

International Circus Festival of Italy, 27th edition

Latina, October 15 – 19, 2026

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CULTURAL ASSOCIATION

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Production note n° 3 – August 24th, 2026

Countdown: - 52 days to the Festival

The 27th edition of the *International Circus Festival of Italy* will take place from October 15th to 19th, 2026. First four numbers taking part in the competition announced today. The cast will be enriched by the appearance of celebrated clown *Jimmy Folco*, our non-competing *Special Guest*, who will be celebrating 50 years as a performer whilst at Latina.

JIMMY FOLCO – SPECIAL GUEST

Italy – Clown



Jimmy Folco is an Italian clown who has contributed significantly to the history of the Circus during the 50 years of his career. There is no country nor famous international Circus venue where he has not performed: the *Moirà Orfei Circus*, the Togni family's *Circo Americano*, *Circus Krone*, *Cirque d'Hiver Bouglione*, *Villa Grock*, and *Circus Arena* are just some of the illustrious venues at which Jimmy Folco has appeared in the course of his long career. The *International Circus Festival of Italy*, in inviting Jimmy Folco to appear as an honoured special guest, wishes to pay tribute to an accomplished artiste who has been entertaining audiences of all ages for the past 50 years.

Our production office continues with its tradition of announcing the cast members of this 27th edition a few at a time. The first group of performers to be announced come from France, Israel, and Hungary, and will be representing their respective countries of origin at Latina. More cast members will be announced in our following production notes.

ALIZÉ POITREAU

France – Trapeze



TRAPEZE ARTIST PARENTS, FLYING TRAPEZE EXPERIENCE, TRAPEZE SCHOOL: THE BACKGROUND OF ALIZÉ POITREAU, A YOUNG PERFORMER FROM FRANCE WHO STARTED EXPRESSING HER EMOTIONS ON THE FLYING TRAPEZE AT A VERY YOUNG AGE.

Alizé inherited her love of aerial arts from her parents, both trapeze artists. Brought up in close contact with big flying trapeze troupes, she gained sound experience with the family troupe, *Tout fou to fly*; however, she started performing as a solo trapezist at only 7 years old. She perfected her skills at the Circus school founded by her father, *Jean-Michel*, in the French Riviera, as well as at the Conservatoire National. Alizé chose the swinging trapeze as her preferred discipline while, at 17, she frequented the *National School of Circus Arts of Rosny-sous-Bois*. Continuing her formation in Montreal, Canada, this led to significant appearances in *Cirque du Soleil* productions as well as in big Asian and Chinese productions. Her performance at Latina is called *Mitoté*: a scenic tableau on the swinging trapeze in which the young performer narrates the solitary path of a strong woman searching for a personal return to life.

DUO AERIAL DNA

Israel – Aerial Pole



TOXIC LOVE: A CAUTIOUS AND CAREFUL NARRATION OF A DANGEROUS RELATIONSHIP, WHERE PASSION IS TAINTED BY SUFFERING. THIS IS THE AERIAL POLE NUMBER BY DUO AERIAL DNA.

Duo Aerial DNA is the artistic name of Dan and Alisa: both born in Israel, they started in circus acrobatics as self-taught artistes, and soon gravitated towards the *aerial pole*, which best allowed them to show their talents as a duo. The pole is suspended from the height of the Big Top, lending an exciting dynamic to their performance. The number is called *Toxic Love*, and is a careful narration of a dangerous relationship, in which passion is tainted by suffering. Alisa also has a background as a solo artiste with the aerial hoop, with which she won a bronze award at the *New Generation Festival of Monte-Carlo* in 2018. Dan has worked with Alisa since 2025, and this year they sealed a special contract: two months working as Duo Aerial DNA in the Hungarian capital, in a programme dedicated to the best performers to have taken part in the International Circus Festival of Budapest.

THE ANNA'S

Hungary – Double Aerial Pole



A SPECIAL USE OF HAIR IN THE BREATH-TAKING FINALE OF THIS AERIAL POLE PERFORMANCE BY THE HUNGARIAN DUO: THE ANNA'S

Two young Hungarian performers, Nóra and Panna work under the artistic name The Anna's. Both are just 20 years old, and present a duet performance with the *aerial pole*, combining femininity and grace with some audacious moves: the audience is gradually taken towards a breath-taking finale in which the artiste's hair becomes a part of the act! Their artistic partnership started five years ago, and followed their training background at the *Baross Imre Artist Training Institute*, and then at *Vincze Tünde Production* in Budapest. The Anna's gained initial visibility while taking part in a famous *talent show* in their country: on that occasion they already grabbed the attention of viewers by using a plaited ponytail to execute an original hair hang between performers.

MIKHAIL ERMAKOV

Hungary – Clown with dogs



LIKE EVERY SCHOOL, EVEN DOG SCHOOLS HAVE A TEACHER, AND MIKHAIL ERMAKOV, A THIRD-GENERATION PERFORMER OF HIS FAMILY, IS THEIRS: THEIR MISSION IS A REAL DEDICATION TO SAVING ABANDONED DOGS

Mikhail Ermakov is a performer known worldwide in the Circus world as Professor Ermakov, as comical friend to his faithful dogs. *The Professor Ermakov School for Dogs* is an iconic number that has been passed down through the Ermakov dynasty from generation to generation since the *Ermakov Dog Academy*. Many of the nine dogs in the school were saved from the streets or from dog kennels: it's noteworthy that these animals have regained their trust in humans thanks to the love that Mikhail gives them, considering them his travel and work companions. Born in a Circus family, Mikhail grew up in the Big Top, learning various disciplines of the Circus: he has performed as a juggler, a bicycle acrobat, a clown, and in 2017 he won a Guinness world record for acrobatic football juggling. Ermakov isn't a fake *professor*; Mikhail really does have a Degree in Theology!

SHOW CALENDAR Thursday, October 15th, 9pm (show A); Friday, October 16th, 9pm (show B); Saturday, October 17th, 4.30pm (show B) and 9pm (show A); Sunday, October 18th, 3.30pm (show A) and 7pm (show B); Monday, October 19th, 8.30pm – Gala Show and Awards Ceremony SHOWS A and B Shows A and B, whilst containing different acts, are of the same high professional and artistic level, and simply reflect a necessary division of numerous competing numbers into two separate shows. ADVANCE TICKET SALES Tickets for the 27th edition of the <i>International Circus Festival of Italy</i> may already be purchased directly from our website at www.festivalcircoitalia.com via the link to webtic.it, our official ticketing platform. For information about tickets please write to prenotazioni@festivalcircoitalia.com Tickets will also be available to buy in person at the Big Top box office from October.	To buy tickets: www.festivalcircoitalia.com www.webtic.it Ticket information: prenotazioni@festivalcircoitalia.com Production Office: info@festivalcircoitalia.com Website: www.festivalcircoitalia.com Facebook: www.facebook.com/festivalcircoitalia/ Instagram: @festivalcircoitalia Press: press@festivalcircolatina.com Telephone production office : + 39 0773 328857 Info-line +39 379 1976245
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