in Paris, where she stayed until 2013.

- In 2014, she returned to Italy and attended the circus school La Flic in Turin until 2015, training in dance and theater.
- In 2015, she joined the Nofistate Circus team, where she remained as a performer until 2022, participating in the shows Bianco and Lexicon, directed by Firenza Guidi.
- Since 2009, Cecilia has also worked with Gandini Juggling on the shows Smashed, Smashed 2, Clowns and Queens, and other company projects.
- 2022–2025 – Creator and performer of the show Rozeo with the company Gratte Ciel.
- 2023 – Performer for the company Caramantran.
- 2018–2021 – Co-founder and co-director of "Company-ish," a post-contemporary circus company under a big top. First creation The Big Bagaga Show in August 2019, followed by tours in Wales and England.
- 2021 – Juggling instructor at the circus school Creat (Valencia, Spain); performer for the project Body in Urban Space (Cie Willy Dörner).
- 2008 – Participant in the Juggling World Championship "WJF" (Las Vegas, USA).

Alongside her professional experiences, she continued her training through various dance and performance workshops with: Alone Dance, Akira Yoshida, Lucija Romanova, Marion Sparber and Alan Guerra, Alexandre Vanthournout, Daniel Gulko, Michelle Dallaire, Christine Rossignol, Firenza Guidi, Giorgio Rossi, The Fighting Monkeys, and many others.



THE TEAM

Gioia Santini

Born in Italy in 1991, Gioia grew up in a small provincial town 70 km from Rome. She graduated in Advertising Graphics in 2010 in Italy and discovered a few years later her love for the circus through the association Il Circo Verde, newly established in the area, with which she still collaborates today.

In 2017, she discovered antipodism, which became her great passion.

EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- From 2016 to 2018, she studied at the École Romane de Cirque, where she met Emilia Tau for the first time as a teacher.
- In 2019/20, she continued her studies at the Flic Circus School in Turin, completing the third artistic year.
- From 2017 to 2020, Gioia was part of and created the company “GioAllaTerza” with the show Causalmente Corretto, performed throughout Italy.
- In 2018, Gioia joined the “Compagnie Tau” as an assistant for the creation of the show Je n’ai pas des jambes, j’ai des ailes, and continued this collaboration with the company, becoming in 2020 a performer for the project and show Contre Courant, in which she is still involved today.
- In 2021, she created her company Pes, starting the development of her solo show sPaiATa, which has been touring throughout Italy since 2023.



