



HOUSE PROGRAMME

House Rules

- 1 The performance is approximately 60 minutes with no interval;
- 2 Latecomers may only be admitted at a suitable break;
- 3 To avoid undue disturbance to the performers and other members of the audience, please switch off your mobile phones and any other sound and light emitting devices before the performance. Eating, drinking, audio or video recording and unauthorised photography are strictly prohibited in the auditorium. Thank you for your co-operation.

Attention: Performers have been professionally trained to accomplish the feats performed in the shows. Audience members are advised not to imitate their acts.

Producer's Note

Some of my friends often ask me: as a centre for heritage and arts, how does Tai Kwun connect its programmes to the monuments? My answer is, as always: as a century-old monument group polished by time, Tai Kwun does have its historical and cultural significance. After repairment and revitalisation, it has been given new life and new meaning to keep abreast of the times and serve our city again.

It is exactly the same as the contemporary circus shows that you will be watching – giving a contemporary note to the traditional circus art, which coincides with the mission and belief of Tai Kwun.

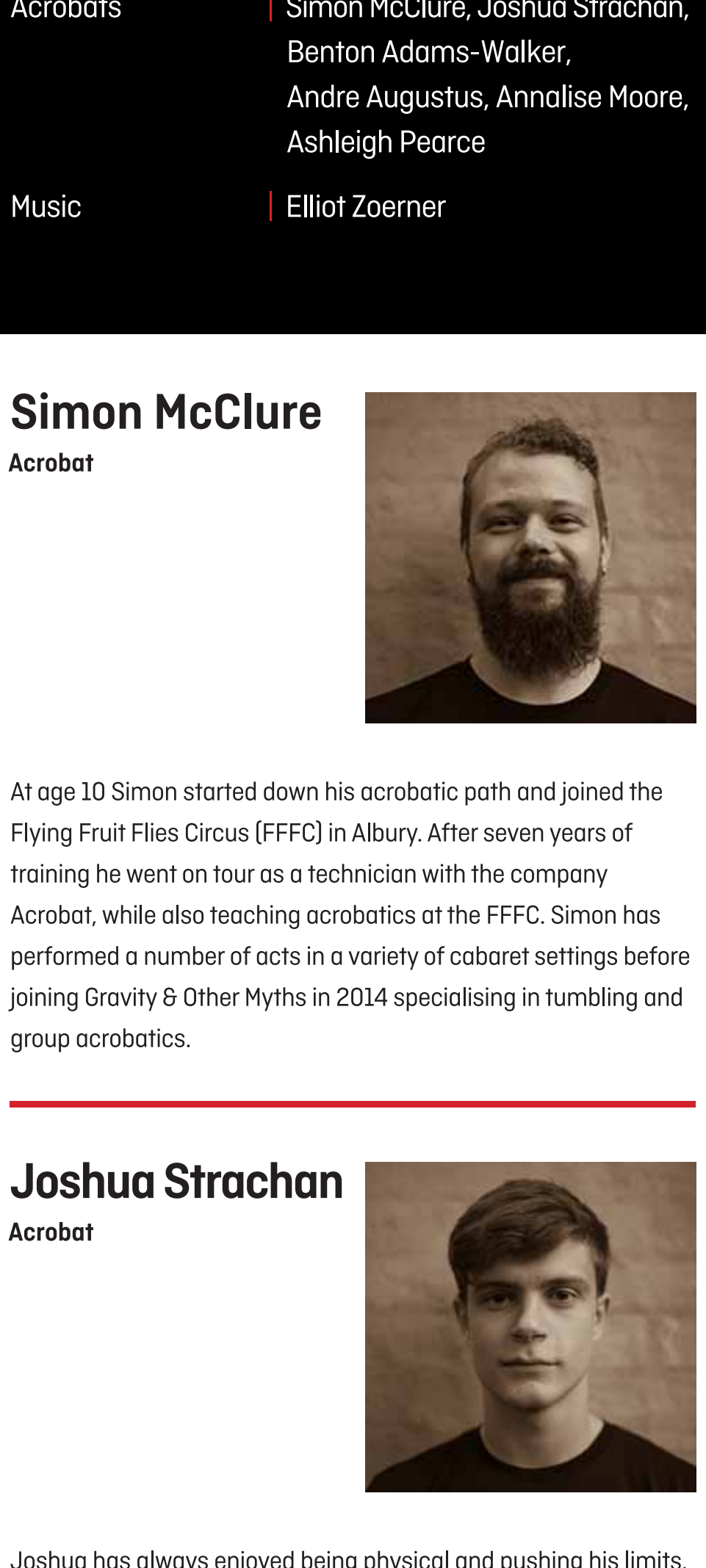
The bold, unimaginable yet exquisite movements challenge the limitations of a human body, pushing and exploring the boundaries of circus, space, audience and your involvement. With a profound root of tradition, they absorb various possibilities and go straight ahead to the future.

