

EVENTS

Cirque du Soleil brings OVO to Bangor

BY SHELBY HARTIN
BDN STAFF

Qiu Jianming, a third-generation wire walker from China, took a careful step on the line, his arms outstretched for balance. He carefully moved a unicycle in his left hand and placed it on the wire, then balanced on it with only his chest, his hands on the pedals. His legs slowly extended upward until they were straight in the air. The music in the background was serene as he wheeled back and forth, a thin wire the only thing that separated him from the floor below.

Performers from a dozen different countries warmed up backstage, stretching their athletic limbs and conversing in a multitude of languages. Later, they practiced: women flew through the air with abandon, caught by the strong hands of the men on each side of the aerial circus act. Performers acting as crickets in the show bounced up and down on trampolines, completing stunning feats of athleticism by flipping and tumbling in mid-air.

Amy Brown and Kara You, part of the costume crew, were tucked away behind the scenes as well, sewing hats and touching up the gold foiling on shoes for the performers. Surrounding them were costumes, some bright green for crickets, others metallic brown for scarabs, each one meant to



A Cirque du Soleil performer tumbles through the air during rehearsal on Wednesday at the Cross Insurance Center in Bangor.

make its owner look like an insect.

On Sunday, performers and crew for Cirque du Soleil's OVO began arriving in Bangor, and on Monday, 20 semi-trucks filled with equipment for the upcoming production were unloaded at the Cross Insurance Center on Main Street.

This is Cirque du Soleil's first performance in Bangor since 2014 when it staged Varekai.

OVO tells the story of a mysterious egg that appears in the midst of an insect colony. The colony is amazed by the object. A fly arrives

and is a bit of an outsider, but a ladybug catches his eye, and a love story blossoms from there. Ovo means "egg" in Portuguese.

"We're bringing you into an insect colony," Jessica Leboeuf, the publicist for Cirque du Soleil, said.

The cast of OVO includes 50 performing artists from 12 countries specializing in many acrobatic acts, and it also includes live musicians. The show opens on Thursday, June 2, and will run through June 5.

OVO has been seen by more than 4.5 million people worldwide since the show

premiered in Montreal in 2009, where it was shown under a circus tent. Now, the same production has been altered to fill arenas throughout North America, including the Cross Insurance Center.

Marjon Van Grunsven, the artistic director of Cirque du Soleil and a native of Holland who has been working with the company for 10 years, has the job of teaching the acrobatically-talented performers of the production to become artists.

"Cirque is a dream," Van Grunsven said. "It's a place



Kara You works to gold leaf shoes for Cirque du Soleil on Wednesday at the Cross Insurance Center in Bangor.

where dreams do come true."

On stage in front of her, men climbed an enormous wall and flipped on trampolines. Some rushed down the air walk, turning head over feet and tumbling all the way from the back of the stage to the front.

"This is not really a circus to me. It's more like theatre," Van Grunsven said, watching as the performers rehearsed on stage.

OVO is different from shows that Cirque du Soleil has done in the past, Van Grunsven said. Rather than the dark, mysterious pieces that have been done over the years, this one is "a very happy show."

"It's colorful and beautiful," Van Grunsven said.

Leboeuf said that the show is family friendly and will captivate audiences of any age.

"It provides an opportunity to forget your daily life for a few hours," Van Grunsven said. "It's an absolute must see for people who have never seen it. And for those who have seen it before, this show is a completely new creation."

OVO will show 7:30 p.m. Thursday, June 2, 7:30 p.m. Friday, June 3, 4 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Saturday, June 4, and 1:30 p.m. and 5 p.m. Sunday, June 5. Tickets for adults range from \$49 to \$154, children's tickets range from \$29 to \$124, and military, seniors and student tickets range from \$44.50 to \$89.50. They can be purchased by visiting the Cross Insurance Center Box Office or crossinsurancecenter.com, or by calling 800-745-3000.

Things to Do

BANGOR — "Rock of Ages," June 9 through July 2, Penobscot Theatre, 131 Main St. Performance times vary. Tickets and information about showtimes may be obtained by calling 942-3333 or going to penobscottheatre.org. Tony Award-nominated Broadway musical features hits of the 1980s, including songs from Styx, Journey, Bon Jovi, Pat Benatar, Twisted Sister, Steve Perry, Poison and more.

