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Underbelly and Gravity & Other Myths present

Backbone

- **Internationally renowned contemporary circus company Gravity & Other Myths bring *Backbone* to Edinburgh Fringe for the first time**
- **A high-octane spree of physical virtuosity, *Backbone* tests the limits of physical, emotional, individual and collective strength**
- **Human connections between 10 strong cast are laid bare and exposed through relentless, raw physical endurance and skill**
- ***Backbone* runs from 31st July – 26th August 2019 at Underbelly's McEwan Hall**
- **Tickets available now via www.underbellyedinburgh.co.uk**
- **Promotional images and video available [here](#)**



Backbone rehearsal shot by Darcy Grant

Backbone, the third touring production from world-leading contemporary circus company **Gravity & Other Myths** (GOM), makes its Scottish debut at Underbelly's majestic McEwan Hall during the Edinburgh Festival Fringe following more than 170 shows in 18 countries since its premiere at the Adelaide Festival in 2017.

Embracing GOM's inherent and inimitable style, *Backbone* is a celebration of everything that's gone before. A cast of 10 acrobats and 2 musicians deliver a relentless performance that is both as intensely beautiful as it is fiercely raw. Strength in its many forms is deconstructed and explored through a high-octane spree of physical virtuosity and acrobatic prowess.

Backbone is a visual extravaganza, offering audiences the opportunity to experience circus in its most visceral form, circus that dispenses of trickery and distraction, circus that goes straight for the jugular and leaves no viewer unmoved. In true GOM style, human connections and camaraderie are explored onstage through a huge array of jaw dropping acrobatic disciplines, as trust and physical strength are frenetically pushed to the absolute limits.

A Simple Space wowed Fringe audiences in 2013, 2015, and 2017. This August, viewers can once again experience GOM's raw contemporary circus punch. In *Backbone* this is developed further still and laid against a deceptively DIY aesthetic, told through a stunningly visual production and set in the grand surrounds of McEwan Hall, elevating to an entirely new level.

Sexy but sincere, raw yet utterly disciplined, *Backbone* is proof you can't do the impossible without heathy amounts of risk, sweat and trust.

ENDS/

For further media information, photos, interviews and review tickets please contact The Corner Shop PR Scotland

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First review date: Friday 2nd August

LISTINGS

Backbone

Underbelly Bristo Square, McEwan Hall, 31st July – 26th Aug, (5pm), (no show Wednesday 7th, Monday 12th, Monday 19th), runtime 70 mins

Preview: 31st - 2nd, £13.00

Weekend: 3rd – 6th, 9th – 11th, 16th – 18th, 23rd – 25th, £18.50 (£17.50)

Weekday: 8th, 13th – 15th, 20th – 22nd, £17.50 (£16.50)

Keep up to speed with Underbelly at the Edinburgh Fringe

Facebook [@underbellyedinburgh](https://www.facebook.com/underbellyedinburgh)

Twitter: [@followthecow](https://twitter.com/followthecow)

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CAST AND CREATIVES

Current Cast: Jacob Randell, Jascha Boyce, Lachlan Binns, Alyssa Moore, Joren Dawson, Jordan Hart, Rachel Boyd, Lachlan Harper, Kevin Beverley, Jackson Manson

Current Musicians: Chris Neale & Alexy Kochetkov

Creative Ensemble: Jacob Randell, Jascha Boyce, Lachlan Binns, Mieke Lizotte, Lewie West, Martin Schreiber, Joanne Curry, Lachlan Harper, Lewis Rankin, Jackson Manson

Director: Darcy Grant

Set & Lighting Designer: Geoff Cobham

Creative Associate: Triton Tunis-Mitchell

Composers & Musicians: Elliot Zoerner & Shenton Gregory

NOTES TO EDITORS

Gravity & Other Myths

Gravity & Other Myths (GOM) is an internationally renowned circus company pushing the boundaries of contemporary circus. Formed in Adelaide, Australia in 2009, GOM has rocketed to stellar acclaim with a series of disarmingly accomplished ensemble works. GOM's work utilises an honest approach to performance, to create shows with a focus on human connection and acrobatic virtuosity.

GOM's show A Simple Space has achieved huge international success, receiving multiple awards, and having performed more than 500 times across 24 countries. The follow up show Backbone, created in 2017, has already been nominated for multiple awards, had stellar reviews, and toured to festivals internationally.

GOM has a focus on community engagement and always tries to support the circus community in Adelaide, as well as local circus communities in cities they travel to.

Underbelly

Underbelly is a UK based live entertainment company. Their events and festivals division operates one of the largest operations at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe, selling over 460,000 tickets for over 200 shows, in 22 venues over 25 days in 2018.

2018 was the sixth year Underbelly produced Edinburgh's Christmas for City of Edinburgh Council (2017/18 saw a record breaking 781,520 tickets issued to visitors from 47 different countries), and the second year of producing Edinburgh's Hogmanay also on behalf of City of Edinburgh Council, which in 2017-18 welcomed 160,000 over 3 days.

2019 marks the eleventh year of Underbelly Festival on the Southbank - one of the biggest multi-arts offerings in London - with over 100 shows programmed over 6 months on the South Bank.

Underbelly also produces Christmas in Leicester Square, Underbelly Festival in Hong Kong, West End Live in Trafalgar Square for Westminster City Council and the Society of London Theatre.

Underbelly Productions is the theatrical arm of Underbelly, presenting, producing and promoting a diverse programme of international work. In 2017, in association with Cameron Mackintosh, they produced a major revival of the classic musical Five Guys Named Moe, which ran for 30 weeks at the purpose-built Marble Arch Theatre. This scorching production garnered rave reviews and was nominated for 3 WhatsOnStage Awards (including Best Musical Revival) and as Best Entertainment and Family at the 2018 Olivier Awards. In 2017 they were also Associate Producers on the UK Premiere of the musical Big Fish starring Kelsey Grammar, which enjoyed a sold-out Christmas run at The Other Palace. As part of the 2018 Edinburgh Festival Fringe, Don't Tell Me Not to Fly a one-woman cabaret featuring a revolving cast of some of the West End's favourite leading ladies premiered in the 900-seater McEwan Hall.

In 2018 Underbelly sold over 1.5 million tickets to their various events.