

CIRQUE DU SOLEIL®



The Studio

A full-fledged creation, innovation and training laboratory

The Studio in Cirque du Soleil's International Headquarters is a full-fledged creation, innovation and training laboratory. Since 1997, all Cirque du Soleil shows have been created at the Studio, which provides a great deal of flexibility to the creative teams working on various Cirque projects.

Artists training

Upon being hired by Cirque du Soleil, performers come to the Studio at the International Headquarters in Montreal for a few weeks or months of preliminary training before joining a show. All artists undergo artistic and acrobatic training while at the Creation Studio.

Performers come from a variety of backgrounds, including artistic gymnastics, tumbling, acrosport, swimming, diving, dance, singing, music and, of course, circus arts. Some forty nationalities are represented among Cirque du Soleil artists. In 2009, over 600 performers will receive customized training in the Creation Studio.

To supervise performer training programs, the Studio employs close to one hundred trainers from around the world. These trainers specialize in such fields as dance, theatre, singing and acrobatics.

Physiotherapists and fitness specialists work on site in the Studio to keep performers in good health, help maximize their physical potential, and ensure an optimal environment for their development.

The Centre for Research and Innovation of Performance

Research and development have always played a key role at *Cirque du Soleil* in each and every one of its activities. The Centre for Research and Innovation of Performance (CRIP) at *Cirque du Soleil* is an office of specialized studies in the development of equipment, environment and physical and acrobatic performance at *Cirque du Soleil*. It acts as an incubator of innovative ideas developed to support the creation objectives of *Cirque du Soleil* and its position as a leading company in the field of acrobatic performance and circus arts for the long term. The CRIP development projects topics range from extreme sport to rebound surfaces and automation, to name but a few.

Training rooms

The Studio houses various acrobatic and artistic training rooms to address the various training needs of the artists.

Three acrobatic training studios:

- Studio A/B: a 1,425 m² acrobatic training studio that is 23 metres high. The room is equipped with a technical "trampoline" 18 m above the ground from which acrobatic and technical equipment can be safely hung. The trampoline is made of 38 km of woven metal cabling;
- Studio C: a 720 m² acrobatic training studio that's also 23 m high, adjacent to the first room;
- Studio E: A 785 m² acrobatic training studio containing a pit filled with 25,000 Styrofoam cubes (instead of a traditional net), a trampoline and a fast track.

Two artistic training studios:

- Studio D: a 361 m² dance studio divided into four small all-purpose rooms;
- Studio Theatre: a 315 m² Studio Theatre. In this multi-purpose room, specific atmospheres can be created thanks to a flexible lighting system. Among other things, acting workshops are held there.