

A WEEKEND OF DANCE PERFORMANCES,
WORKSHOPS, DJS, GRAFFITI AND CYPHERS
#BREAKINCONVENTION

A Sadler's Wells Project
**breakin
convention**
AN INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF HIP HOP DANCE THEATRE
DENVER 2018



DENVER CENTER FOR THE
PERFORMING ARTS

Presented by

uchealth

**UNITED
AIRLINES** 

A Sadler's Wells Project
breakin'
convention

303 JAM

SAT • NOV 3

INSIDE ACTIVITIES

1 – 5PM

WORKSHOPS PROVIDED BY YOUTH ON RECORD AND LIGHTSHIP BEATBOX

Buell Orchestra Lobby

DJ CHONZ & DJ STAXX: LISTEN TO GREAT MUSIC OR JOIN THE DANCE CYPHER

Buell Mezzanine Lobby

CHRIS HAVEN - INTERACTIVE GRAFFITI DISPLAY

Wolf Room

LIVE GRAFFITI ARTIST, TASTE

Parking Garage - 4th Floor

2:15PM & 3:15PM

SAMPLE SESSION: HAVE A GO AND TRY OUT SOME HIP HOP DANCE STYLES IN OUR BITE SIZE TASTER WORKSHOPS WITH INTERNATIONAL AND LOCAL ARTISTS

Buell Mezzanine Lobby

**All artists, time, and locations are subject to change.*

OUTDOOR STAGE

1PM

BIGWHEEL ELECTROSOUL, LIVE HIP HOP REMIX BAND

1:45PM

LIGHTSHIP BEATBOX, VOCAL LOOPING/ BEATBOXING

2:45PM

MIKE WIRD, SPOKEN WORD POETRY

4PM

THE REMINDERS, HIP HOP ARTISTS

BIGWHEEL ELECTROSOUL



LIGHTSHIP BEATBOX



MIKE WIRD



THE REMINDERS





Jonzi D is the Artistic Director of *Breakin' Convention*.

A dancer, spoken word artist and an established performer in his own right, he has been the foremost advocate for hip hop theatre for over two decades, changing the profile and heavily influencing the development of the British hip hop dance and theatre scene.

Since founding *Breakin' Convention* in 2004, Jonzi has triumphed in raising the profile and giving a platform to hip hop disciplines, which has gained worldwide recognition as being at the vanguard of the development of the art form. Through professional development projects, Open Art Surgery and Back to the Lab, Jonzi has supported hundreds of hip hop dance and rap/poetry artists on their journey to creating theatre.

His critically acclaimed works include 1995's *Lyrical Fearta*, 1999's *Aeroplane Man*, 2006's *TAG... Just Writing My Name*, 2009's *Markus the Sadist* and 2013's *The Letter*. Jonzi's has been featured in HBO's *Def Poetry Jam*, had his short films *Silence da Bitchin'* & *Aeroplane Man* screened on Channel 4, toured his work extensively all over the world and delivered his own TED talk about the influence and evolution of hip hop culture.

A Message from Jonzi D Founder & Artistic Director, *Breakin' Convention*

It's a great pleasure to be back in Denver after our inaugural BC festival last year. The 'Mile High' vibe left me gasping for air, I couldn't wait to come back!

A huge and hyped audience indulged in all of the elements of true hip hop culture: DJs, graffiti, emcees and of course breaking, popping as well as the freshest new dance styles from around the world and around the corner.

Our programme this year will have the same elements, but a brand new line-up: Get ready to ex-perience an adrenaline rush, then innovative boredom from the Netherlands, a Nina Simone inspired solo from France, a cinematic thriller from the UK, and a global trio of popping queens.

I'd like to give a special shout out to all the crews representing Colorado as part of our local-to-global programming. Connecting our creativity and sharing our skills. Extolling the values of the cul-ture: Peace, love and unity - much needed in our world today.

Would you like to try out some moves? Don't miss our Sample Sessions in the foyer. Free, open classes during the festival taught by world-class performers.

