

DIAVOLO[®]
ARCHITECTURE IN MOTION

PRESENTS

ESCAPE



DIAVOLO presents

ESCAPE

at L'ESPACE DIAVOLO

A 70 minute show in Two Acts.

There will be a 20 minute intermission and pre-show interaction.



ABOUT THE WORK:

ESCAPE follows a group of humans as they struggle to break free from the chaotic world they live in. With resiliency and collaboration, they escape from their ordinary lives into a surreal landscape of infinite possibilities. Along with DIAVOLO's signature movement aesthetic, ESCAPE features a collection of the company's most famous architectural structures; each evoking a story unique to its design.

ESCAPE is the company's flagship production in their newly renovated performance space: L'ESPACE DIAVOLO. All proceeds from ESCAPE tickets benefit Diavolo's Military Veterans Program and Educational Institute.

THE DIAVOLO VETERANS PROGRAM

The mission of The DIAVOLO Veterans program is to restore veterans' physical, mental, and emotional strengths. The work pairs Diavolo's unique movement methodology with participant-generated stories in workshops and performances across the country.

Since its founding in 2016, the DIAVOLO Veterans program has served hundreds of veterans and garnered national recognition, with Diavolo Creative Director, Jacques Heim, receiving a Letter of Commendation (General Ret. Richard B. Myers, 2023) and a Meritorious Civilian Service Medal (General Paul E. Funk, 2022) to honor the program's life-changing work.



DIAVOLO'S EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMING:

Diavolo's Educational Programming fosters movement education and creative expression through professional and pre-professional training, teaching residencies, and community engagement. Notably, "T.R.U.S.T." Diavolo's interactive show in partnership with The Music Center, has become a staple of elementary schools across Los Angeles County. On average, Diavolo's Educational Programming serves 13,000 students annually, with over 100K youth impacted since the program launched in 2013.

PROGRAM OFFERINGS:

- WORKSHOPS AND RESIDENCIES FOR K-12, COLLEGE & UNIVERSITY STUDENTS
- PRE-PROFESSIONAL & PROFESSIONAL TRAINING
- IN-SCHOOL ASSEMBLY SHOWS
- COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



ABOUT DIAVOLO AND FOUNDER/ CREATOR JACQUES HIEM:

DIAVOLO | ARCHITECTURE IN MOTION® is a creative movement production company that uses custom, architectural structures and a unique movement aesthetic to create live, cinematic, and multimedia experiences. DIAVOLO productions explore innovation and celebrate the complexity of the human condition with an undefinable blend of dance, stunt work, acrobatics, circus arts, and pedestrian movement. The work is athletic, captivating, and visceral.

With Founder & Creative Director JACQUES HEIM at the helm, DIAVOLO has performed all over the world, including prominent features on AMERICA'S GOT TALENT and the 2024 GRAMMY AWARDS.

Heim's other notable credits include:

- CIRQUE DU SOLEIL'S KÁ (Choreographer)
- OPENING CEREMONY FOR THE 16TH ASIAN GAMES (Creative Director)
- TAURUS STUNT AWARDS (Artistic Director)
- BBC AMERICA'S DANCING WITH THE STARS (Choreographer)

THE COMPANY

Chris Borrero
Gabriela Collazo
Kate Dougherty (Associate Choreographer)
Aaron Franco
Caribay Franke (Project & Production Manager)
Chadwick Gaspard
Emily Grable
Simon Larson Greenberg (Sound Designer & Media Specialist)
Evan Hernandez
Steven Jasso (Technical Director)
Liana Kulchin
Jarel Lewis
Dae Marcuz
Abraham Meisel
Mia Moraru
Kittrell Poe
Isabella Reveles
Chloe Reynolds
Co-el Rodriguez (Education Programs Director)
Ryan Ruiz (Assistant Choreographer & Rehearsal Director)
Claire Schick
Emrose Seidenberg
Nick Signor
Allison Slamann
Matt Wagner

DIABOLO CREATIVE TEAM

PRODUCTION

Jacques Heim.....Founder & Creative Director
Jose Hernandez.....Chief Operating Officer
Caribay Franke.....Project & Production Manager
Kate Dougherty.....Associate Choreographer
Ryan Ruiz.....Assistant Choreographer & Rehearsal Director
France Nguyen-Vincent.....Writer & Dramaturg
Steven Jasso.....Technical Director
Simon Larson Greenberg.....Sound Designer & Media Specialist
Co-el Rodriguez.....Education Programs Director
Andrew Miller.....Technical Producer
Julie McDonald.....Artistic Consultant
Tony Selznick.....Artistic Consultant
Jim Vincent.....Artistic Consultant
Majella Loughran.....Casting Director
Arianne Villareal.....House Manager
Lala Araki.....Associate House Manager

LIGHTING

Jean-Yves Tessier.....Lighting Designer
Trish Gutierrez.....Assistant Lighting Designer & Light Board Operator
Frederick A. Babson III.....Rigging & Electrical Engineer

SOUND

Simon Larson Greenberg.....Sound Designer
Thomas Ng.....Sound Board Operator
Jacques Heim.....Sound Board Operator

COSTUMES

David Touster.....Costume Designer
Jennifer Norman.....Costume Tailor
Evelyn Venezky.....Costume Manager
Bailey Soudelier.....Costume Manager

STRUCTURE DESIGN, FABRICATION, AND ENGINEERING

Adam Davis.....Structure Designer
Daniel Wheeler.....Structure Designer
Mike McCluskey.....Designer / Fabricator / Engineer
Tina Trefethen.....Designer / Fabricator / Engineer
Mark Baker.....Technical Production Consultant

MARKETING AND MEDIA

Table 7 Strategies.....Marketing

Victoria Cairl

Mark Scoff

Jim Cairl

Lindsey Stone

Kylie Frame

Pete Sanders.....Public Relations & Press

Simon Larson Greenberg.....Media Specialist

Jordan Fiksenbaum.....Producing Consultant

Aaron Mendez.....Filmmaker, Videographer, Editor

Carolina Arango.....Filmmaker, Videographer, Editor

Cheryl Mann.....Photographer

George Simian.....Photographer

Additional Filming by:

Caleb Haas, Grace Garret, Hunter Hernandez and Dario Garcia

ESCAPE TEXTS TRANSCRIPTS

All texts written by France Nguyen Vincent except when otherwise credited

- ACT 1 -

IT ALL STARTED HERE...