BANGOR — Sara Majka, author of "Cities I've Never Lived In," celebrating publication of her book at 7:30 p.m. Sunday, June 5, Rock and Art Shop. thenorumbegacollective@gmail.com.

BANGOR — Bangor Historical Society Brown Bag Lunch Series, noon Tuesdays, Isaac Farrar Mansion, Union Street: June 7, "200 Years of the Bangor Fire Department," Bangor Fire Department; July 12, "Understanding the Declaration of Independence," Liam Riordan; Aug. 2, "Maine at Gettysburg," Brian Swartz; Sept. 13, "Then and Now with the Bangor Police Department," Bangor PD; Oct. 4, "Hail to the Chiefs: Presidents in Bangor," Dick Shaw. 942-1900.

BANGOR — Bangor Ballet final 2016-2017 season performance showcasing work of five Maine-based choreographers, "Hooked on Classics: Back to Bach and Off to Offenbach," 7 p.m. Saturday, June 4, Gracie Theatre, Husson University. Tickets \$15, \$12 students or seniors age 65 and older, \$8 children 12 and under, Patrick's Hallmark Shop, Sherman's Bookstore, Thomas School of Dance or by Bangor Ballet, 945-5911.

BELFAST — Opening reception for 14th annual Festival of Art, 6-8 p.m. Thursday, June 9, University of Maine Hutchinson Center, 80 Belmont Ave. Features work of 139 Maine artists, music of Belfast Bay Fiddlers, light refreshments and wine bar. Opportunity to purchase some artwork. Meet the artists. 223-4459 or belfastseniorcollege.com.

BREWER — Craft fair and bake sale to benefit wounded heroes of

Maine, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday, June 4, Brewer Eagles Club Event Center, 22 Atlantic Ave. Features more than 50 tables. 385-6345 or jazzn-dazzl@aol.com.

CALAIS — Second annual '80s Dance Party, 8 p.m. Saturday, June 4, Calais Motor Inn, 663 Main St., with Rock the House DJ Tim Kelley, to raise funds for the 2016 International Homecoming Festival. 1980s attire encouraged. Tickets in advance for \$10 per person U.S. funds or \$12.50 Canadian funds, available at Baring Gifts, Kendall's Fine Jewelers, Camden National Bank, Calais Motor Inn or The Calais Advertiser. Admission at the door will be higher priced. Visit International Homecoming Festival on Facebook.

ELLSWORTH — Acadia Choral Society's Spring Concert, 7 p.m. Saturday, June 4, St. Andrew Lutheran Church. \$15 at the door. Acadiachoralsociety.org.

HERMON — Monster Jam, 7-9:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday, June 3 and 4; 2-4:30 p.m. Sunday, June 5, Speedway 95, 1070 Odlin Road. Grave Digger driven by Cole Venard, Hurricane Force driven by Steven Thompson, Northern Nightmare driven by Cam McQueen, Storm Damage driven by Tim Mente, El Toro Loco driven by Becky McDonough, Zombie driven by Sean Duhon, Scooby-Doo driven by Linsey Read, Monster Mutt driven by Bryce Kenny. Competitors subject to change. \$22 for general admission, \$10 children. monsterjam.com.

MILLINOCKET — Open house, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturday, June 4, North Light Gallery, 256 Penobscot Ave. New work by gallery artists on display. Refreshments. 723-4414 or arthornlight@gmail.com.

NEWBURGH — Newburgh Volunteer Fire Department Auxiliary yard and bake sale, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Friday and Saturday, June 3-4, fire station, 2660 Western Ave., Route 9. Stuff a bag with clothing, \$3. 234-7274.

NEWPORT — Storyteller, humorist and author Kendall Morse speaking about his new book, "Father Fell Down the

Well," 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Saturday, June 4, Newport Cultural Center. Free and open to all. Refreshments. 368-5074.

