

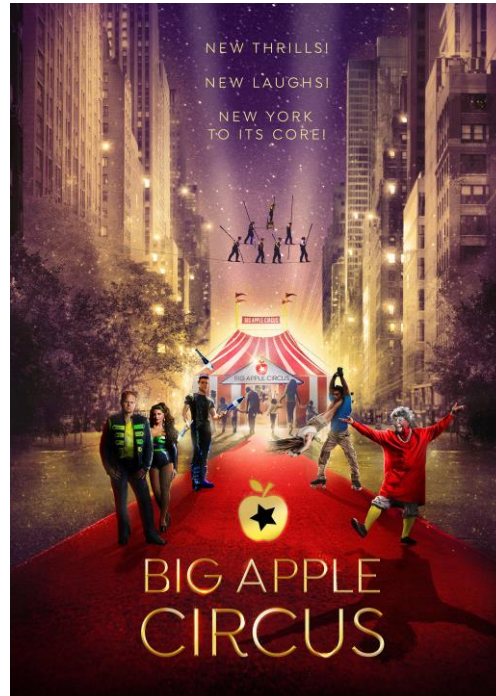


FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE...

November 16, 2017

**BIG APPLE CIRCUS COMING TO ATLANTA JANUARY 2018**  
**VERIZON AMPHITHEATRE IN ALPHARETTA NAMED FIRST STOP ON NATIONAL TOUR CELEBRATING 40<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY**

**The New York Times**  **Critics' Pick**



**TICKETS NOW ON SALE FOR ATLANTA VIA [BIGAPPLECIRCUS.COM](http://BIGAPPLECIRCUS.COM) & [TICKETMASTER](http://TICKETMASTER)**

*"EXTRAORDINARY. REMARKABLE. UNEQUIVOCALLY THRILLING. With starry additions...and sparkle..."*

*An extravaganza that is EXCITING, with acts that are INSPIRING."* – **New York Times**

*"ASTONISHING HUMAN FEATS coupled with INNOVATIVE tech and design...The beloved BIG APPLE CIRCUS is back!"* – **Time Out NY**

*"40 Years of THRILLS, LAUGHS, and LIFE-LONG MEMORIES"* – **CBS-TV**

*"The Original and Intimate one-ring 'circus with a heart' is back BIGGER, BETTER and NEWER than ever – capturing the family fun, excitement, and thrills you expect."* – **New York Lifestyles Magazine**

(ATLANTA, GA) – **BigTop Works**, the new producers of **BIG APPLE CIRCUS**, are pleased to announce Atlanta, GA as a stop on the National Tour during its historic and critically acclaimed 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary season. The full lineup of global artists and acts including 10-time world record-holding high wire artist **Nik Wallenda**, and fan favorite **Grandma the Clown** will play in Alpharetta at Verizon Amphitheatre from January 26 – February 25, 2018, for a total of 48 performances. Tickets are now available with special 'early bird' pricing for purchases prior to December 15, 2017. The National Tour launches following the New York engagement, which runs through January 7 at Lincoln Center's Damrosch Park.

World renowned for its one-ring, intimate & artistic style, where no seat is more than 50 feet from the performers, **BIG APPLE CIRCUS** is passionate about revitalizing the circus for modern-day audiences with unique and astounding human feats, innovative design and technology. The 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary season program features the famous seven-person pyramid on the high wire with **Nik Wallenda** and **The Fabulous Wallendas** and the daring quadruple somersault attempted on the trapeze by **The Flying Tunizianis** – the first time in circus history that both legendary feats are performed under the same big top. The record-setting acts are joined by **BIG APPLE** fan favorite Grandma the Clown and her comedic sidekick **Joel Jeske**, as well as **Dandino & Luciana**, a dynamic duo who combine speed, acrobatics and daredevil grace on roller skates; award-winning contortionist **Elayne Kramer**; master juggler **Gamal Garcia**; **Jan Damm** on the Rola Bola; acclaimed Risley acrobats **The Anastasini Brothers** (who broke the World Record for Most Flips on November 9, 2017); Ringmaster **Ty McFarlan**; and circus trainer & presenter **Jenny Vidbel**, who performs in the ring with 16 horses and ponies, as well as six rescue dogs.