'Nuff respect to our *Breakin' Convention* Denver rep, Ian Flaws of the B-Boy Factory, and major big ups to John, Alicia and the rest of the team from Denver Center for being such great hosts.

Let's start *Breakin' Convention*!



A Message from Ian Flaws B-boy Factory and *Breakin' Convention* Denver Rep

Hey, this is Ian from the B-Boy Factory, Denver's premiere *Breakin' Convention* studio. I couldn't be more excited for the internationally acclaimed *Breakin' Convention* to return to the Mile High City this year. The show is going to be amazing again and I'm honored to have played my role in making it a consistent part of the vibrant culture in Denver.

A Sadler's Wells Project

breakin' convention

AN INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF HIP HOP DANCE THEATRE

DENVER 2018

...is the award-winning and critically acclaimed festival of hip hop theatre, committed to celebrating, elevating, supporting and developing the genre.

Spearheaded by the ubiquitous Jonzi D, we work with the most respected, innovative and inspirational artists.

Through our world-renowned international festival, international touring, professional development, youth projects and educational programme we seek to position hip hop dance alongside more historically established art forms.

We are a continually evolving organisation and since the birth of our festival in 2004 we have grown to encompass a range of events and activities. Breakin' Convention (Festival and Tour), Open Art Surgery, Future Elements and Back to the Lab are all key projects in our calendar.

Our core values include profiling the world's elite hip hop performers, nurturing UK-based talent, exploring the possibilities of hip hop dance theatre, educating on the foundations of hip hop dance and engaging with children and young people.

Breakin' Convention is based at and supported by Sadler's Wells.

Sadler's Wells is a world-leading creative organisation dedicated to dance in all its forms. With over three centuries of theatrical heritage and a year-round programme of performances and learning activities, it is the place where artists come together to create dance, and where people of all backgrounds come to experience it – to take part, learn, experiment and be inspired.

Audiences of over half a million come to its London theatres each year, with many more enjoying its touring productions at venues across the UK and around the world, and accessing its content through digital channels.

Sadler's Wells commissions, produces and presents more new dance work than any other theatre in the world, embracing the popular and the unknown. Since 2005, it has helped to bring over 160 new dance works to the stage, many of them involving its 16 Associate Artists, three Resident Companies and four Associate Companies – the most exciting talents working in dance today.

It also nurtures the next generation of talent through research and development, running the National Youth Dance Company and a range of programmes including Wild Card, New Wave Associates, Open Art Surgery and Summer University. Sadler's Wells' learning and engagement activities reach over 25,000 annually through programmes that take dance out into the community and invite communities into the theatre. Projects include community productions and the renowned Company of Elders, its resident over-60s performance group, while events range from pre and post-show talks with dance artists to classes, workshops and assisted performances.

Located in Islington, north London, the current building is the sixth to have stood on site since entrepreneur Richard Sadler first established the theatre in 1683. The venue has played an illustrious role in the history of theatre ever since, with The Royal Ballet, Birmingham Royal Ballet and English National Opera having all started at Sadler's Wells.



FOR BREAKIN' CONVENTION

Artistic Director..... Jonzi D
 Tour Producer..... Emma Ponsford
 Head of Breakin' Convention..... Michelle Norton
 Digital Communications Officer..... Dave Barros
 Coordinator..... Karine Goudout
 Marketing Manager..... Daniel King
 Education Coordinator..... Shay Rafati
 Production Manager & Lighting Design..... John Maddox
 Company Manager..... Barbara Domue
 Show Caller..... Laura Stevens
 Sound and AV Technician..... Mark Webber
 Logo Design..... Ben Wachenje

KEEP IN TOUCH

To receive regular updates highlighting upcoming shows and events, special ticket offers and online competitions join at breakinconvention.com or sadlerswells.com

Photography and the use of audio or visual recording equipment is prohibited in the theatre. Smoking is not permitted anywhere in the building. The theatre cannot accept liability for loss or damage to personal possessions.

