

太陽劇團 綻放特技藝人的奇異能力 Cirque du Soleil Revives the Art of the Circus

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圖片提供／太陽劇團 Photo: Al Seib Costumes: Dominique Lemieux ©2003 Cirque du Soleil

2004年3月，在富比世雜誌公布的全球富豪榜單上，首次出現以吞火起家的億萬富翁賴利伯。他是太陽劇團的創辦人之一，身價約4百億台幣，1984年與另外兩位踩高蹺、變戲法的街頭藝人，打造了「太陽劇團」（舊名：太陽馬戲團）這一個改變世界奇蹟的藝術表演團體。

他們扭轉了一般人對馬戲團的想法，馬戲團不再一定要有象、獅子與皮鞭，取而代之的是類似總體劇場的概念，將舞台效果、服裝、音樂、燈光拉到同樣重要的高度，作整體的規劃與搭配，連節目的節奏、高潮的佈局，都精心設計，同時也網羅全球高手能人，像是1999年推出劇碼《Dralion》前，便到中國四川的戲曲學校，網羅受過傳統訓練、身段柔軟的小朋友，運用他們的特質，重新訓練，創造了一齣精采絕倫、高潮迭起的表演。

太陽劇團的世界總部在蒙特婁聖米榭區，原本是垃圾掩埋場，現在卻是一棟連著一棟的現代建築，包含辦公室、5棟巨大的訓練室、布景道具廠房、藝術家宿舍與國立馬戲學校等。擁有來

自40多個國家，說著25種語言的員工，4千多位的表演藝術家，這裡不但是個大家庭，也是個大學校，來自全球的高手，在這裡互相較勁，同時也被重新包裝改造，創造出驚人的藝術產值。光是2007年服裝工廠就生產了2萬5千多組服飾、3千雙鞋。

1984年創團，1992年開始他們就未再接受任何政府或私人的補助，並讓5大洲1百多個城市的7千萬名觀眾大開眼界。目前在全球有8個巡迴表演與7個常駐表演，近期也將在洛杉磯、日本、澳門和杜拜開闢新的表演節目。2009年1月，更將接受邀約，來到台北演出《Alegria歡躍之旅》，讓台灣觀眾也開開眼界。

雖然在台灣還沒有機會看到現場演出，透過DVD的傳播，太陽劇團在台灣已擁有極高的知名度。

想感受表演藝術的神奇魔力，趕緊收看機上好萊塢精選影片：《太陽馬戲團：奇幻嘉年華》。



Photo: Camirand Costumes: Dominique Lemieux ©2006 Cirque du Soleil

In 2004, Canadian Guy Laliberté made his debut on the Forbes list of the world's billionaires, his fortune amassed as founder and CEO of the entertainment empire Cirque du Soleil.

Starting out as a stiltwalker and fire-eater, he and a partner created Cirque du Soleil in 1984, a move that would redefine the circus as we know it. Laliberté ditched traditional tents, animals and comic dialog, replacing it with high drama, breathtaking acrobatics, and a dazzling light and sound show.

Cirque du Soleil's international headquarters in Montreal, built on a former garbage dump, boasts modern buildings containing facilities such as acrobatics training rooms, a dance studio, a studio-theater, a fitness training room, and a costume workshop. The company's 1,000 performers hail from more than 40 countries and speak 25 languages.

Everything at Cirque du Soleil is done on a big scale – in 2008 alone, the costume workshop produced more than 25,000 clothing items, requiring over 50 kilometers of fabric, while the footwear department manufactured over 3,000 pairs of shoes.

A thriving commercial enterprise, Cirque du Soleil hasn't received any government funding since 1992. It currently presents 14 shows simultaneously around the world and has opened the eyes of 80 million people on five continents to the wonders of the circus.

In 2008, the company will present three new permanent shows: ZAIA in Macao, ZED in Tokyo and Criss Angel Believe in Las Vegas. And in 2009, Cirque du Soleil will visit Taipei with a new touring show named Alegria.

For a taste of the magic of modern circus, watch *Cirque du Soleil: La Nouba*, on Star Gallery during your flight.