Outside of the ring, *BIG APPLE CIRCUS* continues to honor the essential & iconic characteristics that have set them apart for the past four decades with multiple community outreach programs and a vital no-wild-animals policy. **Circus of the Senses** offers special enhanced experiences for audiences with visual and auditory challenges. The special performances include ASL interpretation, assistive listening devices with live audio commentary, pre- & post-show touch therapy experiences, and a Braille program book. Sensory-friendly performances for Autistic audience members will feature lowered light and sound levels, a descriptive picture book showing the different areas and acts involved with the circus, and a “calming center” that can be accessed at any point during the show.

The *BIG APPLE CIRCUS* 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary season is directed by **Mark Lonergan**, artistic director of three-time Drama Desk Award-nominated physical theater company *Parallel Exit*, with choreography and associate direction by **Antoinette DiPietropolo** and music direction by **Rob Slowik**. Tony Award-winning Lighting Designer **Jeff Croiter** (*Peter and the Starcatcher*, *Something Rotten!*), Scenic Designers **Rob Bissinger** (*Spider-Man: Turn Off The Dark*, *Legally Blonde – Assoc*) and **Anita LaScala** (*Magic Mike Live*) of ARDA Studio, Inc, and Drama Desk-nominated Costume Designer **Amy Clark** (*Heathers: The Musical*, *Chaplin*) come together to create a most vibrant environment to fit the momentous occasion of the circus’s return.

#### **TICKET INFORMATION:**

Tickets for the Alpharetta, GA performances are now on-sale at [www.BigAppleCircus.com](http://www.BigAppleCircus.com) and range in price from \$25 Individual tickets – \$109 VIP Ringside tickets.

- Performances run Friday, January 26 – Sunday, February 25, 2018
- Verizon Amphitheatre, Parking Lot A located at: 1775 Founders Parkway – Alpharetta, GA 30009
- For tickets online visit [BigAppleCircus.com](http://BigAppleCircus.com) or [Ticketmaster.com](http://Ticketmaster.com)
- For tickets via phone call (800) 745-3000 (Ticketmaster)
- Early Bird Pricing through December 15, 2017
- For Groups of 10 or More – (212) 257-2330, [groupsales@bigapplecircus.com](mailto:groupsales@bigapplecircus.com)
- Circus of the Senses Performance will be held on Wednesday, January 31 at 10:30 a.m.
- Embracing Autism Performance will be held on Saturday, February 3 at 11:00 a.m.

**HI-RES PRODUCTION PHOTOS:** <http://bit.ly/2zOD5yT>

**PRODUCTION B-ROLL:** <http://bit.ly/2y4OcX4>

#### **ABOUT BIG APPLE CIRCUS**

*BIG APPLE CIRCUS* was founded in 1977 by circus performers Paul Binder and Michael Christensen with a mission to present authentic and thrilling circus arts, in the intimacy of the one-ring Big Top, where no seat is more than 50 feet from the performers. In addition to its world-renowned reputation for presenting exceptionally unique and astounding acts, *BIG APPLE CIRCUS* - known as the ‘Circus With A Heart’ - has distinguished itself by demonstrating a strong social conscience in its programming, maintaining a vital no wild or exotic animals policy. Additionally, *BIG APPLE CIRCUS* offers numerous community outreach programs including Circus of the Senses, sensory-friendly performances, and Circus for All, which provides access to the circus to those who are underprivileged and underserved. BigTop Works, the new owners of *BIG APPLE CIRCUS*, share a passion for, and history with, the circus arts and look forward to honoring the legacy of its 40-year history. Follow @BigAppleCircus on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and YouTube.

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#### **“Big Top Life” *BIG APPLE CIRCUS* VIDEO SERIES**

##### **EPISODE 1: Jenny Vidbel “Big Apple Circus Animal Trainer”**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vWISFMINIVk> | Download Link: <https://wdrv.it/21fb6a149>

##### **EPISODE 2: Ty McFarland “Big Apple Circus Ringmaster”**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d838zgFBXJk> | Download Link: <https://wdrv.it/225ca968e>

##### **EPISODE 3: “Big Apple Family”**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OkznJiSzfFc> | Download Link: <https://wdrv.it/23f04a8a5>

##### **EPISODE 4: “Big Apple Circus is back!”**

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qUSdnHc5P\\_k](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qUSdnHc5P_k) | Download Link: <https://wdrv.it/553ae1620>