

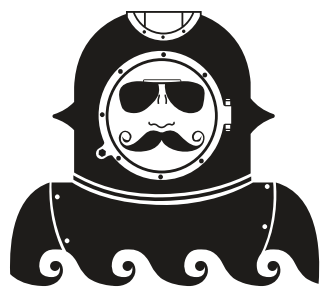
CIRCONAUTA



Festival
Internazionale
del Circo
Contemporaneo
XII edizione
3-4-5-10-11-12
Luglio 2026
Nardò, Lecce
Italy

#Terra!

PROGRAM



**CIRCONAUTA
FESTIVAL 2026**

#Terra!

A wolf is watching us. Not as a symbol of domination, but as an allied presence: a guardian of territories, of their fragilities, and of the energies that move through them. We look to the wolf with our thoughts turned toward the earth. The 2026 edition of the Festival is dedicated to the land: to the communities, practices, and experiences that protect and regenerate the landscape, renewing the bond between human beings and Mother Nature.

We felt the need to plant this sustainable thought like the seed of a tree. And so we find ourselves holding an edition full of ideas, words and visions. Yet the pleasure of play never leaves us: Circonauta welcomes you with its kaleidoscope of gestures, sounds, and images.

Browse our programme in search of the great stars of international clowning, or immerse yourself in the new languages of the contemporary circus scene.

Follow the footsteps of a false guru, enjoy a wild parade of human-beasts, linger among the corals of our reef and let yourself be enchanted by the Songs of Sirens and Tritons.

Walking through the Festival's installations and draperies feels like entering a great gipsy caravan, while the photographic exhibition **Circus Love** opens the door to the poetic universe of contemporary circus. Circonauta is a workshop of alliances: a project that seeks to engage with people, associations and local communities, renewing its inclusive and cross-disciplinary vocation year after year.

Above all, Circonauta is a celebration: a tribute to the value of encounter and to the joy of life.

Enjoy the Festival!

Friday 3 july

OPENING CELEBRATION

Piazza Sant'Antonio / Nardò, Lecce

7:30 pm – Institutional greetings

With Maria Grazia Sodero, Deputy Mayor of the City of Nardò; Cesare Dell'Angelo Custode, Councillor for Tourism of the City of Nardò; Cristian Casili, Vice-President of the Apulia Region.

8:00 pm - Circus Love_Vol 2

Photographic exhibition / Opening.

In collaboration with the Museum of Prehistory.

9:00 pm – Serenate Concert

Yin & Yang, circus performance / followed by DJ set.