ORRINGTON — Orrington Garden Club annual plant sale, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday, June 4, Masonic Hall, east side of River Road (Route 15), south of the post office. Plant sets, seeds and artwork. Benefits club community projects. Charlotte Mason, 825-1052 or ecmason10@gmail.com.

ORRINGTON — Baked bean supper, 4:30 p.m. Saturday, June 4, Orrington Congregational Church, 38 Johnson Mill Road. \$7, \$3 children.

OWLS HEAD — History Comes Alive event, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, June 4-5, Owls Head Transportation Museum, 117 Museum St. New exhibitions: "Women Who Dare: Pioneering Women of Transportation," "The Bentley Boys" and "Coachbuilt." Free Model-T Ford rides, vintage car show, many other attractions. \$18, free to children under 18 and retired and active duty military. 594-4418 or jl@ohm.com.

POLAND SPRING — Squid Jiggers celebrating music, food and culture of Newfoundland at sixth annual Newfoundland Day concert, Saturday, June 4, Mel's Hilltop Restaurant, Poland Spring Resort, 640 Maine St. Doors open, 4:30 p.m.; buffet, 5:30 p.m.; music, 7 p.m. Tickets for concert and buffet, \$31; just the concert, \$15 or \$20 at the door. www.brownpapertickets.com/event/2539701 or 207-619-FOLK.

PORTLAND — Opening reception for artist Margaret Gerding and her "Maine Light" exhibit, 5-7 p.m. Thursday, June 2, Greenhut Galleries, 146 Middle St. On display through July 2. 772-2693.

PORTLAND — Maine College of Art's second annual Art in Exodus exhibition, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. weekdays June 3-24, Porteous Building, 522 Congress St., in recognition of World Refugee Day on June 20 and in conjunction with Portland's World Refugee Day celebration at King Middle School on Saturday, June 4.

PORTLAND — "3artists,

3visions @3fish," featuring work of Anna Mikuskova, Heath Paley and Kim Stone, on display June 3, 3fish Gallery, 377 Cumberland Ave. First Friday opening reception, 5-8 p.m. Friday, June 3. Gallery hours: noon-5 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday. Artist talk, 3-4:30 p.m. Sunday, June 12. 450-8499.

ROCKLAND — Two solo shows through June 26, Landing Gallery, 409 Main St. "Postcards from

Home," oil paintings by Sarah Faragher; and "Passages: Time and the Sea," 27 new ceramic boats by David Riley Peterson. Opening reception 5-8 p.m. Friday, June 3, during Rockland's first Friday Art Walk. For information, call 239-1223 or LandingArt.com.

SEARSMONT — Opening reception of animal portraits in oil with elements of collage by Maine artist Sara Gagan, 5-6 p.m.

Friday, June 3, Searsmont Public Library, Main Street North. Exhibit through July 6.

STONINGTON — Book signing for Razor "Ray" Weed's new book "The Flats of Webb's Cove," 10 a.m.-noon Friday, June 3, Island Community Center, 6 Memorial Lane. Books available.

For a complete listing of calendar items or to submit your event, visit www.bangordailynews.com.