Supported using public funding by



Sadler's Wells Theatre
 Rosebery Avenue, Islington, London EC1R 4TN
Ticket Office 0207 863 8000 **Sadler's Wells Trust**
Ltd Registered Charity No. 279884 VAT No. 649178496



SAT, NOV 3

Time	Activity	Place
Preshow Activities		
6 - 7:30pm	Taste: Live Graffiti Artist	Parking Garage, 4th Floor
	DJ Lazy Eyez: Listen to great music or join the dance cypher	Buell Mezzanine Lobby
6:15 - 7pm	Sample Session: Have a go and try out some hip hop dance styles in our bitesize taster workshops with International and Local Artists	Buell Mezzanine Lobby
Main Show		
7:30 - 8:30pm	Breaking Barriers (CO)	Buell Theatre Stage
	School of Breaking (CO)	
	Whole Milk (CO)	
	Sample Culture (Netherlands)	
	BirdGang Dance Company (UK)	
	House music provided by DJ A-L	
Intermission		
8:30 - 9pm	DJ Lazy Eyez: Listen to great music or join the dance cypher	Buell Mezzanine Lobby
Main Show		
9 - 10pm	Block 1750 (CO)	Buell Theatre Stage
	Femme Fatale (USA)	
	Antoinette Gomis (France)	
	The Ruggeds (Netherlands)	
	House music provided by DJ A-L	

STUDENT MATINEE
11AM • FRI, NOV 2

BBOY FACTORY
(COLORADO)

FEMME FATALE
(USA)

SUN, NOV 4

FESTIVAL SCHEDULE

Time	Activity	Place
Preshow Activities		
1:30 – 3pm	Taste: Live Graffiti Artist	Parking Garage, 4th Floor
	DJ Skip Rip: Listen to great music or join the dance cypher	Buell Mezzanine Lobby
1:45 – 2:30pm	Sample Session: Have a go and try out some hip hop dance styles in our bitesize taster workshops with International and Local Artists	Buell Mezzanine Lobby
Main Show		
3 – 4pm	Bboy Factory (CO)	Buell Theatre Stage
	Tricks and Blows (CO)	
	Side by Side (CO)	
	Sample Culture (Netherlands)	
	BirdGang Dance Company (UK)	
	House music provided by DJ A-L	
Intermission		
4 – 4:30pm	DJ Skip Rip: Listen to great music or join the dance cypher	Buell Mezzanine Lobby
Main Show		
4:30 – 5:30pm	Love es Love (CO)	Buell Theatre Stage
	Femme Fatale (USA)	
	Antoinette Gomis (France)	
	The Ruggeds (Netherlands)	
	House music provided by DJ A-L	

SAMPLE CULTURE
(NETHERLANDS)

BIRDGANG DANCE COMPANY
(UK)

ANTOINETTE GOMIS
(FRANCE)

THE RUGGEDS
(NETHERLANDS)

Antoinette Gomis (France)

Images



Choreographers: Antoinette Gomis, Liz Gomis, Cyril Machenaud

Performer: Antoinette Gomis

Using the words of a Waring Cuney poem sung by Nina Simone, *Images* deals with the lack of pride black women suffered throughout history. Historically having fought for equality and civil rights, a new wave of struggle appears today through TV, cinema and entertainment for the current generation: Hypersexualization, denial of natural beauties and a denial of what our SHEroes fought for. How do we value our female heritage?

Dancer, choreographer, model and original member of the sassy Zamounda Crew, Antoinette Gomis is a leading dancer in the French street dance scene. After studying entertainment and art, she began a career as a dancer winning several street dance competitions and battles such as Funkin Stylez in Dusseldorf, Nike's Bring Your Troupe and Soul Session in Sweden. Chosen by Puma to be part of their Puma The Quest campaign, her charisma led her to becoming Salah's assistant for Cirque du Soleil as a dance captain. She continues to lead workshops and teach her style and techniques to people around the world.