Tastings with the B94 brewery



CIRCUS LOVE - VOL 2 / PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION

Opere di Stephanie Gengotti

Exhibition design by **Marinella Mazzotta**

Alta Marea Produzioni

Works by **Stéphanie Gengotti**

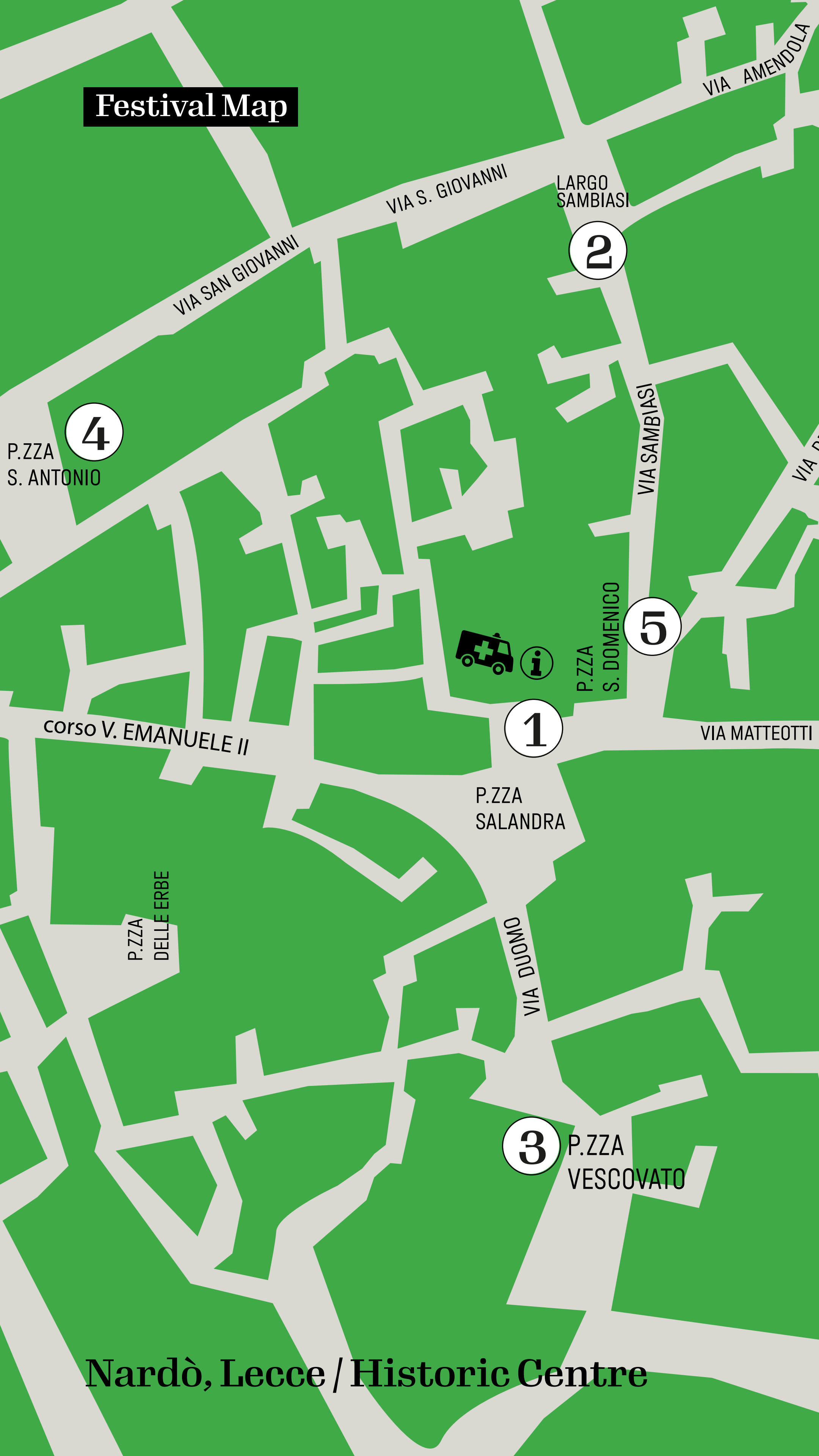
Circus Love continues its journey through the photographs of Stéphanie Gengotti. Contemporary nomadic circus emerges as an art form that crosses places without possessing them, listening to the living earth.

Chiostro di Sant'Antonio / Museum of Prehistory, Nardò

3-18 July 2026 / Opening hours: 10:00 am – 12:00 pm / 5:00 pm – 7:30 pm. During the Festival, open until 10:30 pm.



Festival Map



Nardò, Lecce / Historic Centre

Saturday 4 July

h 19:00 Piazza SALANDRA	①	DJ Miss Scotch	🕒 30’	MUSICA 👤 Tout public
h 19:30 Piazza SALANDRA	①	Semi di futuro Storie di rinascita del...	(TALK) 🕒 50’	DERIVE 👤 Tout public
h 21:00 Piazza SALANDRA	①	DJ Miss Scotch	🕒 30’	MUSICA 👤 Tout public
h 21:00 Largo SAMBIASI	②	Tomate (ARG) Puro Tomate	🕒 50’	CIRCO 👤 Tout public
h 21:00 Piazza VESCOVATO	③	Paki Paya (ESP) Shake Shake Shake	🕒 50’	CIRCO 👤 Tout public
h 21:00 Piazza SANT’ANTONIO	④	Scuola di circo FLIC (ITA) È già tutto scritto?	🕒 30’	CIRCO 👤 Tout public
h 22:00 Piazza SALANDRA	①	Mediterranean Psychedelic Orkestra World’n Roll	🕒 90’	MUSICA 👤 Tout public
h 22:00 Piazza SANT’ANTONIO	④	Los Colga-Dos (ESP) Street Sale	🕒 40’	CIRCO 👤 Tout public
h 22:00 Chiostro di SAN DOMENICO	⑤	Matteo Galbusera (ITA) The White Lord	🕒 60’	CIRCO 👤 13+ anni
h 23:00 Largo SAMBIASI	②	Ditta Polletti (ITA) Caput	🕒 50’	CIRCO 👤 6+ anni
h 23:00 Piazza VESCOVATO	③	Nani Rossi & Mc Fois (ITA) R4 - Fuga per la libertà	🕒 45’	CIRCO 👤 Tout public
h 23:00 Piazza SANT’ANTONIO	④	Scuola di circo FLIC (ITA) È già tutto scritto?	🕒 30’	CIRCO 👤 Tout public
h 23:30 Piazza SALANDRA	①	DJ Miss Scotch	🕒 30’	MUSICA 👤 Tout public

