



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **ODYSSEO RAISES ITS COLOSSAL WHITE BIG TOP NEXT TO HERSHEY CENTRE FOR ITS MISSISSAUGA DEBUT!**

**THE RAISING OF THE LARGEST TOURING TENT IN THE WORLD  
MARKS THE OFFICIAL ARRIVAL OF THE SHOW AHEAD OF THE JUNE 21 OPENING NIGHT**

EDITED VIDEO (TIMELAPSE, DRONE) FOR ONLINE: <https://we.tl/1VeSEJfJek>  
RAW VIDEO (TIMELAPSE, DRONE) FOR TV BROADCAST: <https://we.tl/BCbBdTtceS>  
HIGH RESOLUTION PICTURES: <https://we.tl/PFhVcyRuCS>

**MISSISSAUGA, ONTARIO (Monday, May 29, 2017) #OdysseoSAUGA** – The largest touring tent in the world was raised last week next to Hershey Centre in [Mississauga](#) in preparation for *Odysseo's* opening night on Wednesday, June 21.

For the special occasion, Mississauga Mayor Bonnie Crombie and Mississauga Ward 5 Councillor Carolyn Parrish joined Cavalía Founder and Artistic Director Normand Latourelle for brief remarks about the significant economic impacts *Odysseo* will have on Mississauga. Mayor Crombie, Councillor Parrish and Mr. Latourelle cut the symbolic ribbon on Thursday, heralding the official arrival of the production in Mississauga.

On Friday afternoon, the White Big Top rose to the sky, marking the impressive site which will soon host the epic theatrical experience *Odysseo* - a unique equestrian and acrobatic extravaganza featuring 65 horses and 50 artists.

Following two very successful, record-breaking engagements in Toronto in 2012 and 2015, Cavalía Inc. - an integral part of Canada's cultural heritage, and the largest Canadian wholly owned cultural enterprise – made the decision to explore and develop a new market opportunity by raising the *Odysseo* White Big Top in Mississauga. Cavalía Inc. would like to acknowledge the support of the Government of Ontario and the City of Mississauga in bringing *Odysseo* to Canada's 6<sup>th</sup> largest city.

In a collaborative effort between Cavalía Inc. and the city of Mississauga, the presentation of *Odysseo* next to Hershey Centre signifies a milestone in the City's history, allowing not only *Odysseo* - the largest touring show on the planet - to set its 'moving theatre' on what is now the perfect outdoor site, but also to pave the way for other large-scale events to follow Cavalía's innovative lead and make a stop in Mississauga.

The White Big Top is part of a larger ensemble; the *Odysseo* village will take shape over the next few weeks when a team of 80 experienced workers will be charged with its construction. The *Odysseo* village consists of five tents: The White Big Top, the stable tent, the exclusive Rendez-Vous VIP tent, the warm-up and artistic tent, and the kitchen tent for the 120 permanent employees. In total, 110 semi-trailer trucks will be required to transport the world's largest touring production to Mississauga.

Covering a surface area of 5,425 square metres, the size of a football field, *Odysseo's* impressive White Big Top is a mix of art, technology and advanced engineering. Normand Latourelle, Cavalía's Founder and Artistic Director, partnered with specialized companies in Europe and Canada to create this high-tech structure. By removing the usual supporting masts from the stage and shifting the weight of the structure from the masts to three arches above the tent, this specially designed White Big Top is the

best environment for the horses to feel free and comfortable and for the artists to perform breathtaking numbers. The gigantic stage – larger than the Hershey Centre ice rink - is 1,626 square metres and requires 10,000 tons of stone, earth and sand to create the vast performance area.

The multi-dimensional and magical world of *Odysseo* is conjured through images of the most beautiful landscapes from around the world, projected onto a 780 square metre screen, a feast for the eyes with staggering effects created by state-of-the-art scenery. The technical grid, worthy of the largest installations in Las Vegas, New York or London, supports 80 tons of stage equipment including a majestic life-sized merry-go-round. During the breathtaking finale, a virtual waterfall overhangs a lake made possible by an underground drain system that releases 150,000 litres of recycled water onto the stage, in which horses, riders, and artists come together to frolic, leaving behind them an astonished audience.