BirdGang Dance Company (UK)

Vice



Choreographer: Ukweli Roach

Performers: Mathew Biancheri, Simeon Campbell, Lee Crowley, Rhian Duncan, Shannelle Fergus, Luke Lentes, Kenji Matsunaga, Ukweli Roach, Fiona Siverthorn, Chaldon Williams

Revolving around the inner struggle of addictions, *Vice* follows one man's pursuit of an "ideal"; whether that be the type of person he wants to become, or the type of woman he wants to be with, and whether he can overcome his addictions to reach this ideal. A powerful piece of hip hop dance theatre addressing mental health in young men.

British choreographer and performer, Ukweli Roach, is one of the founding members of BirdGang Dance Company. A trained actor from the Royal Academy of Dramatic Arts (RADA), Ukweli's choreography, while being largely hip hop-based, borrows from disciplines such as tap, house dance, popping, breaking, contemporary and jazz, fusing them all into theatrical manifestations of whatever music he is dancing to.

Femme Fatale (USA)

Rising in Motion



Choreographers and Performers: Lily Frias, Dassy Lee and Marie Poppins

Empowering women through their performance, Femme Fatale showcase the different emotions and aspects of a strong woman's journey in search for her dream and self-love.

Femme Fatale is a group of three female international dancers: Marie Poppins, Lily Frias and Dassy Lee. They are based in Los Angeles, but are originally from different countries: France, Mexico and Korea. They moved to the USA to pursue their dreams as professional dancers and choreographers, known for their strong abilities in popping, animation, robot and a high level of musicality with a feminine touch. Their mix of cultural background and unique individual styles is what make Femme Fatale an original, powerful female collective. They use their femininity as a strength, their technique as a weapon, and their passion as a power.

The Ruggeds (Netherlands)

Adrenaline



Choreographers: The Ruggeds

Performers: B-Boy Duzk, B-Boy Jazzy, B-Boy Niek, B-Boy Skychief, B-Boy Stepper, B-Boy Tawfiq, B-Boy Zoopreme

Adrenaline is what pushes you into uncharted territory. Its drive is so strong that it allows you to push the limit of what's physically possible. It's the energy from the drums to the breakbeat rhythms making your soul anxious to move. This piece is an exploration of our relationship with adrenaline, filled with acrobatics, risks, music and energy.

Originally known as Rugged Solutions, The Ruggeds have been a solid name in the b-boy game for the past years. Taking part in battles all over the world, they are currently one of the most active b-boy crews in Europe. The highly skilled crew is well-known for its members' different styles and influences.

Sample Culture (Netherlands)

Boredom 2.0



Choreographers: Andrey “Drosha” Grekhov and Simon Bus

Performers: Roy TheRuggeds, Simon Bus

Boredom 2.0 is a remake of an original duet by Andrey “Drosha” Grekhov and Simon Bus. Inspired by the drinking behaviour of white collar workers of Soviet Union, Boredom 2.0 depicts the absurd and comical interaction of two men bored after a day’s work.

Sample Culture’s focus is on the development, innovation and research in the artistic language that’s based on the urban culture and modern theatre. With the artistic guidelines by the world champion experimental dancer and founder of Open Your Mind, Andre “Drosha” Grekhov and his choice of one of a kind dancers the company raises the bar in movement quality and produces unique performances and events.



B-Boy Factory

The Battle for Preservation



Choreographer: Ian Flaws

Performers: Cullen Patel, Dobhran Wilson, Franki Vigil, Henry Kim, Imran Islam, Logan Dickerson, RJ Peterson, Roman Martinez, Ryan Sacker, Savonn Chorn

B-Boy Factory's youth team showcase a mission to preserve breaking as the authentic form of hip hop dance with dancers playing the characters of soldiers, illustrating the resilience and discipline required to learn this style of dance.

Founded in 2014, the B-Boy Factory is a dance studio based in Denver that has been blessed to have hosted many iconic b-boys and b-girls teaching the next generation of breakers. From Ken Swift and Mr Wiggles to Remind, Ivan the Urban Action Figure, Born, Ynot, Venum and AsiaOne, they are influenced by the traditions of breaking. The crew is trained by Ian Flaws and the staff at the B-Boy Factory.