Sunday 5 July

h 19:00 Piazza SALANDRA	①	DJ Miss Scotch	🕒 30’	MUSICA 👤 Tout public
h 19:30 Piazza SALANDRA	①	Rosso-clown Dialogo con Tomate	(TALK) 🕒 50’	DERIVE 👤 Tout public
h 21:00 Piazza SALANDRA	①	DJ Miss Scotch	🕒 30’	MUSICA 👤 Tout public
h 21:00 Largo SAMBIASI	②	Ditta Polletti (ITA) Caput	🕒 50’	CIRCO 👤 6+ anni
h 21:00 Piazza VESCOVATO	③	Nani Rossi & Mc Fois (ITA) R4 - Fuga per la libertà	🕒 45’	CIRCO 👤 Tout public
h 21:00 Piazza SANT’ANTONIO	④	Los Colga-Dos (ESP) Street Sale	🕒 40’	CIRCO 👤 Tout public
h 22:00 Piazza SALANDRA	①	Cocoa Thrill Cumbia	🕒 90’	MUSICA 👤 Tout public
h 22:00 Piazza SANT’ANTONIO	④	Scuola di circo FLIC (ITA) È già tutto scritto?	🕒 30’	CIRCO 👤 Tout public
h 22:00 Chiostro di SAN DOMENICO	⑤	Matteo Galbusera (ITA) The White Lord	🕒 60’	CIRCO 👤 13+ anni
h 23:00 Largo SAMBIASI	②	Tomate (ARG) Puro Tomate	🕒 50’	CIRCO 👤 Tout public
h 23:00 Piazza VESCOVATO	③	Paki Paya (ESP) Shake Shake Shake	🕒 50’	CIRCO 👤 Tout public
h 23:00 Piazza SANT’ANTONIO	④	Los Colga-Dos (ESP) Street Sale	🕒 40’	CIRCO 👤 Tout public
h 23:30 Piazza SALANDRA	①	DJ Miss Scotch	🕒 30’	MUSICA 👤 Tout public

Friday 10 July

h 19:00 Piazza SALANDRA	①	DJ Miss Scotch	🕒 30'	MUSICA 👤 Tout public
h 21:00 Piazza SALANDRA	①	DJ Miss Scotch	🕒 30'	MUSICA 👤 Tout public
h 21:00 Piazza VESCOVATO	③	Salvatore Cappello (ITA) P.O.M.O.	🕒 30'	CIRCO 👤 8+ anni
h 21:45 Piazza VESCOVATO	③	Duende (ITA) Circo Bestiale	🕒 60'	CIRCO 👤 Tout public
h 22:00 Piazza SALANDRA	①	Yaràkà Ethno-world	🕒 90'	MUSICA 👤 Tout public
h 23:00 Piazza SANT'ANTONIO	④	Kolektivo Konika (ITA-ESP) Matrimonio	🕒 30'	CIRCO 👤 Tout public
h 23:30 Piazza SALANDRA	①	DJ Miss Scotch	🕒 30'	MUSICA 👤 Tout public

