

ARCHAOS

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'SEXY' PR BLUNDER HELPS BAN SHOW

A BLUNDERING PR man has been blamed for helping to ban a circus — by touting it as a sex show.

The publicist branded the 'steamy, seamy' show by circus troupe Archaos 'sexier than anything in Soho.'

Archaos is due to pitch its big top on Clapham Common for seven weeks from October 2.

News of the press release prompted fresh calls on Labour Lambeth Council to follow Bristol Council's example — and ban the show.

The release by the Archaos PR

by TERRY MESSENGER

company declared, "Athletic acrobats make violent love astride a London taxi, Boadicea is assaulted on an ex-army crane and a manacled man serves as S and M slave to a juggler king."

The show is billed as a 'surreal rock and roll sex circus.'

Mistake

The press release, issued by the Mark Borkowski public relations company, was used to back up the case for the Bristol ban.

PR boss Mr. Borkowski said, "It was written by an inexperienced

temporary worker who is no longer with the company.

"It was sent in draft form to a freelance journalist without being checked or approved by the company. It was a mistake."

He said it was a 'misrepresentation,' claiming some people misinterpreted acts in the show as sexual.

Lambeth Tory Cllr. Mary Leigh said, "It seems wholly unsuitable as family entertainment. The local authority has the right to ban the show if children are taken to see sexual displays, by parents expecting traditional circus."

But Tory group leader Hugh Jones suggested a council delegation to an Archaos show in the provinces so councillors could make an informed decision.

Mr. Borkowski confirmed that 'older children' would be allowed in unaccompanied.

SLP reporter Tim Donovan, who saw last year's Clapham show, said, "If this show was not allowed to proceed, south Londoners would be denied an opportunity to see the incredible skill, strength and imagination of these performers."

A Lambeth Council spokeswoman said the show at Clapham — Archaos' only London venue — 'is definitely going ahead.'