Block 1750

Anchors



Choreographer and Dancer: Ho Yun "Bobby" Chan

Poet: Griffith Wendland

Block 1750 present a spoken word poem written by Griffith Wendland called "Ikue's Eemui," as remixed by Linky Larson. When expectations and self-doubt cause us to make up stories about ourselves on a daily basis, it leads to a lack of self-belief that raise the questions: What happens once we transcend these stories? What do we hold onto once these fall away? How do these weights become comfortable? Is it trying to uphold unrealistic expectations, hiding your emotions, or equally challenging your own stories, and how these produce our states of discomfort?

Block 1750 was created by Worm Tank Crew and members of the Colorado dance community. Since opening in 2014, it has expanded to include Writer's Block, a writing crew, founded in 2017. Through their shared connection to the Block, members Bobby and Griff decided to collaborate this year for their first performance following many years of street shows and freestyle performances together.

Breaking Barriers

25



Choreographers: Dana Wilson & Kim Holmes

Performers: Anna Gunderson, Julie Lee, Kris Haro, Lisa Engelken, Sarah Touselee

Commissioned by Lisa and Elani Engelken in partnership with Denver Arts & Venues, 25 was created in only three days by choreographers Dana Wilson and Kim Holmes who had never met until the first rehearsal. The performance explores joy and empowers dynamic ways of being a woman in hip hop.

Breaking Barriers was founded in 2017 by Maren Ellermann and Lisa Engelken. The vision of the company is to create a platform for artists from different communities, mediums and countries, which culminated in a live event in February. The nature of the project means members reign from different states, styles and backgrounds.

Love Es Love

(Pls) Respect #meToo



Choreographers and Performers: Alexandria

Marcus aka Ria, April "FRESH" Padilla, AsiaONE, Sambath Oul aka Kombat, Yasmin Melara

Love Es Love's performance was created to illuminate abusive behaviour patterns, including triangulation, hypocrisy, chauvinism and objectification of women that is perpetuated disproportionately by the men in hip hop that are so often idolised. They seek to identify and engage audiences to raise awareness around unhealthy relationship dynamics in hopes of inspiring compassion for the world through hip hop culture and through a critical assessment of one's character and roles.

Despite being formed in 2018 to build a mixtape musical written by April "FRESH" Padilla, collectively the crew has over three decade's experience in the arts to create a multi-generational and multi-cultural company. Each member differs in their main style, from the funky to the obscure, but their respective styles are very much informed by the break, the beat, and the lyricism found in the music that inspires and influences them the most.

School of Breaking

Foreign Hands by
George Ogilvie



Choreographer and Performer: BBoy Chase
'Em Down (Chase Evered)

Chase 'Em Down of Denver's School of Breaking presents a solo performance.

Representing Soul Control Crew out of Fresno, California, Chase is influenced by GWT Crew and Colorado hip hop, having been taught by Gary Kendall, founder of Jabbawoockeez and B-Boy Ray Ray. Based in Aurora, Colorado, School of Breaking was established in 2012 by Chase Evered to positively impact the lives of all people through music, dance and education. Their mission is to educate, inspire and guide students to express their unique abilities and personalities through dance.

Side By Side

Fade 2 Blaq



Choreographer: Kris Haro

Performers: Kris Haro, Maggie Shomaker,
Raymundo Valenzuela

Side By Side presents the struggle of falling into the dark, and the escape.

Reaching five years as a collective, Side By Side is a dance collective in Boulder, with members from Los Angeles and San Francisco. They have transitioned from a dance company to dance collective, through teaching, collaborating, and pushing their creative boundaries. Their influence is drawn from the present, where they wish to create and tell stories through performance.

Tricks and Blows

Lost Worlds



Choreography: The Company

Performers: Anthony "Chopz" Le, Jason "Rawskeleton" Toney, Luis "Bowzee" Rojas, Sarah "Towel" Touslee

Prepare to be taken on an experience as each artist exposes their own style and unique abilities to come together like planets floating around the galaxy...

