



Have The 7 Fingers lost their mind(s)?!!!

World premiere

PSY

At La TOHU starting February 16, 2010

Montreal, January 25, 2010 – You shared the intimacy of their *LOFT*. You followed the *TRACES* that led to their bunker. You were out there with them on the frontiers of *LIFE*. Now come join with The 7 Fingers (Les 7 doigts de la main) in the shrink's office at *PSY*! Starting February 16, the circus collective invites you to follow them into the heart of madness itself – the darkest, craziest corners of the human psyche, where the soul and body twist into a thousand mental and physical acrobatics. You can reach the *PSY* office at La TOHU, which is delighted once again to serve as a theatre for the company that inaugurated the performance space some six (!) years ago.

Dramatic problems require dramatic cures!

Insomnia, paranoia, agoraphobia, multiple personalities, obsessive-compulsive disorders...in *PSY*, each of the troupe's 11 young performers draggles his or her tics and TOCs across the stage. As you can well imagine, each performer's problems and manias supply an ideal pretext for the most spectacular circus routines imaginable. A show in which existential angst and other mental troubles are cured by juggling, Chinese poles, knife throwing, trapeze arts, German wheel, free rope or teeterboard.

As always, the acts that The 7 Fingers perform find ready parallels in the physical languages of dance, acrobatics and theatre, which they endow with fantasy and exuberance that turn the commonest, most ordinary everyday situations into something absolutely extraordinary.

The creation of *PSY* is the result of the collective work of the troupe's 7 founders, including **Shana Carroll**, the show's director. Joining them in the show are 11 young performers full of amazing energy, charm and virtuosity – among them **Héloïse Bourgeois** and **William Underwood**, who both made their first appearance in *TRACES*. Once again, The 7 Fingers show they're adroit hands at spotting new talent and developing their company, which has already gained an enviable place for itself in the contemporary circus world. In this new show, audiences will again discover the same characteristic depth, humour, emotion and entrancing music that have made the Montreal collective's international reputation.

After just a few performances in Sweden as a work in progress, the show is already completely booked for 2010. But it was important for The 7 Fingers to present the world premiere of *PSY* in Montreal – specifically at La TOHU, the space they inaugurated six years ago – before continuing their tour in Europe and the US.

Here's what the press said in Sweden:

"Don't miss this great new experience...it really rocks with virtuoso artists, humour, beauty and super personalities." – Dagens Nyheter

"Crazy, fabulous, surprising and irresistible." – Expressen

A unique company that reinvents the art of the circus

Founded in 2002, The 7 Fingers are distinctive for the modernity of their acts, music and the themes they tackle. As keen observers, they analyze and dissect the scenes and gestures of everyday life, which they then transcend and transform into spectacular adventures imbued with poetry – and a touch of madness as well.

Starting with the creation of *LOFT*, their first show, The 7 Fingers have forged a unique personality. With *TRACES* (2006), The 7 Fingers welcomed five new young artists. The following year, *LA VIE (LIFE)*, brought back the seven founding members: Shana Carroll, Isabelle Chassé, Patrick Léonard, Faon Shane, Gypsy Snider, Sébastien Soldevila and Samuel Tétreault. Throughout 2010, *LA VIE*, *TRACES* and *PSY* will all be on separate international tours. The 7 Fingers will also be the resident circus troupe in the Quebec pavilion at the 2010 Vancouver Olympics.

PSY is also part of the program of the Montreal High Lights Festival (Festival Montréal en lumière).

Forget about Freud, light therapy and pop psychology! There's a sure cure for melancholy, depression and those old winter blues...and it starts February 16 at La TOHU. The 7 Fingers and *PSY* will do wonders for your mood...shock therapy the whole family will love!

CREATION, PRODUCTION AND ARTISTIC DIRECTION

The 7 Fingers (Les 7 doigts de la main)

DIRECTION, BOOK AND CHOREOGRAPHY

Shana Carroll

PERFORMERS

Guillaume Biron, Héloïse Bourgeois, Mohamed Bouseta, Danica Gagnon-Plamondon, Gisle Henriët, Naël Jammal, Olga Kosova, Florent Lestage, Tom Proneur-Orsini, Julien Silliau, William Underwood.

CO-PRODUCTION

La TOHU (Québec), Sadler's Wells (UK), Subtopia (Sweden)

HOURS

8:00 PM / Matinees 2:00 PM

No performance Sundays.

Meet the performers after the show on Thursday, February 25, 2010.

Full details at tohu.ca.

TICKETS

Adults: \$29.75 to \$39.00

Children (12 and under): \$20.85 to \$31.20

RECOMMENDED AGE

For all

LENGTH

110 minutes (including 15-minute intermission)

DIRECTIONS TO TOHU

2345 Jarry East (corner d'Iberville)

Jarry Metro (194 Bus Jarry East)

Iberville or Frontenac Metro (94 Bus Iberville North)

INFORMATION & BOX OFFICE

TOHU

Tel. 514-376-TOHU (8648)

Toll free: 1 888 376-TOHU (8648)

tohu.ca

Admission Network

Tel. 514-790-1245

Toll free: 1 800 361-4595

admission.com

La TOHU receives support from the SSQ Financial Group (its principal partner), from the Federal Department of Canadian Heritage, the Quebec Ministry of Culture, Communications and the Status of Women, and the City of Montreal, as well as from *La Presse*, *Métromédia Plus*, *Radio-Canada Television*, the Admission Network, Uranium Interactive, Univins, Les Brasseurs RJ and Four O'Clock Teas.

-30-

Media relations:

Communications Papineau-Couture

Sara Dignard

514-842-3851 / saradignard@papineau-couture.com