Cirque Éloize
Saloon
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2018
11AM | Jackson Hall
Recommended for grades K–12

Common Core
Common Core broadens the definition of a “text,” viewing performance as a form of text, so students are experiencing and interacting with a text when they attend a performance. Seeing live performance provides rich opportunities to write reflections, narratives, arguments, etc.

K-12 RL.3; K-12 RL.5-7; K-12 RL.9; 6-9.RL.3; K-12 RI.3; 6-12 RI.7

About Saloon
The Wild Wild West comes alive in Saloon, the newest acrobatic creation from contemporary circus troupe Cirque Éloize. Artistic director Jeannot Painchaud, director Emmanuel Guillaume and musical director Eloi Painchaud created Saloon by mixing country music (Johnny Cash and Patsy Cline) with festive folk-inspired compositions. Live instrumentation (violins, banjo, mandolin, guitar and percussion) and vocals are a major asset when it comes to bringing this period of history alive.

Walking through Saloon’s doors means entering a mythical atmosphere created by live music and the exhilarating pace of spectacular performances. Picture this: America is under construction. The West is booming. The railroad is being developed. In the middle of the desert, a town comes to life. A saloon opens its doors. A place to gather and share tales, it quickly becomes a theatre for stories of all kinds. In Cirque Éloize’s Saloon, the infectious energy of folk music sets the tone to an acrobatic comedy that sweeps the spectators away in a mad rush. Enigmatic, colorful characters come together and reveal themselves, resulting in a series of unexpected situations, unfolding to the rhythm of acrobatic prowess and original choreographies. Hold on to your 10-gallon hats!

About Cirque Éloize
A driving force in the circus art reinvention movement, Cirque Éloize has been creating award-winning entertainment content for nearly 25 years and ranks among the world’s leading contemporary circuses. Based in Montreal, Canada, Cirque Éloize has taken part in numerous international festivals and performed on both New York’s Broadway and London’s West End. Its productions are crafted for a wide range of audiences and have been embraced by over 50 cultures. They maintain their Montreal studios, located in the historic Dalhousie Train Station, as a place for dialogue and encounters for the circus community. Its doors are always open to passionate emerging artists. Today, the company employs more than 100 people and collaborates with over 400 people across the globe.
Think About It

Dear Students,

1. Have you ever tried to juggle or any other type of acrobatics? Would you like to try them out?
2. How did the actors, costumes, music and theatrical props work together to create each scene?
3. What did you like best about the performance and why? Was it what you expected?

MC Fun Facts:

- The outside walls of the Mondavi Center are made from sandstone from India that is 1.8 billion years old.
- What look like fossils in the sandstone tiles, are really iron and manganese crystal dendrites.
- The building sits on 200 pillars to keep the sounds and vibrations of the freeway and trains from being heard or felt inside the theater.
- The ceiling curtains in Jackson Hall weigh 2,200 pounds each.

What is expected of student audiences at the matinee:

- To facilitate starting the performance on time, get a drink of water and use the restroom before entering the seating area.
- Enter the auditorium quietly and take your seats immediately (note that all matinees have reserved seating).
- Show courtesy to the artists and other guests at all times.
- Demonstrate appreciation for the artists’ work by applauding.
- Refrain from making unnecessary noise or movements.
- Please eat lunch before or after the performance. Food is not allowed in the theater.
- Use information learned from the pre-matinee discussion to enhance the performance experience.
- Please do not photograph or record the artists.

What your students can expect of their experience at the Mondavi Center:

A theater is a charged space, full of energy and anticipation. When the house lights (the lights that illuminate the audience seating) go down, the excitement level goes up! Theaters are designed so that the voices of the singers and actors and the music of the musicians can be heard. But this also means that any sound in the audience: whispering, speaking and moving about, can be heard by other audience members and by the performers. Distractions like these disrupt everyone’s concentration and can spoil a performance.

The performers on stage show respect for their art form and for the audience by doing their very best work. By watching attentively the audience shows respect for the performers. Appreciation can be shown in many different ways, depending upon the art form and the culture(s) of the people in the audience. For instance, while the audience at a dance performance may sit quietly, other types of performances may invite audience participation.

Applause is the best way for audience members to share their enthusiasm and to show their appreciation for the performers. Applaud at the end of a performance! Sometimes the audience will clap during a performance, as after a featured solo. Audience members may feel like laughing if the action on stage is funny, crying if the action is sad, or sighing if something is seen or heard that is beautiful.

Mondavi Center Arts Education

Arts Education provides CueSheets for all performances in the Mondavi Center 2017–18 School Matinee Series. They are intended to help teachers prepare their students for the school matinee that they will attend at Mondavi Center, UC Davis.

Support provided by