

The Black Blues Brothers are back – the acrobatic celebration that's thrilled the world returns

Assembly Rooms (Music Hall), 54 George Street, Edinburgh, EH2 2LR

Thursday 3rd – Sunday 27th August 2023, 15:05

The Fringe's best physical theatre show 2022 (Theatre Weekly) is coming back to Edinburgh for the third time. Wowing audiences with their acrobatic prowess, *The Black Blues Brothers* bring flips, tricks, firey limbo, human pyramids, hilarious gags and dance challenges like you've never seen and all to the soulful tempo of The Blues Brothers' music.

This acrobatic tribute to the cult movie *The Blues Brothers* has established itself as a must-see international show with a highly-acclaimed world tour of more than 800 dates and 500,000 spectators. The troupe have even performed on the Royal Variety Performance (introduced by King Charles III), presented their show to Pope Francis and garnered critical acclaim at Monte Carlo Circus Festival, the most important circus event in the world.

If The Blues Brothers were a band trying to put themselves back together again, the Black Blues Brothers are an acrobatic group who reform on stage every night, bringing us a party full of dazzling moments set to the sweeping sounds of the cult movie's soundtrack, one of the greatest pop legends of our times.

In an elegant Cotton Club-style lounge bar, a cleaner is chasing his dream of becoming one of the Blues Brothers, when two characters, dressed in the iconic suits of John Belushi and Dan Aykroyd, offer him a chance to make his dreams come true, helped by them and his two colleagues. Following the whims of an extravagant vintage radio, playing rhythm'n'blues music (including *Gimme Some Lovin', Sweet Home Chicago* and *Soul Man*), the barman and the whole staff transform into performers doing balancing acts, waving flags, jumping and acrobatics with fire. The

stage brims with flawless bodies flying through the air performing tricky stunts with a smile always on their faces, using everything around them: every object (chairs, tables, hangers, vases and even mirrors) becomes a tool for breath-taking acrobatics and audience involvement.

With their amazing tricks, *The Black Blues Brothers* remind to all of us that everything is possible when you have passion and willing to let yourself go. Everybody needs someone to love, and *The Black Blues Brothers* need you, you and you to get up and get down with them!

This exciting acrobatic ensemble trained in Sarakasi, a trust that teaches acrobatics and dance to the youth in Nairobi and surrounding areas. There they met Alexander Sunny, Circus Historian and Professor of History of the Circus and Street Performances, with whom they created this original and mind-blowing show.

☆☆☆☆ The audience couldn't get enough (Theatre Weekly)

☆☆☆☆ No excuse to miss it (Global Post Media)

☆☆☆☆ Highly recommended (All About Entertainment)

☆☆☆☆ Energy and charisma in abundance, A great family night out (One 4 Review)

☆☆☆☆ BEST CIRCUS SHOW Jake and Elwood would have loved it (The Advertiser)

The fearlessness in their tumbles and hand balances, the ease with which they fly and flip into the air, then plunge to the floor speaks of years of focussed training... Into our hearts (The Scotsman)

Notes To Editors

Title The Black Blues Brothers

Performance Dates Thursday 3rd – Sunday 27th August 2023, 15:05

Running Time 60 minutes

Location Assembly Rooms (Music Hall), 54 George Street, Edinburgh, EH2 2LR

Writer and Director Alexander Sunny
With Bilal Musa Huka

Rashid Amini Kulembwa Seif Mohamed Mlevi Peter Mnyamosi Obunde Mohamed Salim Mwakidudu Choreographer Electra Preisner and Ahara Bischoff

Scenographer Siegfried Preisner, Loredana Nones and Studiobazart

Lighting designer Andrew Broom

Box Office Tickets are available from <u>www.assemblyfestival.com</u>

Preview: £12.50

Midweek: £16.50 (£15.50) Weekend: £18.50 (£17.50)

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