**TICKETS** - Tickets are priced from \$39.50 to \$139.50 + applicable taxes and fees. For a memorable evening, the Rendez-Vous package offers the best seats in the house, full meal buffet dining before the show, open bar, desserts during intermission and an exclusive visit of the stables after the show. This unique VIP experience takes place in a tent alongside the White Big Top. The Rendez-Vous package prices range from \$139.50 to \$224.50 + applicable taxes and fees. Special pricing and packages available for groups, children (2-12), juniors (13-17) and seniors (65+).

**ABOUT CAVALIA INC.** - Cavalia Inc. is an entertainment company that specializes in the creation, production and touring of innovative shows. Founded by Normand Latourelle, the company reimagines the equestrian and theatrical arts. With its headquarters in Montreal, Cavalia Inc. is an integral part of Canada's cultural heritage, and the largest Canadian-owned cultural enterprise. Its expertise in high technology, multimedia and special effects creates magical, unique, never-before-seen experiences. Its first show, *Cavalia*, has been seen by more than 4 million people across North America, Europe, Australia, the Middle East and Asia since its 2003 debut. *Odysseo*, the company's second show, has toured to rave reviews and public acclaim since its 2011 premiere. Follow Cavalia's latest developments at [www.twitter.com/cavalia](http://www.twitter.com/cavalia) or [www.facebook.com/cavalia](http://www.facebook.com/cavalia). #OdysseoSAUGA

#### **CALENDAR EDITOR**

**WHAT:** *Odysseo* by Cavalia

**WHEN:** Opens Wednesday, June 21, 2017

Matinee and evening performances scheduled through Sunday, July 16, 2017

**WHERE:** Under the White Big Top next to the Hershey Centre in [Mississauga](http://Mississauga)  
5399 Rose Cherry Place, Mississauga, Ontario L4Z 1R9

**TICKETS:** Available at [cavalia.com/mississauga](http://cavalia.com/mississauga) and by calling 1-866-999-8111

**INFO:** [cavalia.com/mississauga](http://cavalia.com/mississauga)

#### **MEDIA CONTACT**

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#### **ODYSSEO PRESS ROOM**

For photos and video of the production photos, b-roll, music clips and more information on the production, visit our *Odysseo* Press Room:

<https://cavalia.com/press/mississauga-on-can>

**Password:** odysseo

# Cavalía

# ODYSSEO

## **THE WORLD'S LARGEST TOURING TENT**

### **Facts about the White Big Top**

- Odysseo's White Big Top - the world's largest touring tent – is 38 metres tall
- The surface covered by the White Big Top is 5,425 square metres, the size of a football field
- Under the White Big Top are the stage, the backstage areas, the bleachers, a lobby, a gift shop and food stands
- Seating capacity for 2,074 people
- The stage is approximately 1,626 square metres, an area larger than the Hershey Centre ice rink
- The stage is made of 10,000 tons of stone, dirt and sand as well as 1,490 square metres of specialized carpet and pool liner to help build the basin
- An underground drain system is built to flood 150,000 litres of recycled water onto the stage for the splashing finale. After the show, it takes 15 minutes to drain the water
- The high-definition backdrop is the size of three of the largest cinema screens
- The technical grid supports 80 tons of equipment
- Air conditioning and heat are available

### **Assembly of the White Big Top**

- There are 3 arches that support the White Big Top. Each arch consists of 8 sections that are 2.5 metres wide by 9 metres long. Once assembled, each arch is 27 metres high by 62 metres long
- The masts of the big top have been specially engineered to be able to lift the arches into place
- The canvas is held in place by 1,310 one-metre long stakes holding down the 250 anchor plates
- The White Big Top is made of 9,243 square meters of canvas
- 26 motors are needed to raise the canvas onto the structure, resulting in the White Big Top
- The length of all the steel cable used to attach the structure to the ground is equal to 5.8 kilometres
- The Odysseo village consists of 5 tents: the White Big Top, the stable tent, the exclusive Rendez-Vous VIP tent, the warm-up & artistic tent and the kitchen tent for the 120 permanent employees