Tricks and Blows' main crew, The Freak Show, has been established since 2002 and is recognised as a b-boy crew nationally and internationally, well respected all over the world for the style they created in the b-boy scene in the early 2000s. Tricks and Blows was founded in 2014 to create an entertainment-based company consisting of some members from The Freak Show and various artists they have collaborated with for shows and productions in the past. Their style combines various styles, movements and pushes the limits of the mind, body, and soul through breaking movement and individual styles.

Whole Milk

Funky Love



Choreographers and Performers: Audrey Gibson & Michael Jaycox

Whole Milk illustrate not only their love for funk dance, but also for one another other.

Audrey and Michael have been training together for 10 years having performed together with various companies before coming together to perform as Whole Milk in 2016. Starting together at Motion Underground in 2008, where they trained with Ken Jimenez and John Gillette and have performed with Motion Underground Crew, Mob Squad, and Funk Umbrella from until 2013. As husband and wife, they have been training and performing together ever since. They describe their style as a mix of locking, popping, breaking and social dance, influenced by old school funk, soul, electric boogaloo and the happiness that embodies locking.

DJ A-L



For nearly two decades, Aaron “DJ A-L” Ladley has worked towards earning himself the right to be regarded as a highly talented, respected and recommended DJ and Producer in the Denver music scene and beyond. Some of A-L’s highlights include being nominated as Denver’s “best DJ”, producing the hip hop group, the Soul Pros, hosting the longest running hip hop radio show on the planet, the Eclipse as well as organizing multiple ongoing events in the Denver area including Motown On Monday’s and SNAP! 90’s Dance Party.

Off stage Aaron is a cultural visionary earning that title by regularly teaching music classes as a partner artist with the Denver based organization Youth on Record. With a deep gratitude for his accomplishments and a genuine love for his craft, DJ A-L possesses a passion and a persistent work ethic that will continue to shape his sound and guide his career for years to come.

DJ A-L is a world renown artist and a national touring DJ who has shared the stage with artists such as: Public Enemy, George Clinton, De La Soul, Biz Markie, DJ Q-Bert, Mix Master Mike, Peanut Butter Wolf, Kurtis Blow, The Pharcyde, KRS-ONE and many more!



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Sheila P. Morris..... Tailor

Costume Crafts

Kevin Copenhaver..... Costume Crafts Director
Chris Campbell..... Costume Crafts Assistant

Wigs

Diana Ben-Kiki..... Wig Master

House Crew

Doug Taylor*..... Supervising Stagehand
Jim Berman*, Jennifer Guethlein*,
Stephen D. Mazzeno*, Miles Stasica*,
Tyler Stauffer*, Matt Wagner*..... Stagehands
Kyle Moore*..... Assistant Stagehand

Wardrobe

Brenda Lawson..... Director of Wardrobe
Taylor Malott*,
Jessica A. Rayburn^..... Wig Assistants
Robin Appleton*, Amber Donner*, Anthony Mattivi*, Tim
Nelson*, Lisa Parsons Wagner*,
Alan Richards*..... Dressers