Thursday prime time

		7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	
BROADCAST	2	NBC	207	Inside Ed.	Strong (N) (HD)	Game of Silence (N) (HD)				News	
	4	CBC	The Nature of Things	Firsthand		The National (N)		CBC	Coronation	At the Table	
	5	CBS	Big Bang	Broke Girl	Big Bang	Life in	Mom	Odd Couple	Code Black (HD)	News	
	52	CW	Family Guy	Family Guy	DC's Legends		Beauty and the Beast	News	Seinfeld	Cougar	
	6	NBC	207	Inside Ed.	Strong (N) (HD)	Game of Silence (N) (HD)				News	
	7	ABC	Wheel	Jeopardy!	J. Kimmel	NBA	2016 NBA Finals Cleveland Cavaliers at Golden State Warriors (N)				
	WAGB	FOX	The Insider	Ent. Tonight	Bones (N) (HDTV PA)	American Grit (N) (HD)	News	Big Bang	Big Bang		
	8	ABC	Wheel	Jeopardy!	J. Kimmel	NBA	2016 NBA Finals Cleveland Cavaliers at Golden State Warriors (N)				
	MPBN	PBS	PBS NewsHour (N) (HD)		Doctor Blake Mysteries	Death in Paradise	The Original Food Truck		C. Rose		
	9	IND	Law & Order: SVU		Big Bang	Cleveland	Goldbergs	Odd Couple	News-Lisa	CTV News	Daily Show
KIDS	13	CBS	Ent. Tonight	The Insider	Big Bang	Life in	Mom	Odd Couple	Code Black (HD)	News	
	22	FOX	Mod Fam	Mod Fam	Bones (N) (HDTV PA)	American Grit (N) (HD)	FOX 22 News at 10 (N)			Mentalist	
	33	IND	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	Andy Griffith	Andy Griffith	Happy Days	Gilligan Isle	Hogan Hero	Hogan Hero	C. Burnett
	38	IND	Big Bang	Big Bang	The Mentalist (HD)		The Mentalist (HD)		WBZ News (N) (HD)	Seinfeld	
	NICK		Henry	Thunder	*** The Parent Trap (1998, Comedy) Lindsay Lohan, Dennis Quaid. (P)			Girl Meets	Stuck	Best Fr.	Friends
	DISN		Spy Kids 3: Game Over	Spy Kids: All the Time				Girl Meets	Stuck	Best Fr.	K.C. Under.
	FREE		(6:30) ** Bring It On (2000)	(P)	(:45) *** My Girl (1991, Drama) (ESP) Anna Chlumsky. (P)						700 Club
	HIST		(6:40) Roots Tom Lea sells	George to save his farm.	Roots Chicken George returns after 20 years. (N)						(:07) Roots
	DISC		Naked and Afraid	Naked and Afraid	Naked and Afraid		Life After Chernobyl				Afraid
	TLC		My 600-Lb. Life	My 600-Lb. Life	Extreme Weight Loss		Fat Chance (N)				Weight Loss
LEARN	A&E		(6:40) Roots Tom Lea sells	George to save his farm.	Roots Chicken George returns after 20 years. (N)						(:07) Roots
	ANPL		River Monsters	River Monsters (N)	(:01) North Woods Law		(:03) Lone Star Law (N)				North-Law
	CSNE		SportsNite	Early	Quick	On, Water	Felger	Cannons	Sports	SportsNet	Sports
	ESPN		(6:00) SportsCenter (N) (L)	X Games Moto X Step Up, Final: Flat-Track Racing: Round One. (N)			SportCtr				
	ESPN2		College Softball	Update		College Softball: NCAA World Series					
	NBCSP		Nitro Circus Crazy Train	Nitro Circus Crazy Train		Nitro Circus Crazy Train		Nitro Circus Crazy Train		Crazy Train	
	NESN		MLB Baseball Boston Red Sox at Baltimore Orioles. (N) (L)			Extra		Red Sox	Sports		
	CNBC		The Profit	American Greed		American Greed		American Greed		Greed	
	CNN		Erin Burnett OutFront (N)	Anderson Cooper 360		The Eighties (N)		CNN Tonight		Cooper 360	
	FNC		Greta Van Susteren	The O'Reilly Factor (N)		The Kelly File (N)		Hannity (N)		O'Reilly	
NEWS	MSNBC		Hardball Chris Matthews	All In With Chris Hayes		Rachel Maddow Show		The Last Word		All In With	
	AMC		(5:00) Black Hawk Down	*** The Matrix (1999, Science Fiction) Keanu Reeves, Laurence Fishburne. (R)						Legend	
	BRV		Million Dollar Listing	Million Dollar Listing		Million Dollar Listing		Odd Mom Out (N)		Million	
	CMT		Last Man	Last Man	Last Man	Last Man	Dude	Ed Bass.	** You, Me and Dupree (2006)		