Saturday 11 July

h 18:30 Piazza SALANDRA	①	DJ Miss Scotch	🕒 30’	MUSICA 👤 Tout public
h 19:00 Piazza SALANDRA	①	Terra! Arti sceniche e comunità in cammino	(TALK) 🕒 50	DERIVE 👤 Tout public
h 21:00 Piazza SALANDRA	①	DJ Miss Scotch	🕒 30’	MUSICA 👤 Tout public
h 21:00 Largo SAMBIASI	②	Peter Shub (USA) Best of Peter Shub	🕒 60’	CIRCO 👤 10 + anni
h 21:00 Piazza VESCOVATO	③	Adriano Cangemi (ARG) Nagual	🕒 40’	CIRCO 👤 5 + anni
h 21:00 Piazza SANT’ANTONIO	④	Tzubasa Watanabe (JPN) Contour	🕒 20’	CIRCO 👤 Tout public
h 22:00 Piazza SALANDRA	①	Nubras Ensemble Balkan	🕒 90’	MUSICA 👤 Tout public
h 22:00 Piazza SANT’ANTONIO	④	Nonni’s (ITA) Mania C	🕒 30’	CIRCO 👤 10+ anni
h 23:00 Largo SAMBIASI	②	Mr. Copini (ESP) The Herok	🕒 50’	CIRCO 👤 Tout public
h 23:00 Piazza VESCOVATO	③	Trocos Lucos (ESP) Tartana	🕒 50’	CIRCO 👤 Tout public
h 23:00 Piazza SANT’ANTONIO	④	Tzubasa Watanabe (JPN) Contour	🕒 20’	CIRCO 👤 Tout public
h 23:30 Piazza SALANDRA	①	DJ Miss Scotch	🕒 30’	MUSICA 👤 Tout public

Sunday 12 July

h 19:00 Piazza SALANDRA	①	DJ Miss Scotch	🕒 30'	MUSICA 👤 Tout public
h 19:30 Piazza SALANDRA	①	Il silenzio fa ridere Dialogo con Peter Shub	(TALK) 🕒 50'	DERIVE 👤 Tout public
h 21:00 Piazza SALANDRA	①	DJ Miss Scotch	🕒 30'	MUSICA 👤 Tout public
h 21:00 Largo SAMBIASI	②	Mr. Copini (ESP) The Herok	🕒 50'	CIRCO 👤 Tout public
h 21:00 Piazza VESCOVATO	③	Trocos Lucos (ESP) Tartana	🕒 50'	CIRCO 👤 Tout public
h 21:00 Piazza SANT'ANTONIO	④	Tzubasa Watanabe (JPN) Contour	🕒 20'	CIRCO 👤 Tout public
h 22:00 Piazza SALANDRA	①	Niuri te sule Popolare salentina	🕒 90'	MUSICA 👤 Tout public
h 22:00 Piazza SANT'ANTONIO	④	Luca Pastore (ITA) Confessioni di un Lupo Cattivo	🕒 35'	CIRCO 👤 6+ anni
h 23:00 Largo SAMBIASI	②	Peter Shub (USA) Best of Peter Shub	🕒 60'	CIRCO 👤 10+ anni
h 23:00 Piazza VESCOVATO	③	Adriano Cangemi (ARG) Nagual	🕒 40'	CIRCO 👤 5+ anni
h 23:00 Piazza SANT'ANTONIO	④	Tzubasa Watanabe (JPN) Contour	🕒 20'	CIRCO 👤 Tout public
h 23:30 Piazza SALANDRA	①	DJ Miss Scotch	🕒 30'	MUSICA 👤 Tout public

CIRCO

Ticketed performances



 4, 5 July
 Chostro S. Domenico
 13 + anni

Matteo Galbusera
(ITA)

The White Lord

🕒 60'
COMICO
TEATRO DI STRADA

The White Lord is a comic ritual on the ambiguous charm of power: a candid yet unsettling guru leads the audience through devotion, control and laughter.



 4, 5 July
 Largo Sambiasi
 Tout public

Tomate
(ARG)

Puro Tomate

🕒 50'
CLOWNERIE

Tomate transforms balloons, objects and silences into a tender, universal comic delirium: a wordless score in which every gesture can become magic.



 4, 5 July
 P.zza Vescovato
 Tout public

Paki Paya
(ESP)

Shake Shake Shake

🕒 50'
ACROBATICA
PHYSICAL COMEDY

Aerial circus meets 1970s disco: vertigo and humour turn the square into an acrobatic dance floor where the audience dances with bated breath.



 4, 5 July
 Largo Sambiasi
 6+ anni

Ditta Polletti
(ITA)

Caput

🕒 50'
TEATRO-CIRCO

Two elegant, worn-out clowns chase a midnight that refuses to arrive, lightly and melancholically revealing the weight of habits and routine.