Eddy Zee

Head of Performing Arts, Tai Kwun

Message from Gravity & Other Myths

Gravity & Other Myths are incredibly excited to bring *A Simple Space* to Hong Kong as part of the Tai Kwun programme. We believe our work transcends language and culture and audiences all around the world respond to the show in their own incredible and positive way. We can't wait until Hong Kong audiences get the opportunity to see us push our acrobatics to the limit and experience circus in a totally new way.

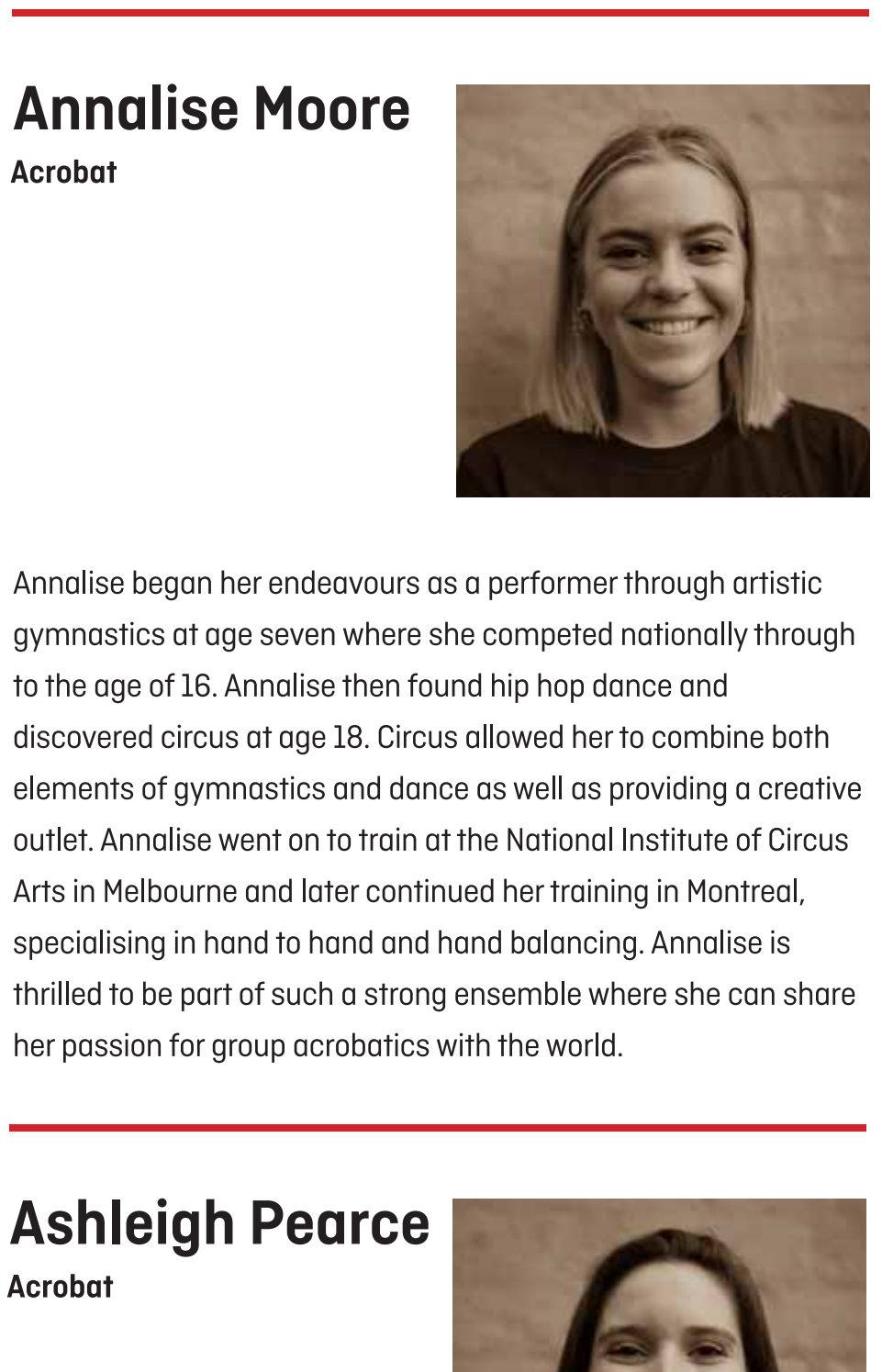


About A Simple Space

Simultaneously raw, frantic and delicate, six skilled acrobats push their physical limits without reserve. Supported by driving percussion, immersed in every moment, *A Simple Space* evokes real responses in audiences, visceral rather than cerebral.

