

Awards & Distinctions

Since Cirque du Soleil was formed in 1984, it has won over a hundred awards and distinctions from various organizations and institutions for originality in its shows and excellence in management.

Here are a few of the major awards and distinctions Cirque du Soleil has received:

Anaheim, 2008 – KÀ won a **Thea Award for Outstanding Achievement** in the Technical Achievement category, thanks to the show's seven independently controlled rising platforms: the Sand Cliff Deck, the Tatami and five lifts.

New York, 2007 – Guy Laliberté received the Humanitarian Award by the United Nations Association of New York for his profound commitment to implementing sustainable water access initiatives. The Humanitarian Award is presented each year in observance of United Nations Day.

Monte Carlo, 2007 - Guy Laliberté received the Ernst & Young **Entrepreneur of the Year** award for all three levels: Quebec, Canada and international.

Los Angeles, 2007 – The program *Cirque du Soleil Presents Corteo* won an Emmy Award in the category "Outstanding Picture Editing For A Special" (Editor: Sylvain Lebel).

Madrid, 2006 – Guy Laliberté has received a **Madrid Creative Award**. Created by the Camilo José Cela University in Madrid, the Creative Madrid Awards recognize the imagination, creativity and sense of innovation of some of the world's current personalities.

New York, 2006 – The Billboard Touring Awards honor DELIRIUM with a **Creative Content Award**. These awards are granted to the concert industry's top artists and professionals for the year, based on the Billboard Boxscores chart.

Montreal and Ottawa, 2006 – Guy Laliberté receives the **Entrepreneur of The Year award for Quebec and Canada** within The Entrepreneur Of The Year® program by Ernst & Young. He also took an award in the Media and entertainment category.

Las Vegas, 2006 - **Best Production** and **Best Choreography** are awarded to "O" by the Las Vegas Review-Journal Reader's Poll. "O" has received awards from the Las Vegas Review Journal for the last 8 years.

Toronto, 2005 - The program *Midnight Sun* took a prestigious Gemini Award at the annual gala of the Academy of Canadian Cinema & Television in the "Best Direction in a Variety Program or Series" category.

New York, 2005 – Cirque du Soleil is awarded the **Trophée des arts** by the French Institute Alliance Française (FIAF) in New York. By awarding the trophy to Cirque du Soleil, the FIAF wishes to recognize the immense success enjoyed by the show *Saltimbanco* presented for the first time in Paris this summer. The Trophée des arts is awarded to an artist or group of artists beloved by the French, Americans and residents of French-speaking countries alike and who has made a significant contribution to cross-cultural understanding.

New York, 2005 - The hand balancing act from *Varekai* received the **RELLY Award** from the *Live with Regis & Kelly* show, broadcast on the American television network ABC, for Best Unusual Performance Segment.

New York, 2005 - *Cirque du Soleil Fire Within* has received the **2005 TV Series DVD Excellence Award**. Given out in New York City, this honour recognizes the creative and technical quality of the *Cirque du Soleil Fire Within* DVD, directed and produced by Cirque du Soleil Images and Richmond Studios.

Quebec City, 2005 - In June, Music Composer René Dupéré received an **honorary doctorate** in music from his alma mater, Université Laval de Québec.

Ottawa, 2004 – Guy Laliberté receives the **Order of Canada** from the Governor General of Canada, the highest distinction in the country.

Las Vegas, 2004 – **Best Production** is awarded to "O" by the Las Vegas Review-Journal Reader's Poll.

Quebec City, 2004 – Guy Laliberté receives the Government of Quebec's **Ordre de la Pléiade**, which honours personalities who have distinguished themselves through their contribution to the development of francophonie.

London (UK), 2004 - Employees from Cirque du Soleil's International Headquarters in Montreal set the **world record** for the greatest number of stilt-walkers (544) in the same place at the same time. The event marked the company's 20th anniversary. The record was ratified by Guinness and published in the book "Guinness World Records 2006."

Fort Lauderdale, 2004 – Cirque du Soleil receives the **Gold Medallion Award** from the International Swimming Hall of Fame for its show "O". This award is usually presented to a former swimmer; this is the first time the award has been given to an organization.

Toronto, 2003 – The television documentary series “Cirque du Soleil Fire Within” takes the **Geminis** for “Best Direction in a Documentary Series” and “Best Reality-Based Entertainment Program or Series.”

Los Angeles, 2003 – The TV documentary series “Cirque du Soleil Fire Within” (*Cirque du Soleil sans filet*) wins a **Primetime Emmy award** in the category “Outstanding Nonfiction Program (Alternative).”

Paris, 2003 – The handbalancing act in *Alegria* performed by Denys Tolstov takes the **bronze medal** at the Festival de cirque de demain.

Monte Carlo 2003 – The juggling act in *Dralion* performed by Viktor Kee takes the **Clown d’argent** at the 27th Festival international du cirque de Monte-Carlo.

New York, 2003 – The New York Festivals award the **Gold WorldMedal** in the Television Programming and Promotion competition, Performing Arts Special category, to the production *Cirque du Soleil Presents Alegria*.

Los Angeles, 2002 – The choreography for the special act presented by Cirque du Soleil at the Academy Awards gala earns Debbie Brown an **Emmy Award**.

Toronto, 2002 – At the Digital Marketing Awards, the Cirque du Soleil website is given **four Gold Awards** in the following categories: Best of Show (grand prize), Experience, Content / Information, and Experimental, as well as a certificate for the site as a whole.

Toronto, 2002 – Cirque du Soleil has been given its star on the **Canada’s Walk of Fame** in Toronto.

