



The unprecedented KA Theatre at the MGM Grand is the backdrop for this cinematic journey, which unfolds on a colossal 360° rotating stage. The audience sits facing an apparently bottomless void filled with smoke. Above, around and inside the void, the artists make their entrances, perform and make their exits, without ever treading the boards of a conventional stage. Instead, they fly through the air, or perform on two moving platforms that operate independently of each other: the Sand Cliff Deck, Tatami Deck and five stage lifts. Additionally, the post and beam structure extends from the stage area into the audience, to create a continuous performance space that defies the conventions of traditional theatres.

Of note: Every seat in the KA Theatre has two speakers built into its headrest, which allows sound effects to be targeted, manipulated and customized to any of 16 seating zones. The theatre seats 1,950 and has more than 3,300 lighting fixtures.



## Fun Facts

- The boat in the storm scene weighs 1,800 pounds and is completely manipulated on stage by the artists.
- The climb scene runs the Sand Cliff Deck through a sequence of moves that has it rotating up to 12 degrees per second, tilting through 60 degrees, as well as showing off its lifting motion. Artists are falling 70 feet into air bags below.
- The video projections in KA are an intricate mix of computer-generated effects and human input that turn the performance space into a cinema screen.
- To create the interactive projections that follow an artist's movement, the artists are captured by an infrared-sensitive camera above the stage and their movements are tracked by a computer.
- Seventy specialists worked more than 35,000 hours to produce the first full set of KA costumes at the *Cirque du Soleil* headquarters in Montréal.
- Many artists glue Austrian crystals to their faces as part of their make-up.
- The Counselor's Son character has the most complex makeup application, involving 33 steps and eight different brushes, four sponges and one powder puff.
- During the pre-show, approximately 120 fireballs are discharged. These fireballs measure 30 feet in height and reach temperatures of 1200° Fahrenheit.
- For the Mountain Tribe Scenes, snow machines and fans float very fine soapsuds through the air to make a very convincing snowfall.
- More than 110 live arrows are shot through the air at each performance. The artists spend many hours in training to learn proper archery techniques.