THE TEAM

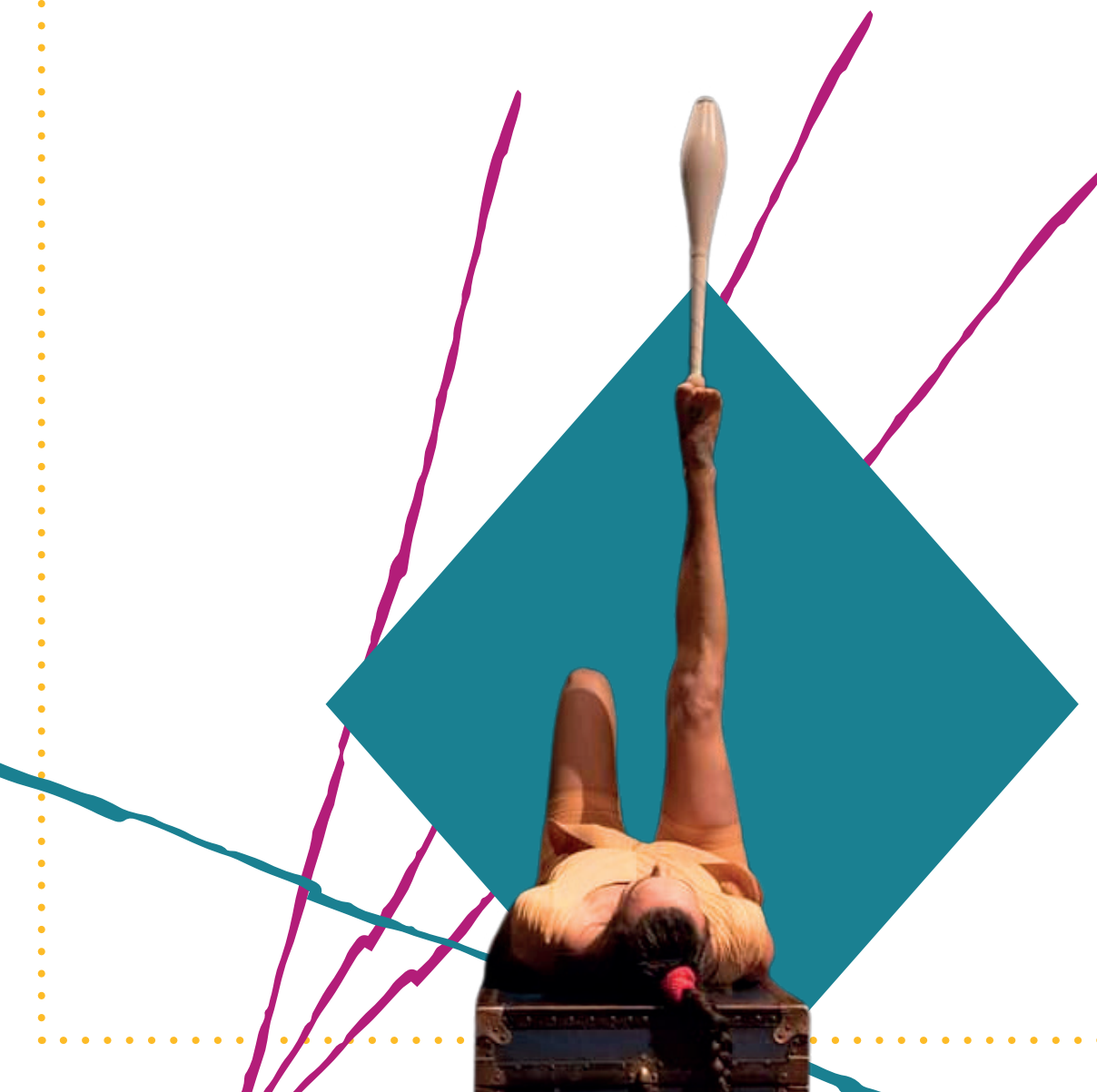
Francesca Fioraso

Born in 1989, she has been dancing since she could walk—always and everywhere. During her adolescence, she attended the Tuscany Ballet School.

After pausing her dance studies, she earned a degree in Educational Sciences and a diploma from the Social Theatre and Performing Arts School Isole Comprese Teatro. In 2015, she discovered the world of circus and trained at various schools.

EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2016: Bont's International Clown School, Menorca
- 2017–2019: Professional Circus School Carampa, Madrid (juggling and tightrope)
- 2019–2022: Regional Circus Arts Center, Chambéry
- In 2021, she founded the company Circo in Rotta with dancer Eva Campanaro. Their show TIENIMI CHE TI TENGO toured festivals in Italy, France, the Netherlands, Portugal, and Spain, winning the First Prize Panorama Circada in Seville in June 2024.
- In 2022, she joined the company La Migration for the creation Women Weave the Land.



OUTSIDE EYE

Valentina Santori

Valentina SANTORI, Juggler.

She trained at the Carampa School in Madrid, at Théâtre Cirqule in Geneva, and at the FAAAC (Alternative and Self-Managed Training in Circus Arts) in France. She has organized and taken part in various in situ collective creation projects: the Work in Progress Arts Meeting in Poland (2009) and Buscando El Sol in Costa Rica (2014).

In September 2011, she co-founded **Collectif Protocole**, a collective of five club jugglers developing research around in situ improvisation. Alongside these One-shot performances, in 2017 the collective began the creation of *Monument*, a four-day performance for four male jugglers and one female juggler, a musician, a guest musician, and local participants. Monument is a poetic juggling investigation in which the active stage is the city and its inhabitants are the performers. The piece was awarded the 2017 “auteurs d’espaces” prize by SACD.

From 2016 to 2018, Collectif Protocole developed *Monument en partage* over three years, an artistic and cultural accompaniment project linked to the construction site of the îlot du Marché, in the heart of the Quatre Routes district in La Courneuve. (www.monument-en-partage.fr)

In 2021, the collective created *Périple 2021*, a continuous six-month relay performance across France. The project was awarded the 2019 “Écrire pour la rue” grant from SACD.



In 2025, the collective created *Campement*, a long, uninterrupted juggling performance lasting around ten hours, both day and night. The piece was awarded the 2025 “auteurs d’espaces” prize by SACD.

In 2014, Valentina co-founded **Compagnie Gabardi** with Claire Jarjat, presenting two solo pieces performed inside a yurt. Her piece, *Szafa*, is a solo combining object manipulation and juggling.

In 2018, she founded the **Compagnie Equidistante**, dedicated to circus in public space. Its first creation, *Mura*, a circus walk-through performance in public space, premiered in June 2021. The company is currently working on *Vous êtes ici*, scheduled for May 2027.