 4, 5 July
 Piazza Vescovato
 Tout public

Nani Rossi & Mc Fois
(ITA)

R4_Fuga per la libertà

🕒 45'
ACROBATICA
CLOWNERIE

A circus-style B-movie: agents, escapes, misunderstandings and acrobatics follow one another in a physical comedy where laughter becomes a wild act of escape.

CIRCO Spettacoli a biglietto



	10 July
	Piazza Vescovato
	Tout public

Duende
(ITA)

Circo Bestiale

Where does this caravan of animals come from? And what will they come up with to make us laugh? A circus of wonder comes to life, where bodies become wild creatures.

🕒 60’

CIRCO
CLOWNERIE



	11, 12 July
	Largo Sambiasi
	Tout public

Mr. Copini
(ESP)

The Herok

Through improvisation, juggling, fire and unicycle, Mr Copini celebrates excess and the glorious imperfection of false superheroes in the public square.

🕒 50’

CLOWNERIE



	11, 12 July
	Largo Sambiasi
	10 + anni

Peter Shub
(USA)

Best of Peter Shub

Minimal gestures, perfect silences and tiny poetic disasters reveal a timeless comedy: this is the essence of clowning, performed by one of the world’s masters of the genre.

🕒 60’

MIMO



	11, 12 July
	P.zza Vescovato
	Tout Pubblic

Trocos Lucos
(ESP)

Tartana

A van becomes home, battlefield and acrobatic machine: Korean plank, balances and humour tell a story of trust, coexistence and the vertigo of shared risk.

🕒 50’

ACROBATICA
BASCULA COREANA



	11, 12 July
	P.zza Vescovato
	Tout Pubblic

Adriano Cangemi
(ARG)

Nagual

Between trapezes, animal bodies and ritual imagery, Adriano Cangemi moves through falling and rebirth in a poetic, wild flight – suspended, fragile and alive.

🕒 40’

ACROBATICA
TRAPEZIO BALLANT

CIRCO

Trampolino Vetrina 2026

A cura di



Circonauta Festival hosts the winners of Trampolino Vetrina 2026, the most important national showcase dedicated to emerging voices in contemporary circus, promoted by ACCI – Associazione Circo Contemporaneo Italia: Kolektivo Konika, Nonni’s and Salvatore Cappello.

Ingresso gratuito



	10 July
	Piazza Sant’Antonio
	Tout public

Kolektivo Konika
(ITA-ESP)

🕒 30’

MANO-A-MANO

Matrimonio

Matrimonio turns the wedding ritual into an irreverent celebration: hand-to-hand acrobatics, Cyr wheel and absurd humour question love, roles and freedom.



	10 July
	Piazza Vescovato
	8+ anni

Salvatore Cappello
(ITA)

🕒 30’

CLOWN

CONTEMPORANEO

P.O.M.O.

A clown born between greenhouses and the sea, searching for his place in the world: Sicilian roots, body, words and acrobatics make dignity and mysterious



	11 July
	Piazza Sant’Antonio
	10+ anni

Nonni’s
(ITA)

🕒 30’

CIRCO

CONTEMPORANEO

Mania C

MANIA-C gives physical form to the inner monster of a young figure: dance, handstands and acro-dance explore anxiety, control and vulnerability, moving towards an imperfect yet necessary freedom.

CIRCUS

Free performances

Piazza Sant’Antonio lights up: Circonauta Festival brings to the streets the most vibrant, free and surprising circus. Free admission, high quality, punk spirit: original performances that overturn the square through technique, poetry, energy and wonder beyond all conventions.



	4, 5 July
	Piazza Sant’Antonio
	Tout public

Scuola di circo FLIC

(ITA)

🕒 30’

ACROBATICA

AEREA

È già tutto scritto?

È già tutto scritto? turns the circus ring into a living page: FLIC questions destiny and choice with youthful, collective energy, through jumps, falls, balances and a future still to be built together.



	4, 5 July
	Piazza Sant’Antonio
	Tout public

Los Colga-Dos

(ESP)

🕒 40’

CIRCO

CLOWNERIE

Street sale

Street Sale is an absurd market where everything changes value: objects and structures become circus, negotiation and visual poetry in an acrobatic game.