(Voiceover by Jacques Heim)

In this space, with a group of people eager to move, ready to dare, and wanting to create.

We used movement as our language to connect, to learn what it means to care and to trust. We channeled our passions, confronted our fears, and discovered what we were capable of. In this space, where time stretched and often stood still, we found refuge from the noises of the outside world.

We worked with the same commitment as if we were the only ones left on earth, on a mission to survive.

In this space, we explored every possible and impossible way to shape our environment, taking it apart, rebuilding it, shifting through, finding new ways - in and out.

In this space, we experienced how movement can become a language of interdependence and restoration. Our work always carries that simple truth that we cannot do it alone, and it's with that certainty that, in this space, our show begins now.

BOXED IN

(voiceover by Chadwick Gaspard)

Boxed in my own reality
Feeling dimmed, held back,
Mentally confined.
Shrinking to fit inside
Standard frames, grids of potential
Sparkling promises of achievement, reward and happiness.
Aspirations that may feel safe and can be beautiful,
but I still feel boxed in!
Rules and control. They are needed, but who are they serving?
Expectations; they weigh on everything,
It is all so heavy, immobilizing
I have responsibilities, but that's not why I am looking for a way out
I just want to breathe, to feel lighter, untied
My dreams, my escape, my quiet rebellion
I sense I am not alone, but I feel isolated
Does everybody feel that way?

ESCAPE, BUT WHY?

(by performers - editing by Simon Greenberg)

It's a chance to feel what I haven't before
Detach from the things that feel wrong in a certain place
Escape is constantly changing; right now it's panic
Not necessarily the need to recluse away,
but to open up and release
Experiencing my reality to the fullest
As a tool to process, but only if it also wakes you up
Searching for something you desire
I escape to the present moment,
and the things that I am worried about, they all fall away
Every single moment provides an opportunity to make a choice

ESCAPE, BUT WHY?

(CONTINUED)

I am usually looking for change
Looking at the thing that I am doing and do the opposite;
it's that duality that keeps me sane
Everytime that I have the reaction of wanting to flee and claw,
I have to connect and calm
Escaping my habits, trying to get out of my own way
I escape the now as much as possible
Thinking more about what's next
I used to associate escaping with overwhelm and frustration...
Disappearing and crumbling away
It happens with change, but if we are not changing we are not living
... Now I kind of associate it more with the ability to choose, to reset
But where am I supposed to go ?
You are already at your destination...You have already arrived!

- ACT 2 -

OVER THE COURSE OF OUR JOURNEY ...

"[...we] will no longer be the person [we] believed we once were.
[We] will detect slow and subtle [transformations] going on all around
[us], more importantly [transformations] in [us] ..."

Mark Z. Danielewski

"[...Humanity] is this [multiple] and collective unity in which the unity of
destination and the differences of destinies are to be understood
through each other"

Paul Ricoeur

"We are each other's harvest; we are each other's business; we are
each other's magnitude and bond."

Gwendolyn Brooks

"The only way to make sense out of change is to plunge into it, move
with it, and join the dance."

Alan Wilson Watts

LOOKING BEYOND

(voiceover by Shannon Corbeil)

We are all explorers, not just of the world, but of our own edges.

We carry the instinct to seek, to stretch, to go beyond...

A call for adventure

A desire for something new

A wondering stare into the depth of a night sky

A silent yearn for love

A deep breath

An effort to be brave

A need to not stand still

A refusal to be constrained

We are all explorers, not just of the world, but of our own edges.

We carry the instinct to seek, to stretch, to go beyond...

When you see the openings, if you are curious, and dare to go...

That's how destinies are changed.

EQUILIBRIUM

(voiceover by Jacques Heim)

And here we are... almost at the end of this journey.

We have been moving fast, venturing far, and in our search for fulfillment, confidence and freedom, we've discovered that we have the agency to shape not only our reality, but also our dreams... the power to escape, and to return.

We've discovered that, if we must find and preserve equilibrium in the constant motion of life's current, stability is not the absence of movement, and balance can be found in togetherness.

We've discovered that whether you choose to leap, or get randomly catapulted out of your sphere, you can trust that someone will always be there to catch you.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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SPECIAL THANKS

It took a village to turn L'ESPACE DIAVOLO from a dream into a reality.

Thank you to the following people for their time, labor, and expertise:

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Emrose Seidenberg	Allison Slamann
Matt Reiner	Claire Schick
Mark Ferrando	Aaron Franco
Simon Greenberg	Emily Grable
Co-el Rodriguez	Keilani Mussetter
Chadwick Gaspard	Nola Gibson
Kate Dougherty	Roshen Edakkara



Thank you for joining us!

By coming to ESCAPE today, you are not only supporting the live arts, but you are also contributing to Diavolo's Community Initiatives.

To further support our Veteran and Educational Programs please scan the QR code below:

