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**CIRQUE POLYNESIA INTRODUCES NEW ALL-STAR CAST, NEW THEME**

**SAME STUNNING VISUAL ARTISTRY**

*Hawaii's One-and-Only Cirque Production Reaches Two-Year Milestone*

**Ka`anapali, HI, July 18, 2011** – Some of the world's most dazzling cirque artists have reached the shores of the Ka`anapali Coast to star in the all-new Cirque Polynesia at the Hyatt Regency Maui Resort & Spa.

After two years, Cirque Polynesia's theme shifts toward the beauty and drama of a true cirque performance – modern-day performing arts ingeniously blending theatrical innovation and physical virtuosity.

The new 60-minute show is now accentuated with sumptuous costumes, solo vocal routines and dances, more original orchestrations and enhanced staging. Hints of the original Polynesian theme are moderately interspersed throughout the show.

“We scoured the globe to find the very best cirque artists to put an all-star ensemble together into one show that's unlike any other in Hawaii,” explained Doug Harris, Managing Partner & Creator, Cirque Polynesia. “If you appreciate the beauty of cirque performances and Hawaii this is the perfect combination that will simply blow you away.”

Cirque Polynesia originally opened in June 2009. Within those two years, more than 80,000 visited the show, tickets are sold at more than 160 travel desks and a custom open-air venue was built named the Maui Moon Theatre that seats up to 300. Just recently, an extended stage was added allowing for cirque performers to whiz directly over the audience.

Cirque Polynesia has become a melting pot of performers representing various countries including, Mongolia, Chile, Peru, Brazil, the West and East Coast and Hawaii. The newest acts include aerial acrobatics 33-feet above ground, spine-bending contortion, rhythmic dance routines, traditional Hawaiian chants and tests of balance and conditioning that push the human body to its limits.

Mongolia produces some of the world's greatest contortionists and Odgerel Oyunbaatar is no exception. Her natural beauty and athleticism while bending and twisting resemble a real-life moving sculpture.

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Power, conditioning and finesse take the spotlight when Rocco Lapaire and partner Micah Ellenger perform their hand-to-hand balancing routine. This acro-balancing act puts their chiseled physiques on display as human art forms.

Rocco continues to show off his acrobatic ability on the Chinese Pole, a vertical aluminum pole, requiring tremendous core strength to hold and move into various poses.

The comedic clowning of Pepe the Clown from Sao Paulo, Brazil, performed by Peterson Jardim, keeps kids and the kids-at-heart in hysterics while wondering just what tricks he has planned next.

The ladies of Cirque Polynesia are not to be outdone. Morgon Oldham has her own solo hand-balancing routine offering femininity and fluidity with each effortless move.

Simone Lazar, a classically trained ballet dancer and now cirque star, takes to the air on the Lyra. Simone is suspended 20-feet above ground on an aerial ring while spinning at high speeds that is sure to hypnotize any audience.

All the way from Peru, Antoly “Toly” Human, flies on the Aerial Silks by wrapping his arms around two suspended pieces of fabric. Toly’s romantic aerial ballet is synchronized harmoniously to original scores created by another performer, Eliezer “Eli” Plasencia. Eli played the drums in various types of bands from rock, punk to acoustic, as a teenager and while in college at Northwestern University. He plays the various rhythmic beats on the drums throughout the show.

Hawaii’s own rising talent from Oahu, Ashley Kaulana Jardine, compliments this ensemble cast with a captivating Hawaiian chant called an oli. It was a method developed by ancient Hawaiians as a means to record information to pass from one generation to the next.

Ashley learned to chant as well as traditional forms of Polynesian and Tahitian dancing at age 14. She brings the spirit of the Hawaiian culture to life on stage.

No cirque performance would be complete without a death-defying act leaving heart’s racing and palms sweaty.

Cirque Polynesia’s producer, Enrique Valencia originally from Chile, braves the show’s finale – the Wheel of Death. Enrique powers the 33-foot-high steel pendulum with just his legs while performing daring tricks both on top and inside the menacingly spinning Wheel. He even jumps rope on the Wheel – blindfolded.

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However as a certified welder of circus apparatuses, Enrique takes comfort in knowing the Wheel of Death was soundly constructed with his own two hands.

“We’re very proud to have presented Cirque Polynesia for the past two years as a true gem of great entertainment to our deserving guests,” said Michael Jokovich, General Manager, Hyatt Regency Maui Resort & Spa. “We never stop striving to provide the very best in dining and nightlife that Maui has to offer.”

Cirque Polynesia plays nightly, except Sundays, at 7:30 p.m. Pre- and post-dinner and show packages are available at Son’z Maui at Swan Court located at the Hyatt Regency Maui Resort & Spa.

“The new show is a reflection of our goal to keep Cirque Polynesia fresh and irreverent for both first-time and repeat visitors,” said Harris, who also is the founder of Hawaii’s third largest marketing agency the Harris Agency.

A complimentary Cirque Polynesia shuttle bus from the hotel’s lobby to the Maui Moon Theatre runs every 15 minutes beginning at 6 p.m. The drivers are none other than performers in full costume and make-up.

Show prices begin as low as \$25 for children under the age of 12 and \$65 for adults when making reservations online. For additional information, visit [www.CirquePolynesia.com](http://www.CirquePolynesia.com) or call the box office at (808) 667-4540.

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