

NEWS FROM:

Kinetic Arts Center

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Eemax and Zurno's Amazing Circus Humans (Kinetic Arts Center, Oakland)

An amazing circus show where theatre, puppets, contortionists, acrobatics, circus aerials and clowns bring to life a magical parallel world.

OAKLAND (January 18, 2010)—Eemax and Zurno's Amazing Circus Humans is a circus show which reveals a magical parallel world where humans live in captivity as circus animals. It is a circus show with puppets, human contortionists, acrobatics, aerialists, clowns and theatre that explores what a circus looks like in a parallel world that is also eerily similar to our own. **In the words of Eemax and Zurno** "You will be Delighted and Astonished with the Beauty and Grace of Our Extraordinary Circus Humans!"

The brainchild of Kinetic Arts Center's Artistic Director, Jaron Hollander, **Eemax and Zurno's Amazing Circus Humans** stars Kinetic Arts Center's own **Circus Spire Youth Performance Troupe**. Circus Spire is comprised of circus humans ages 8 – 18. They work 6 – 12 hours every week training in specific circus skills like static trapeze, rope, tissue, acrobatics, clowning, juggling and contortion. Although many of the kids have performance experience in other shows, **Eemax and Zurno's Amazing Circus Humans** is the first Circus Spire production with this group of kids together. "They really are amazing young people," says Victoria Angello, Managing Director/Co-Owner for Kinetic Arts Center. "Not only are they dedicated to learning their craft(s) but they are also excellent students, some are accomplished musicians and all are strong and talented performers. One troupe member, Frances Tiffin (18) is going off this winter to audition at circus schools in Canada in addition to applying to several colleges around the country, has toured for the last two summers with Circus Smirkus (smirkus.org) and is an accomplished clown and aerialist. Other Circus Spire kids like Danielle Foreman (12) and Sage Smith (11) are working hard to improve their pull ups (for trapeze) and back bends (for contortion). I think Danielle is up to 12 pull ups now. And they too are accomplished performers and students. I love watching these kids work - they are inspiring."

Eemax and Zurno's Amazing Circus Humans creates a world that lives so close in parallel to our own than humans are easily captured, trained and taught to perform in an alternative world's circus,"

says Director Jaron Hollander. "I've always been fascinated how in an animal circus the animal does the great trick and the trainer takes the bow. We play with puppets, circus aerials and physical theatre in a new circus form to explore the old circus form. In **Eemax and Zurno** we switch it up – the humans, represented by the Circus Spire kids, are the exotically trained animals and the trainers are not human – they are represented by puppets. Our performances are as exciting and spectacular as any circus you will ever see." Jaron Hollander, former Cirque du Soleil performer and current Artistic Director/Co-Owner of Kinetic Arts Center, taps into his own circus experiences for **Eemax and Zurno's Amazing Circus Humans**, from performing in rural mud shows in New Zealand to extravagantly staged Cirque du Soleil shows.

Eemax and Zurno's Amazing Circus Humans runs Saturdays at 7pm and Sundays at 2pm, March 13 – 28, 2010. Tickets \$15 (adult); \$10 Youth/Seniors (Under 13/Over 65) and seating is general admission. All shows are family-friendly and perform at Kinetic Arts Center, 785 7th Street, Oakland, CA 94607. Special arrangements for pre- or post-show parties can be arranged. Tickets can be purchased online at www.KineticArtsCenter.com or by phone at (510) 444-4800. Purchase tickets before February 15th and receive a 20% discount.

Cast and Production Staff

Director: Jaron Hollander

Producer: Victoria Angello

Costume Designer: Dana MacDermott

Scenic Designer: Luiza Silva

Lighting Design: Lucas Krech

Stage Manager: Kylee Harwick

Cast List: Gina Banfield, Lindsey Barrows, Marieke Dailey, Stephanie & Sophia Fedorova, Danielle Foreman, Ashley Kim, Henry McClellan, Lea Serrar, Laila Shaker, Sage Smith, Frances & Sarah Tiffin, Leah Yrastorza-Daghman.

To learn more about the **Eemax and Zurno's Amazing Circus Humans**, visit www.KineticArtsCenter.com or email Info@KineticArtsCenter.com. For press questions or comments please email Victoria Angello at Victoria@KineticArtsCenter.com or call (510) 444-4800.

Photos and images can be downloaded via <http://www.kineticartscenter.com/about/press>.
Password is circuspress.