*Member, I.A.T.S.E. Local 7
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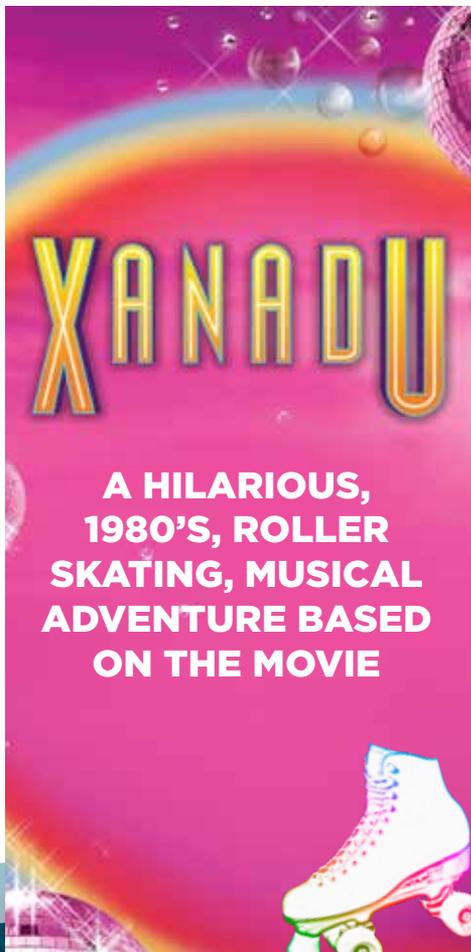
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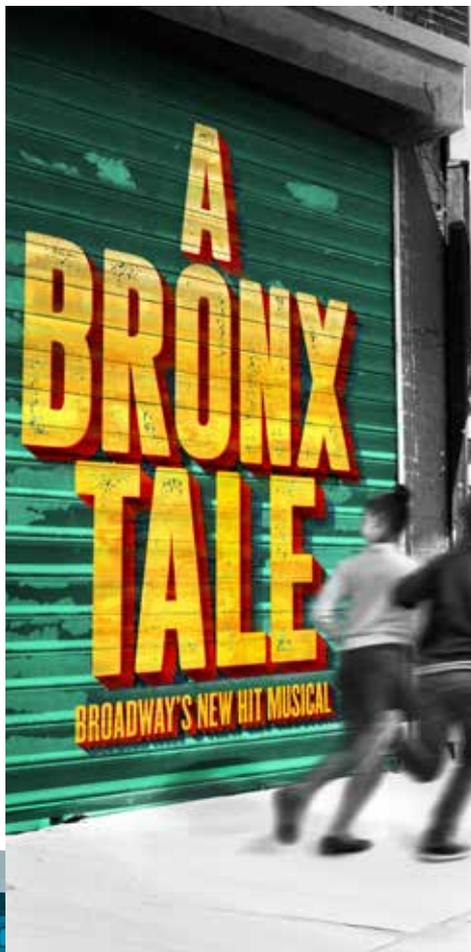
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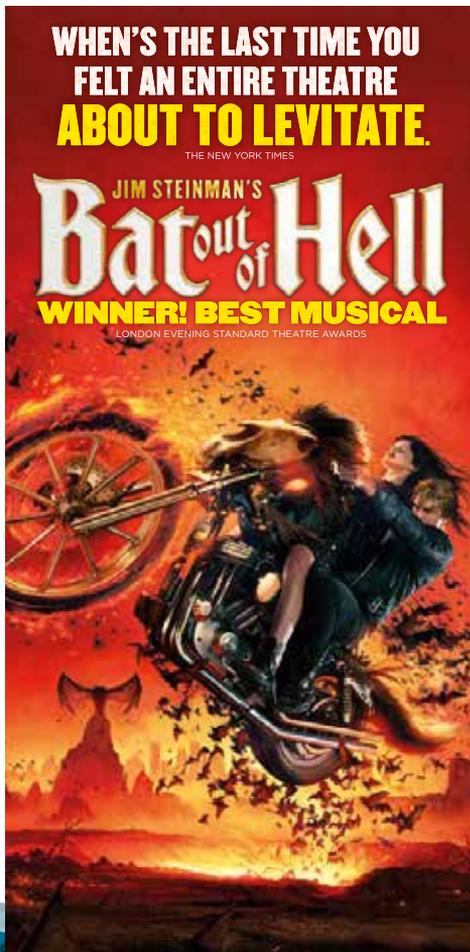
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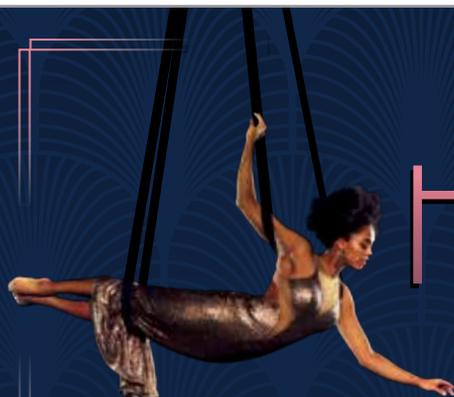


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