

ARCHAOS
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FREE DISTRIBUTION
ISSUE DATE

NOV 1990



THEY CAME, CHAINSAW, THEY CONQUERED!

A CHAINSAW will never look the same again. Nor will council rubbish bins, dolls or even a JCB digger.

Certainly not after the crazy French circus Archaos have finished with them, anyway.

The controversial troupe finally got their unique brand of big top entertainment off the ground last Thursday.

ARCHAOS Stanmer Park

Archaos officials say Brighton Council's "high-handed" attitude has resulted in a toned-down version of the show for Brighton, but the pace is still furious and the gimmicks spectacular.

The team of muscled men and women swoop and dive from great heights, prop themselves on poles and chase each other with chainsaws.

Some of the troupe's famed fire fight routines, used extensively elsewhere in the country, have been restricted on the insistence of local fire chiefs.

But it doesn't affect the incredible fire-eating act by Pascalito Voinet, who spends most of the show performing in little more than a jockstrap.

It's a shame that police, fire and council officials may have dampened some of the enthusiasm of the Archaos team, who are obviously a talented and innovative group.

Artistic expertise such as this should be actively encouraged in a town like Brighton. I only hope Archaos listen to public opinion and return with their fabulous show.

VERONICA CLARK

■ Archaos continues until Sunday.