



KAMIKAZE HEART

City Circus performs Fridays –Sundays May 1 – 31, 2009 at BRAVA! Theater

TIM BARSKY (director) is a playwright-performer and circus director with extensive ties to the bay area hip-hop community. A graduate of Brown University with a degree in Medieval Islamic and Judaic studies, he was recently awarded a \$50,000 Gerbode Emerging Playwright's Grant for *TRACK IN A BOX*, a hip-hop and circus based play which premieres in 2010. Best known for his underground-hit *THE BRIGHT RIVER*, he is a co-founder of Vowel Movement Beatboxers, an artist-in-residence at SF's Climate Theater, and has lectured at Stanford, Oberlin, and The Royal College of Art, London. Find out more at timbarsky.com

SHANNON GAINES (choreographer) began her career in Southern California as a competitive artistic gymnast and later as a performance acrobat. Hailed by the Associated Press as one of the preminent circus choreographers in the Bay Area, she is co-founder and choreographer of the dance/circus company Vau de Vire Society in San Francisco. She also works as a professional dancer, stilter, roller skater, living statue, fire performer and clown.

KEVIN CARNES (composer/drum-set/samplers) is an acoustic and electronic drummer, percussionist, composer, and producer who played music ranging from jazz to punk rock for more than 25 years. He has performed and recorded with George Clinton and the P-Funk Allstars; Bernie Worrell and the Woo Warriors; world music DJ Cheb i Sabbah; rock bands Storm and Her Dirty Mouth and the Eric McFadden Trio; electronica-driven Soulstice; as well as Consolidated; Little White Radio; Post Junk Trio; Tyler Stone and Sutro; Shaunna Hall of 4 Non Blondes; and Radioactive of Spearhead fame. Carnes is a founding member of Broun Fellinis, a jazz roots trio based in San Francisco, and he co-founded The Beatnigs, a political punk noise band that exploded in Europe in the late 80's. Currently, Kevin can be seen performing with P-Funk's Electrofunkadelic, Ronkat and the Katdelic Revival, Alittle Friction, UAF and Broun Fellinis.

CHLOE MARVEL LIGHT AXELROD (aerialist, acrobat, The SWAN), a native San Franciscan, is a circus prodigy who began flying trapeze lessons at age 12. She was quickly recruited by Master Lu Yi (Nanjing Acrobats) for his Youth Circus troupe where she performed double straps, bungee, tumbling, teeterboard and hoop. Her unique static hoop style is based upon her study with artists including Master Lu Yi, Gypsy Snider (7 Fingers) and Angelo Rodriguez (Cirque Du Soleil). She has toured internationally with Britain's Generating Company, and was a featured soloist with Universal Studios Osaka and Tokyo Disney (Japan). She recently returned from a national tour with Cirque Productions, performing her double hoop act Scarlett & Axelrod. A long term coach working with the next generation of Bay Area Circus, she is a master artist-in-residence with City Circus.

BOBBY "FINESSE" VICARIO (breakdancer, parkour acrobat, King of CLUBS) is a San Francisco native and active member of the Bay Area's own Renegade Rockers, a b-boy crew formed in 1983. As a member of the Break Beat Assassins Finesse has performed globally, acquiring a championship at Battle Kings in 2002, and Euro Pro Am 2003. He is considered by many to have been one of the dancers who have defined West Coast b-boying. A two year veteran of the Golden State Warrior's Dance Troupe, he is currently a master artist-in-residence with City Circus.



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EDWIN JOHNSON AKA "B-BOY BLACK" (breakdancer, parkour acrobat, King of DIAMONDS) has been dancing since 1999 and is part of Bay Area's own Renegade Rockers and one of the founders for the East Bay breakdance crew know as Cloud 9 Tribe. Known within b-boy circles as a rising prodigy, B-boy Black has won the many events including the Out for Fame City title in 2007 and has also appeared in the Crown City Rockers video "B-boy" in 2006. Edwin still to this day continues participate in Bay Area dance and Hip-hop events. He is pleased to be the first recipient of the AcroSports folk apprenticeship program award.

SHAWN HALLMAN a.k.a IRON MONKEY (breakdancer, parkour acrobat, King IRON MONKEY) has been b-boying for eleven years. An internationally known and sought-after artist, he has won individual and crew competitions at the international level and toured with hip hop legends including Kurtis Blow and KRS-1. His work has taken him across the US, Europe, Asia & Australia, and has seen him hailed by dance historians as a master performer & innovator in the field of hip-hop dance.

BRANDI BRANDES' (composer, vibraphone, keyboards, percussion, electronics) love for music and drama was founded in high school marching band and classic rock. Her composition style is an exploration of dramatic dynamics, from subtle space to big banging. She has had the great fortune to study with SF Ballet percussionist David Rosenthal and Bay Area Latin jazz legendary arranger/composer/director John Calloway while earning a B.A. Music degree with emphasis in Jazz & World Percussion. Compositional credits include two original solo-performed theatrical scores: Betty Shamieh's TERRITORIES at the Magic Theatre and Tim Barksy's 7 BEGGARS. Theatrical pit orchestra credits include WEST SIDE STORY, THE WIZ, KILLING MY LOBSTER, and FIDDLER ON THE ROOF. She is currently an artist in residence at the Climate Theater, and a composer-in-residence with City Circus.

JODI POWER (acrobat, aerialist, b-girl, The King of HEARTS) is a performance acrobat, dancer, and circus generalist based in the San Francisco. As a solo performer, her collaborations stretch from working as go-go dancer for Jay Z, to performing as a featured dancer with The National Ballet of Senegal. A mainstay of Bay Area circus she has performed with a who's who of local ensembles including Vau de Vire Society, Earth Circus, the Oakland Opera, Velocity Circus, and Fou Fou Ha. A resident artist in Bay Area schools with Young Audiences, she is pleased to be a master artist-in-residence with City Circus.

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