She teaches juggling and research in public space in various circus schools (Théâtre-Cirqule in Geneva, Le Salto in Alès, CRAC in Lomme, Ésacto’Lido in Toulouse, among others).

In recent years, she has worked as an outside eye and in situ director for several companies (La Horde dans les pavés with Impact d’une course and Berceuses (Gang), Compagnie Tau with Contre-Courant, Muchmuche Company with Amours and Miror, Compagnie Casa Otra with Où and Prendre place, Compagnie Les Polpesse with Attention à ta tête, among others).

At the same time, Valentina completed a Master’s degree in Literature and Anthropology with top honors at La Sapienza University in Rome.

Since 2023, she has been an associate artist at PNC La Verrerie in Alès.

OUTSIDE EYE

Sylvain Cousin

Sylvain Cousin, object dancer & director.

He practiced juggling as a self-taught artist before joining the Lido training program in Toulouse, which refined his skills and connected him to the world of circus and street theater. He then embarked on creative projects (Cie des Pas en Rond, Le Tennis, etc.) and toured extensively in France and abroad with shows where objects played a central role.

He later contributed to the creation of the collective G.Bistaki, where objects (once again!), space, and movement are at the core of the research to produce shows for public spaces with variable and adaptable forms that achieved wide success.

Alongside his stage career, he turned toward artistic guidance and directing for various companies, multiplying collaborations with diverse artistic origins (circus, street theater, performative art installations, AI, etc.) always seeking novelty and renewal. These include: Vu and Vrai (Cie Sacacripa), Jours and Allant vers (Cie Kiroul), JM Caillebotte's DRU, La June Cie's VIBH20, Fheel Concept, among others.

Rich in these experiences, he channels his energy into teaching at Lido/Esacto; first with professional training jugglers through workshops and individual mentoring, then as an artistic mentor for 3rd- and 2nd-year professional students, providing annual guidance and directing end-of-cycle performances.

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TECHNICAL ASPECTS

THE SHOW CAN BE PERFORMED IN ALL TYPES OF NON-SPECIALIZED VENUES* FOR LIVE PERFORMANCES, SUCH AS MEDIA LIBRARIES, MUSEUMS, MULTIPURPOSE HALLS, HERITAGE SITES, ETC.



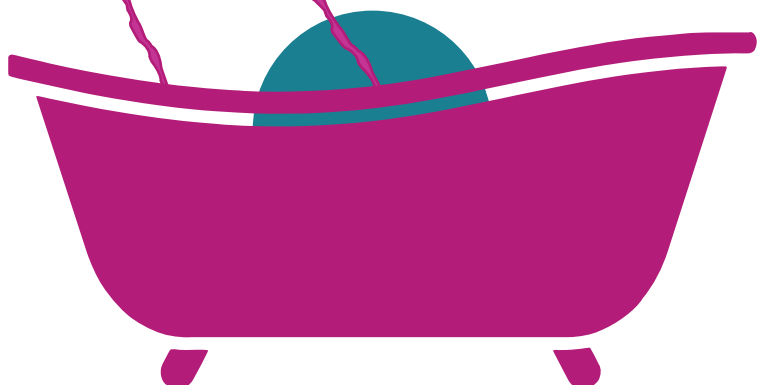
PREREQUISITES

- Stage space: 5 x 5 m
- Height: 2.5–3 m
- Technical autonomy (audio equipment and dance floor)
- Power outlet: 220V / 16A
- Capacity: 80–100 people
- Duration: 45 minutes
- Age: from 6 years
- Possible adaptation in 4 languages: Spanish, French, Italian, English

LOGISTICS

- 3 touring artists + 1 manager tour
- Arrival/departure possible the same day (setup 4h / takedown 1h30)
- Dedicated dressing room space and light catering Vehicle access on site for unloading

** Requests for performances outdoors or in a theater venue will be considered on a case-by-case basis*



CREATION SCHEDULE

• **March 5 > April 11, 2025**

5-week residency at **Collège Alphonse Daudet** • ALÈS (30)

As part of the Artistes au Collège program - Département du Gard

• **April 10, 2025**

RESIDENCY PRESENTATION • **Collège Alphonse Daudet** • ALÈS (30)

• **May 12 > 16, 2025**

Residency at **Centre Social de Brignoud**, with Espace Paul Jargot • VILLE DE CROLLES (38)

• **May 17 > 24, 2025**

Residency at **Médiathèque de Crolles**, with Espace Paul Jargot • VILLE DE CROLLES (38)

• **May 24, 2025**

RESIDENCY PRESENTATION • **Médiathèque de Crolles** • VILLE DE CROLLES (38)