	12 July
	Piazza Sant’Antonio
	6+ anni

Luca Pastore

(ITA)

🕒 35’

TEATRO DI STRADA

Confessioni di un Lupo Cattivo

The Big Bad Wolf finally takes the floor: in a comic and interactive monologue, he overturns fairy tales and invites children and adults to look beyond familiar stereotypes.



	11, 12 July
	Piazza Sant’Antonio
	Tout public

Tzubasa Watanabe

(JPN)

🕒 20’

GIOCOLERIA

DIABLO

Contour

With his diablo, Tsubasa Watanabe creates a silent story made of magnetic gestures, taking us on a journey of pure, suspended wonder.

MUSIC

The songs of sirens and tritons



	3 July
	Piazza Sant'Antonio
	Tout public

Serenate

Tradizionale

🕒 90'

The art of the musical dedication: voice, violin and accordion travel through Neapolitan tradition, Romani echoes and Balkan repertoires.



	4 July
	Piazza Salandra
	Tout public

Mediterranean Psychedelic Orkestra

World'n Roll

🕒 90'

Luigi Bruno lights up the reef with a visionary blend of Mediterranean sounds, popular rhythm and psychedelic attitude.



	5 July
	Piazza Salandra
	Tout public

Cocoa Thrill

Cumbia

🕒 90'

Cumbia, tropical grooves and collective celebration: Cocoa Thrill turns Piazza Salandra into an open-air dance floor under the stars.



	10 July
	Piazza Salandra
	Tout public

Yaràkà

Etno-world

🕒 90'

Yaràkà crosses the Mediterranean and the Global South through Tarantine roots, percussion, vocal traditions and Afro-Brazilian rituals.



	11 July
	Piazza Salandra
	Tout public

Nubras Ensemble

Balkan

🕒 90'

A refined and burning soundscape, where ancient roots meet contemporary creativity, mysterious melodies and a nomadic vision.



	12 July
	Piazza Salandra
	Tout public

Niuri te sule

Popolare salentina

🕒 90'

Niuri Te Sule closes the Festival with pizzica, popular songs and ancestral rhythm: a warm, participatory Salento finale.

DRIFTS



	4 July
	Piazza Salandra
	Tout public

Seeds of the Future

🕒 50'

Incontro

*Stories of Landscape
Rebirth*

I Paduli, Bosco d'Arneo and Porto Selvaggio: three stories of woodland care, environmental practices and shared visions to imagine new alliances between communities and territories.



	5 July
	Piazza Salandra
	Tout public

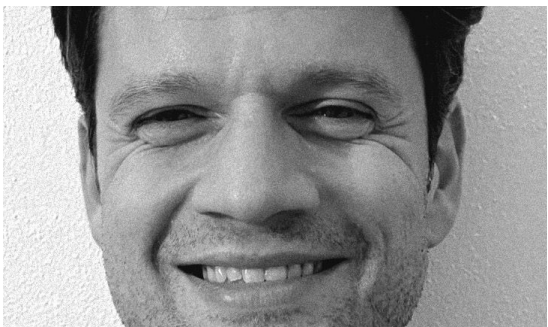
Red-clown

🕒 50'

Talk

A Conversation with Tomate

Clown Tomate, also known as Víctor Ávalos, reflects on wordless comedy, street performance, failure and that fragile wonder that makes us laugh together, beyond languages and borders.



	9 July
	Insolita Comune
	Tout public

Andrea Martina presents “Questo posto mi sta respingendo”

🕒 90'

Incontro

Insolia Rassegna 2026

From Turin to the Apulian province, the novel explores belonging, roots and conflict with one's places of origin - and with the land as a possible future.



	11 July
	Piazza Salandra
	Tout public

Earth! Performing Arts and Communities on the Move

🕒 90'

Incontro

In collaboration with A.C.C.I.

Cultural operators, experts and institutions come together to imagine processes capable of regenerating territories and shared relationships.



	12 July
	Piazza Salandra
	Tout public

Silence Makes Us Laugh

🕒 50'

Talk

A Conversation with Peter Shub

Peter Shub, a master of international clowning, reflects on the body that thinks, listens and transforms minimal gestures into deep, universal and light-hearted laughter.