	COM		Key & Peele	Key & Peele	Key & Peele	(:24) Tosh.0	Tosh.0	(:28) Tosh.0	Amy Sch.	Not Safe	Daily Show
	E!		E! News (N)	The Kardashians		The Kardashians		The Kardashians		E! News	
	FOOD		Chopped	Chopped		Chopped		Beat Bobby		Beat Bobby	Beat Bobby
	FX		(5:30) World War Z (2013)	** Ride Along (2014, Comedy) Ice Cube. (P)		Archer (N)		(:34) Archer	(:05) Archer		
	GAC		You Live in What?	You Live in What?		You Live in What?		You Live in What?		You Live?	
	HALL		Last Man	Last Man	Last Man	Last Man	The Middle	The Middle	The Middle	The Middle	Golden Girls
VARIETY	HGTV		Flip or Flop	Flip or Flop	Flip or Flop	Flip or Flop	Flip or Flop	Flip or Flop	Hunters	Hunters Int'l	Vintage Flip
	LIFE		(6:40) Roots Tom Lea sells	George to save his farm.	Roots Chicken George returns after 20 years. (N)						(:07) Roots
	MTV		Ridiculous.	Ridiculous.	Ridiculous.	Ridiculous.	Ridiculous.	Ridiculous.	Ridiculous.	Ridiculous.	Ridiculous.
	OXY		Legally Blonde 2	** Legally Blonde (2001)		Reese Witherspoon.		(:10) ** Legally Blonde (2001)			
	SPIKE		(6:00) *** X2: X-Men United	(2003) (P)		Lip Sync		Lip Sync		Lip Sync	Lip Sync
	SYFY		The Mummy Returns	** Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles (1990) (P)		Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles II					
	TBN		Drive	Potters	Joyce	Joel Osteen	Prince	Hillsong TV	Praise the Lord		
	TBS		Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Broke Girl	Broke Girl	Big Bang	Big Bang	Broke Girl	Broke Girl	Conan
	TCM		(5:15) Ice Station Zebra (G)	**** Show Boat (1936) Irene Dunne. (NR)		*** Rose Marie (1936, Musical) (NR)					
	TMC		(6:05) Cleanskin (2012)	** The Royal Tenenbaums (2001) Gene Hackman.		*** Duets (2000) Gwyneth Paltrow. (R)					
PREMIUM	TNT		Castle	** Jack the Giant Slayer (2013) Nicholas Hoult. (P)		** Alice in Wonderland					
	TRAVEL		Mysteries at the Museum	Mysteries at the Museum		Mysteries at the Museum		Mysteries at the Museum		Mysteries at the Museum	
	TRU		Imp. Jokers	Imp. Jokers	Imp. Jokers	Imp. Jokers	Imp. Jokers	Imp. Jokers	Knockout	Imp. Jokers	
	TVL		Andy Griffith	Andy Griffith	(:12) George Lopez	George		Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	King
	USA		NCIS	WWE SmackDown! (N)		Mod Fam		Mod Fam		Mod Fam	
	VH1		(5:00) Gridiron Gang	** What to Expect When You're Expecting (2012) (P)		Sisterhood-Trav					
PREMIUM	WGN-A		Elementary	Elementary		Elementary		Elementary		How I Met	
	HBO		(5:30) *** Furious 7 (2015)	(7:50) *** Trainwreck (2015) Amy Schumer. A magazine writer's personal life is a complete disaster.		Quincy Jones: Burning the Light (N)		Veep (ESP)			
	MAX		Hobbit-Battle	(:45) ** A Knight's Tale (2001, Adventure) (ESP) Heath Ledger. A peasant poses as a knight for a shot at jousting glory. (P)		*** Breakback Mountain (2005, Romance) (ESP) Heath Ledger. (R)		Submission (N)			
	SHOW		(6:30) *** Big Eyes (2014) (ESP) Amy Adams.	(:15) *** Good Kill (2014, War) Ethan Hawke. A drone pilot begins to question the ethics of his job. (R)		Penny Dreadful					
PREMIUM	STARZ		(:05) *** The Dresser (1983) Albert Finney. Rattled English actor cannot go on without his fussy valet.	*** Dances With Wolves (1990, Historical Drama) (ESP) Kevin Costner. A Union officer befriends the Lakota. (P)							
	STZENC		(:10) *** Never Been Kissed (1999) (ESP) Drew Barrymore. A reporter poses as a high-school student.	Camelot Morgan plots against King Arthur.		(9:53) The White Queen (ESP)		(10:55) ** The Siege (R)			