• **September 16 > 20, 2025**

EKO Residency - **Espace culturel Mendi Zolan** • VILLE D'HENDAYE (64)

• **September 21, 2025**

RESIDENCY PRESENTATION • during Heritage Days - VILLE D'HENDAYE (64)

• **September 22 > 26, 2025**

EKO Residency - **Topada Fabrika** - Street Arts Factory in the Basque Country

• **September 27, 2025**

RESIDENCY PRESENTATION • **Topada Fabrika** - Street Arts Factory in the Basque Country

• **October 6 > 17, 2025**

Residency at EHPAD La Reposance - **Le Plongeur, PNC Le Mans Sarthe Pays de la Loire** • LE MANS (72)

• **October 27 > November 7, 2025**

Residency - **Médiathèque Alphonse Daudet** • ALÈS (30)

• **November 8, 2025**

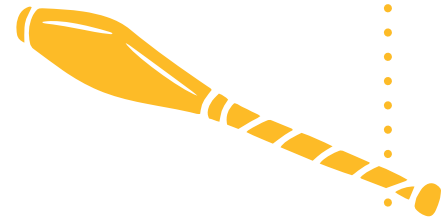
PREMIERE • **Festival TEMPS DE CIRQUES** • Auditorium • ALÈS (30)

• **February 16 > 27, 2026**

EKO Residency - **Central Del Circ** • BARCELONA, SPAIN

• **February 26, 2026**

PERFORMANCE • **Central Del Circ** • BARCELONA, SPAIN



TOURING SCHEDULE

November 2025

- 8/11 **Première Auditorium – Alès (30)**
- 9/11 La Berline – Champclauson (30)
- 12/11 Salle du Château – Barjac (30)
- 13/11 Médiathèque – Caveirac (30)
- 14/11 Médiathèque – Aigues Mortes (30)
- 16/11 Auditorium – Le Vigan (30)
- 22/11 MILCOM (11)
- 27/11 Salle de la Gerbe – Grabels (34)
- 28/11 Médiathèque – Lunel (34)
- 29/11 Médiathèque – Port-La-Nouvelle (11)

December 2025

- 5/12 Buisson (48)
- 6/12 Bourg-Sur-Cologne (48)
- With the Community of Communes Pays du Gévaudan

March 2026

- 11/03 Médiathèque Camon - Le Cirque Jules Verne - PNC Amiens (80)
- 13/03 Université Lille (59)
- 14 /03 Maisons Folies - Prato - Lille (59)
- 15/03 Maisons Folies - Lille (59)
- 24/03 Hospital - Enfants Purpan - Toulouse (31)
- 25/03 Médiathèque - Balma (31)
- 27/03 Maison de Quartier de Vidailhan (31)

April 2026

- 10/04 Halle des Sports - Bourg Madame (66)
- 11/04 Roquebrun (34)
- 19/04 Cinéma - Mur de Barrez (12)
- 20/04 Laguiole (12)
- 22/04 St Geniez D'Olt (12)
- 24/04 Ehpap Sherpa - Belmont Sur Rance (12)
- Tour with the Public Reading Network of the Department of Aveyron (12)

May 2026

- 06/05 - MJC – Crolles - avec l'Espace Paul Jargot (38)
- 07/05 - Salle de l'école primaire Guynemer – Forges 20h (38)
- 22/05 Ville de Ciboure (64)
- 23-24/05 Mai du Théâtre - Hendaye (64)
- 29/05 Ville de Mauléon - Licharre (67)

June 2026

- 5-7/06 Festival Parade(s)
- 14-15/06 School of circus Passing - Tarbes (65)
- 29-30/06 Festival Bilboko Kalealdia – Bilbao (Spain)

September 2026

- 18/09 Festival MAD - Alcobendas (Spain - Madrid)
- 19/09 Festival Respira Circo – Utebo (Spain- Aragon)
- 20/09 Comarca Bajo Cinca/Baix Cinca (Spain - Aragon)
- Gobierno de Aragón (Spain- Aragon)
- 26/09 - Festival Circo se Escribe se Escribe sin H – Quinto (Spain - Aragon)

October 2026

- 9-10/10 - Festival Même pas Chap ! Lacaze aux Sotisses - Navarrenx (64)
- Tours in Eastern Pyrenees (66)

November 2026

- Festival Temps de Cirques in Gard and Hérault (30-34)

December 2026

- 15-16/12 Lille - Prato (59)

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• cie *Le Polpesse* •



PRODUCTION & DISTRIBUTION CONTACT

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PRODUCED BY



Cirque Portatif is a series of circus shows for non-dedicated spaces,
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AVEC LE SOUTIEN DE :



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