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Confirmed events (in addition to the two featured October events)

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presence by email.

**Tuesday 2 December, 10
a.m. Concordia University.**

Le choc culturel.

**Expériences du cirque à
l'étranger** (témoignage et
réflexion), Génifère

Legrand en conversation.

&

**Les femmes clowns en
Europe et au Québec**

Delphine Cézard

**Friday 9 January 2015, 10
a.m., Studio CirQus (4227**

St. Dominique)

**Which social circus for
which society?**

David Simard (Cirque du
Monde), Jen Spiegel

(Concordia), and Zita

Nyarady (York).

**Friday 13 February 2104,
10 a.m. to 2 p.m., National**

Circus School (buy-your-
own lunch on premises)

**Circus training into
circus practice (pedagogy
and curriculum)**

Amanda Langlois (McGill),

Working Group's Activities for 2014-15

Circus research, over the past few years has found a way to consume many of us, and the exponential growth of our fundamentally transdisciplinary field, through its peer-reviewed publications in a wide-array of disciplines, talks, conferences, and training sessions is most heartening. Quite honestly, I can't keep pace with updating the Working Group's website as there is so much happening so quickly on so many fronts. How far we've come in less than 5 years, from a few cirque-curious scholars to a veritable community of multi-faceted inquiry into contemporary circus arts, from its disciplines and practices to its economic, social, aesthetic impacts.

As you'll see, Patrice Aubertin at ENC-NCS and I are working on a Transnational Transdisciplinary Circus Network grant application in order to bring together some of what we feel are amongst the most dynamic forces currently engaged in contemporary circus research. This initiative will bring institutions together, establishing an ongoing dialogue and working together on joint initiatives, contributing to richer research, teaching, and production environments informing and enriching each other.

Essentially, we are joining forces with colleagues (and institutions) across the world and their networks with a Partnership Development initiative bringing together Concordia University, National Circus School of Montreal and universities and professional schools in Canada, the U.S., Europe, South America, and Australia, as well as international individual collaborators and associations. More on this very soon!

For my part, I find that my initial research initiatives have

on her MA thesis on circus curriculum perception by artists after they have finished their training. Jon Burt (Macquarie University, Australia), talk on circus pedagogy and hybridity in its training and approach.

Ron Beadle, (Northumbria University, England), talk on a study on the development of self-understanding of circus artists as they cross over from school to the profession

Exact date to be announced in **March, McGill University Adaptations of Stage Illusions in Contemporary Québec Performance**

Joe Culpepper (Visiting Scholar, McGill)

Friday 3 April, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Concordia University (buy-your-own lunch on premises)

L'histoire orale et la culture matérielle du cirque québécois (mise à jour et démonstration),

Concordia University, Jan Rok Achard, Louis Patrick Leroux.

&

Nation, Globalism & the Transnational

From China to the Big Top: Aesthetic Labor of Chinese Acrobats in North American Circus Industries, 1980s-2000s, Tracy Zhang (Université de Montréal).

Animal Celebrity: The Memorialization of Jumbo the Elephant, Christabelle Sethna (University of Ottawa).

very much because ongoing time-consuming projects, involving many extraordinary people in a variety of disciplines and critical approaches (aesthetics, history, poetics and grammar of circus creation, technology and circus, health equity and the discourse of social circus). Circus research has become an extraordinary opportunity to learn rather than to profess, and to be constantly taken outside of my comfort zone. The Working Group's schedule of activities follows this very principle of constant inquiry. What can we learn from the various research questions academics, trainers, and practitioners are investigating? How can these questions bring us to a better understanding of our own research concerns? What new possible perspectives arise from these discussions?

Every panel and talk will be videorecorded and archived for future (and remote) reference. They will be housed at both Concordia and the National Circus School in Montreal.

I hope that you can come to some or all of the events planned and look forward to meeting you! And please do not hesitate to suggest talks, panels or other events for future consideration.

Louis Patrick Leroux

Thursday 16 October, 9:30-11:30 a.m., LB 646, dept of English, Concordia University

Circus & Its Others

Exploring a new field

Discussion hosted by Charles Batson and Karen Fricker

Circus practices have long offered a celebration and an exploitation of differences, from stagings of exceptional performing bodies to the display of "freakery." This new research project will explore the relationship of contemporary circus to this legacy, asking to what

Thursday, 30 October 30, 7 to 9 p.m., National Circus School of Montreal

Creation and Ownership in Circus

A panel discussion with professionals, trainers, and students

Creation and Ownership in Circus

Who "owns" acts, thinking about tradition, direction, and authorship in the circus; what are the models and their limits; how are these models particular to circus? Guests will include Sarah Poole (National Circus School),

End of May, early June
(date to be announced),
University of Ottawa, as
part of the Congress for
Humanities and Social
Sciences
**Writing the Body –
Textualités du corps**,
bilingual seminar on
writing the performative
body (in theatre, dance,
and circus), organized by
Catherine Cyr (McGill and
Concordia) and Louis
Patrick Leroux (Concordia).

extent and in what ways
circus is always-already
different,
and *about* difference. We
will explore this question
from aesthetic,
dramaturgical,
pedagogical, and
entrepreneurial
perspectives, looking at
diversities including but
not limited to gender and
gender expression, ethnic
and national origin,
geography, able-ness,
sexual orientation, socio-
economic status, age, and
species. In this initial
discussion invited
participants will make
short presentations on
their approach to these
questions, followed by
discussion.
Confirmed participants
include Patrice Aubertin
(École Nationale de
Cirque), Roy Gomez Cruz
(Northwestern University),
David Fancy (Brock
University), Yohann Floch
(Freelance cultural
consultant, France), Erin
Hurley (McGill University),
Katie Lavers (Edith Cowan
University, Australia),
Andréane Leclerc (circus
artist, Montréal), VK
Preston (McGill University),
Christabelle Sethna
(University of Ottawa), and
Tracy Zhang (Université de
Montréal).

Please confirm your
presence with Karen
Fricker, kfricker@brocku.ca

Jesse Dryden (Circus
Schmirkus), Patrice
Aubertin (National Circus
School), Samuel Tétreault
(7 doigts de la main),
chair: Louis Patrick Leroux

Please confirm your
presence with Myriam
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