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News Release

The ZinZanni Institute for Circus Arts

proudly presents

Two Master Classes Taught by

Dolorèze Léonard

“Clown Crash Course” on October 30

and “The Art of Commedia Dell’Arte” on October 31

Seattle – Original Teatro ZinZanni cast member, Head Coach of Camp ZinZanni, Master Clown and respected teacher **Dolorèze Léonard** returns to Teatro ZinZanni’s spiegel tent this fall to teach two master classes on October 30 and 31. These master classes expand the reach and scope of the ZinZanni Institute for Circus Arts, the education program of Teatro ZinZanni, and are the first workshops designed for Adults ages 16 and older.

On Friday, October 30th from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Dolorèze, or Dolo as she is affectionately known, will teach a **Clown Crash Course**. Participants will learn how to build a comic character and release his or her inner clown. A review of early clown traditions will help students identify which type of clown they are – a red clown versus a

white clown, a leader or a follower, a crafty clown or a silly one. With Dolo's trademark "tool box" of tricks, and by working solo as well as in groups, students will leave the class well on their way to entertaining friends and family with a newly developed comic character. The workshop ends with a presentation to the group. Limited to 20 participants.

On Saturday, October 31st from 11:00 to 3:00 p.m., Dolo will present a workshop about the **Art of Commedia Dell'Arte**. Limited to 20 participants, this workshop explores one of the oldest clowning traditions in the Western World. Commedia flourished in Italy during the Middle Ages, first surfacing in Rome in the 14th century, and continues today to be a highly influential comedic form for contemporary theater, character development, improvisational theatre and clowning. Dolo will introduce students to all of the distinct and clearly defined Commedia characters and their iconic physicality - Pantalone, Dottore, Harlequin, Pulcinella. The workshop culminates in a scene, or *canovaccio*, in masks and costumes.

With over two decades of performing experience to her credit, Montreal circus artist **Dolorèze Léonard** conducts buffoon workshops all over the world. She began her career as a guerilla street artist and was later one of the original members of Cirque du Soleil. Dolorèze toured for five years with *Pomp, Duck & Circumstance*, where she created her fiery tyrant character "Madame Zazou," An original Teatro ZinZanni cast member, Dolorèze has also directed our show and is the Head Coach of Camp ZinZanni.

Each four-hour master class is \$150 per person. No prior clowning experience is necessary. To register, please email zica@onereel.org or call **206-802-0011 x7244**.

ABOUT ZICA:

The ZinZanni Institute for Circus Arts (ZICA) is dedicated to the preservation, development and enhancement of ancient and contemporary circus arts, including Juggling, Clowning, Magic and Acrobatics with an emphasis on all aspects of

performance and production. Programs range from master classes taught by resident performers to technical or artistic apprenticeships and summer camps. With the generous support of [The Wallace Foundation](#). One Reel is proud to push into new artistic territory aimed at bringing young adults into meaningful, enriching contact with the brilliant world of theater, music, and circus arts of Teatro ZinZanni. Six sessions of Camp ZinZanni will be held in the *spiegel tent* from July 5 through August 15, 2010. For more information, visit <http://zica.zinzanni.org/index.htm>.

ABOUT TEATRO ZINZANNI:

Since its original opening in October 1998, Teatro ZinZanni has delighted over a million audience members with its three-hour swirling stream of performance, music and comedy all presented in the elegance and intimate comfort of a beautiful, antique Belgian *spiegel tent*. Guests are seated restaurant style to watch the show unfold beside, around, and even above their tables as they enjoy a five-course gourmet feast designed by celebrated Northwest chef Tom Douglas. Teatro ZinZanni plays Wednesday through Sunday evenings at the tent located at 222 Mercer Street in the heart of Seattle Center's Theatre District. **Reservations: 206.802.0015 or at zinzanni.org, or at the box office at 222 Mercer Street.**

Teatro ZinZanni is an independent, non-profit arts organization, created by One Reel, known for producing some of the Northwest's premier arts events including Bumbershoot: The Seattle Music & Arts Festival, the Summer Nights Concert Series, and the Chase Family 4th, as well as a wide array of literary, educational, and cultural projects. A registered and qualified as a 501(c) 3 tax-exempt public charity, Teatro ZinZanni is dedicated to the communities it serves through performances, education and outreach. For more information, visit zinzanni.org.

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