New York, 2001 – In the annual *Billboard* publication “The Year in Music,” Cirque du Soleil holds two of the ten prestigious positions in the **Top 10** ranking. The seventh spot in the Top World Music Artists category belongs to Cirque du Soleil, and the ninth spot in the Top World Music Albums category belongs to the *Dralion* album (the soundtrack of the show of the same name).

Los Angeles, 2001 – The television special *Cirque du Soleil Presents Dralion™* is awarded three **Emmy Awards** in the following categories: Outstanding Costumes for a Variety or Music Program, Outstanding Variety, Music or Comedy Special and Outstanding Directing for a Variety or Music Program. The Emmys are awarded annually by the Academy of Television Arts & Science in the United States.

Las Vegas, 2001 – Best Production is awarded to “O” by the 2001 Las Vegas Review Journal Reader’s Poll.

Monte Carlo, 2001 – At the Festival international du cirque de Monte-Carlo, the **Nice-Matin** and **Société des auteurs, compositeurs et éditeurs** prizes are awarded to Cirque du Soleil for the *Quidam* aerial contortion act performed by Isabelle Chassé and Craig Jennings.

Monte Carlo, 2000 – Cirque du Soleil wins a **Clown d’argent** at the 24th “Festival international du cirque de Monte-Carlo” for its “Statues vivantes” act. This acrobatic adagio is performed by Marie-Laure Mesnages and Yves Decoste.

New York, 2000 – The 42nd New York Festivals award the **silver WorldMedal** in the Television Programming and Promotion competition, Family Special category, to the production *Cirque du Soleil Presents Quidam*.

Ottawa, 2000 – Cirque takes the **National Arts Centre Award**, one of the Governor General's Performing Arts Awards. This honour goes to an artist or group of artists which has made an exceptional contribution throughout the previous year.

Burbank, 1999 – “O” receives a **THEA Award** in the Live Show category from the Themed Entertainment Association (an international alliance of entertainment industry professionals).

Monte Carlo, 1998 – The *Quidam* Banquine act won the prestigious **Clown d’or** along with 6 other awards at the Festival international du cirque de Monte-Carlo.

New York, 1998 – *Quidam* wins a **Drama Desk Award** in the Unique Theatrical Experience category.

London, 1998 – Cirque du Soleil wins the British **Live Award** in the Best Theatre Production category.

Montreal, 1998 – The “Ordre des Architectes du Québec” honours the Studio, Cirque du Soleil’s International Headquarters, and its architect Dan Hanganu, with its **Business Architecture** prize.

Germany, 1997 – Cirque du Soleil wins a prestigious **Bambi Award** in the Creativity category from Burda publishing company.

Paris, 1997 – Chimed Ulsiibayar and Tseveendori Nomin’s contortion act from *Alegria* garners a **silver medal** at the 11th “Festival du Cirque de l’Avenir” .

Vienna, 1997 – Cirque du Soleil wins the **Macenas Award**, specially created by the Austrian Arts Sponsorship Awards for Cirque du Soleil in recognition of its exemplary work in promoting partnerships between businesses and the cultural community.

Montreal, 1997 – Guy Laliberté receives the “**Ordre national du Québec**”, the Government of Quebec’s highest distinction.

Costa Mesa, California, 1997 – Cirque du Soleil’s Resources Service receives an **Optimas Award** in the Global Outlook category from the prestigious US magazine *Workforce*.

Paris, 1996 – Elena Lev is awarded a **silver medal** at the 10th “Festival du Cirque de l’Avenir” for her hoops act from *Alegría*.

Los Angeles, 1995 – The shows *Mystère*, *Alegría* and *Saltimbanco* win the honours at the **First Annual Digital Hollywood Awards** in the Best Live Performance category.

New York, 1995 – Télémagik Productions wins a **gold medal** at the New York Festival in the Performing Arts category for the *Saltimbanco* television special.

Monte Carlo, 1995 – The Steben twins receive a **Clown d’argent** award for their *Saltimbanco* trapeze act at the 19th “Festival international du cirque de Monte-Carlo”.

Paris, 1994 – Caroline Therrien and Xavier Lamoureux win a **silver medal** at the 17th “Festival Mondial du Cirque de Demain” for their trapeze act in the *Alegría* show.

New York, 1993 – *Saltimbanco* is honoured with an **Outstanding Achievement Award** at the 38th Annual Village Voice Obie Awards. The Obies are awarded to Off- and Off-Off Broadway theatre productions.

Monte Carlo, 1992 – Cirque du Soleil wins a **Clown d’or** award at the 15th “Festival international du cirque de Monte-Carlo” for its contortion work in *Nouvelle Expérience*.

Los Angeles, 1992 – *Saltimbanco* takes home **Drama Logue Theater Awards** in the following categories: Production, Direction, Performance, Scenic Design, Lighting System and Costume Design.

Paris, 1992 – The Steben twins’ trapeze act from *Saltimbanco* wins a **gold medal** at the 15th “Festival Mondial du Cirque de Demain”.

New York, 1991 – A **Drama Desk Award** is awarded to *Nouvelle Expérience* in the Unique Theatrical Experience category.

Paris, 1990 – Trapeze artist Anne Lepage wins a **gold medal** at the 13th "Festival Mondial du Cirque de Demain".

New York, 1989 – Télémagik Productions receives an **Emmy Award** in the Outstanding Special Event category for the television production *Cirque du Soleil: The Magic Circus*, aired on HBO (Home Box Office).

Switzerland, 1989 – The **Rose d'or de Montreux** is awarded to *Cirque du Soleil: Le Cirque Réinventé*, produced by Télémagik Productions.

United States, 1989 – The TV production *Cirque du Soleil: the Magic Circus*, shown on HBO (Home Box Office), wins an **Ace Award** in the Variety Special or Series category.