There's no fine-tuning of performances with make-up, lighting and contrived theatrical overlay. Sitting close to a stripped back stage, the audience feels the heat, see the sweat and hear every breath.

Armed with nothing more than brute strength and cat-like agility these acrobats break down their usual guards, introducing the reality of possible failure and weakness. With nothing left to hide behind, personal narratives shine through. This honesty is the essence of *A Simple Space*.



Creative Team

Creation & Performance | Gravity & Other Myths

Touring Production | Aurora Nova

Acrobats | Simon McClure, Joshua Strachan, Benton Adams-Walker, Andre Augustus, Annalise Moore, Ashleigh Pearce

Music | Elliot Zoerner

Simon McClure

Acrobat



At age 10 Simon started down his acrobatic path and joined the Flying Fruit Flies Circus (FFFC) in Albury. After seven years of training he went on tour as a technician with the company Acrobat, while also teaching acrobatics at the FFFC. Simon has performed a number of acts in a variety of cabaret settings before joining Gravity & Other Myths in 2014 specialising in tumbling and group acrobatics.

Joshua Strachan

Acrobat



Joshua has always enjoyed being physical and pushing his limits. He started gymnastics at the age of eight and continued to learn and grow there until he moved over to youth circus with Warehouse Circus, at age 12. More recently he finished one year at the National Institute of Circus Arts in 2017, where he specialised in partner acrobatics, group acrobatics and Chinese pole. He joined Gravity & Other Myths in March of 2018 to perform *A Simple Space*, as their youngest ensemble member.

Benton Adams-Walker

Acrobat

As a kid Benton could never sit still and always needed to be up and about, so in his early teens he joined Warehouse Circus in Canberra. Although he started off as a juggler, his love for playing "rough" led him to move to acrobatics. Benton decided to kick off his career in circus and attended the National Institute of Circus Arts only to be picked up a year later by Gravity & Other Myths. Besides circus, Benton has a strong love for birdwatching.

André Augustus

Acrobat

André is a multidisciplinary circus artist, primarily a hand to hand porter. André's passion for physical movement began in competitive gymnastics and was then directed towards partner acrobatics through a local Canberra circus troupe. He later studied Visual Art at the Australian National University's School of Art before commencing physical art practice at the National Institute of Circus Arts, Melbourne. André can usually be found cross-collaborating over various art forms striving to create, innovate and inspire audiences worldwide. He looks forward to further pursue his obsession for both athleticism and artistry as an ensemble acrobat with Gravity & Other Myths.

Annalise Moore

Acrobat

Annalise began her endeavours as a performer through artistic gymnastics at age seven where she competed nationally through to the age of 16. Annalise then found hip hop dance and discovered circus at age 18. Circus allowed her to combine both elements of gymnastics and dance as well as providing a creative outlet. Annalise went on to train at the National Institute of Circus Arts in Melbourne and later continued her training in Montreal, specialising in hand to hand and hand balancing. Annalise is thrilled to be part of such a strong ensemble where she can share her passion for group acrobatics with the world.

Ashleigh Pearce

Acrobat

At age 4, Ashleigh cried her way through her first dance lesson but spent the next 10 years excelling in artistic gymnastics. Seeking an outlet for her creative expression, serendipity landed her a role in the youth troupe at Circa Contemporary Circus. Since her studies, she has travelled, taught and performed throughout North America, Europe, Asia and the Middle East. Captivated by movement forms and the questions circus evokes, she's beyond excited to join forces with this dynamic Australian company, revisit dance classes and continue enjoying people's reactions when confessing she walks on people for a living, in the best possible way.

About Gravity & Other Myths

Gravity & Other Myths (GOM) is an internationally renowned circus company pushing the boundaries of contemporary circus. Formed in Adelaide, Australia in 2009, GOM has rocketed to stellar acclaim with a series of disarmingly accomplished ensemble works. GOM's work utilises an honest approach to performance, to create shows with a focus on human connection and acrobatic virtuosity.

GOM's show *A Simple Space* has achieved huge international success, receiving multiple awards, and having performed more than 500 times across 24 countries. The follow up show *Backbone*, created in 2017, has already been nominated for multiple awards, had stellar reviews, and toured to festivals internationally.

GOM has a focus on community engagement and always tries to support the circus community both in our home city Adelaide and around the world, aiming for meaningful long-term relationships.

Acknowledgement

This project has been assisted by the Australian Government through the Australia Council, its arts funding and advisory body.

We value your feedback. Please fill in this survey and share your thoughts about this performance with us.

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