THE GLASSES OF CIRCONAUTA

Discover the most famous craft beer from Salento at Circonauta Festival. Beer will be served near our info-points on the evenings of 4 and 11 July.

For every four tickets purchased for circus performances, you will receive a complimentary glass offered by Circonauta.



MISS SCOTCH & THE SQUID BAR

DJ Miss Scotch, Circonauta's disco-sardine, makes Piazza Salandra vibrate with three short and bright DJ sets. Then, when the final round strikes at 11:30 pm, come closer to her Squid Bar for a low-cost shot.

In the reef of Piazza Salandra





MR. THOMAS AWARD

1ST EDITION

Circonauta Festival establishes the Mr Thomas Award in memory of Tommaso D'Aquino, the boldest and bravest fire-breather we have ever known.

Help us award the prize: after each performance, share your feedback at the ticket desk corners. The audience vote will help choose the most loved show of the Festival.



TICKETS AND PASSES

Single Ticket

Full price: € 5.00 / Reduced: € 4.00 for children aged 6 to 12 and for companions of people with disabilities

Free admission: children aged 0 to 5 and people with

Festival Passes

Medusa Pass

2 performances Full price: € 9.00 / Reduced: € 7.00

Delfino Pass

3 performances Full price: € 12.00 / Reduced: € 10.00

Balena Pass

4 performances Full price: €14.00 / Reduced: €12.00

Not included in Festival Passes (Puglia Culture)

Ditta Polletti, Caput / Saturday 4 July, 11:00 pm

Matteo Galbusera, The White Lord / Sunday 5 July, 10:00 pm

On - Line

www.liveticket.com - www.circonauta.it

INFO

Phone

Tel. +39 379 2405586

From 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm,

Monday to Friday and during the Festival.

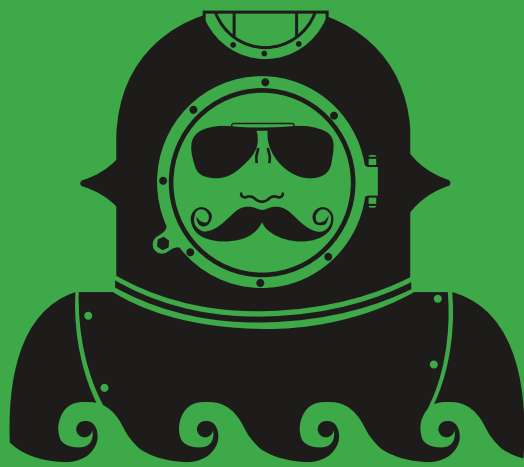
Mail

info@circonauta.it

INCLUSIVE FESTIVAL

Circonauta promotes a kind and inclusive welcome.

In the performance areas, dedicated kindness areas are available for wheelchair users, with staff assistance and comfortable visibility. Please ask our staff for support



CIRCONAUTA

Festival Internazionale del Circo Contemporaneo

XII ed. / 3-4-5-10-11-12 July 2026 / Nardò, Lecce, Italy



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un progetto di



Circonauta
Associazione di
Promozione Sociale

direzione artistica

Marinella Mazzotta
Gianluca Marra
Marco De Paola

con il sostegno di



MINISTERO
DELLA
CULTURA



PUGLIA
CULTURE



CITTÀ DI
NARDÒ



Provincia
di Lecce



Associazione Istituto di
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DAMS

DISCIPLINE
DELLE ARTI,
DELLA MUSICA,
E DELLO SPETTACOLO
UNIVERSITÀ DEL SALENTO



SCUOLA
CIRCO
TORINO

GAL TERRA D'ARNEO



SALENTO
BICI TOUR



TENUTA
MONACELLI

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naturale
salento

TerramMare
TEATRO

POLO
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di PUGLIA



quinta parete.



SPAZIO
GIOCO
NDA



manu manu
riforesta!



MUSEO DELLA PREISTORIA DI NARDÒ



**CASA
COMUNE**
centro di Prossimità



**34°
FUSO**



I.C. Polo 2
Renata Fonte
Nardò LE



fluxus
società cooperativa

**Creativ
BAR**
chostro carmelitani
NARDÒ

ufficio stampa

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media partner



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