At the

'CIRQUE INGENIEUX' COMBINES THEATER WITH THE CIRCUS FOR A CONTORTED NIGHT OF ENTERTAINMENT

By Bryan Petersen

o you ever get that feeling that you've done it all when it comes to entertainment in this town? That you have

"Cirque Ingenieux" may be for

What, you ask, is "Cirque Inge-

"Cirque Ingenieux" is touted by its producer, cast and crew as a totally new form of entertainment. It combines the European "cirque" tradition of a one-ring circus with the style and technical expertise of a Broadway play, held together against an actual plot.

Think "Alice in Wonderland" meets "The Wizard of Oz" meets Barnum and Bailey crossed with a Las Vegas show — all peppered with a dose of rock and roll spirit.

The presentation was conceived by Neil Goldberg, who has developed entertainment productions for two Superbowls, two Miss America pageants and the Walt Disney World com-pany, where he was a creative consultant before setting out on his own to expose America to the cirque experience. With "Cirque Ingenieux,"

Goldberg has brought together a multi-talented group of experienced choreographers, production designers and technicians from Broadway as well as an assortment of contortionists,

> bats, singers, dancers, aerialists and nearly every other type of performance artist you can

jugglers, acro-



Sarah, the young heroine of the show 'Cirque Ingenieux,' is guided by an angel.

What: Cirque Ingenieux When: April 5 at 8 p.m. Where: Hult Center Tickets: \$19.50-\$39.50

imagine. The action is set to a musical score that was specially arranged and composed by the world-famous New Age composer Kitaro.

"'Cirque Ingenieux' is a totally unique experience. It's not just about performance, artistry, or wowing the audience; it's about discovery," Goldberg said. "It's really a journey into the subconscious — into a delightfully exuberant dream world.

At the center of all of this stun-

ning visual stimuli lies the plot, which goes like this: At the turn of the last century, a young girl named Sarah and her brother attend a traveling circus. Sarah is enthralled and enchanted by what she sees, especially by the star of the show, a young trapeze artist named Tatiana. She goes back to the empty tent alone later that night and dreams of being a star like Tatiana.

As she reached out to touch the trapeze ring, she finds herself pulled into a mystical dream world, where familiar faces from the circus as well as from her daily life reappear in wildly surreal, comic proportions, and she makes a journey into this unknown realm, which becomes a lesson of adventure and discovery. She moves through solar systems and empty streets and experiences the feats of some of the world's greatest cirque performers

At the end of her travels, she is reunited with her brother and finds the strength and inspiration to follow her own dreams.

Goldberg stressed that this new entertainment is for the whole fam-

"While the show has some complexity to it - some layers - at the core it remains incredible family entertainment. After all, the person we most relate to on stage is the child, Sarah.

So come one, come all. This fanciful production will make its way to the Hult Center's Silva Concert Hall for a special one-night-only presentation on Monday, April 5, at 8 p.m. Tickets are available at the Hult Center box office as well as at local Fred Meyer Fasttixx or by phone at 682-5000 or 1-800-992-8499.

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