

NATIONAL TRAINING PROJECT 2017

OUR TRAINERS



MAHRANE HANNACHI – Hoop Diving, Pole, Rope

Trained at the Circus School of Tunisia, Mahrane currently works as an instructor at Ecole de Cirque de Quebec in Canada, specializing in chinese pole, acrobatics and hoop diving. Mahrane has performed with Cirque du Soleil-Chemins and won a bronze medal at Mondial du Cirque de Demain in 2009. Currently regarded as a world-class technician in chinese pole, Mahrane is looking forward to sharing his knowledge with the circus practitioners of Australia for the second year running.

GUILLAUME (ZIGGY) LE SAUX – Tumble, Handstands, Tramp

Ziggy is originally from France, has vast experience as a gymnastics coach for both Artistic Gymnastics and Trampolining. Having coached many students to a national level in gymnastics in both France and Australia, he also delivers gymnastics coaching courses. Particularly renowned for his technical competency, Ziggy recently joined the Flying Fruit Fly Circus as an Acrobatics trainer.

LOIC MARQUES – Handstands, Adagio

Loic is the Master Trainer at the Flying Fruit Fly Circus. He is a French National sports acrobatic champion and former trainer at the Ecole de Cirque de Quebec amongst others. Loic specializes in acrobatics and coaches a large range of apparatus to a high technical level (trampoline, teeterboard Korean and Hungarian, Russian bar, hand to hand, banquine, handstand).

Loic possesses a vast knowledge in biomechanics and analyses of acrobatic movement, with expertise in practical and theoretical physical preparation. An excellent trainer of international standard, Loic is in high demand for consultation with Australia's circus performers.

TANYA LESTER – A-Ring, Tissu

Tanya is one of FFFC senior trainers -specialising in Spanish web, swinging trapeze and cradle.

As an original Fruit Fly performer, Tanya toured Australia, was invited to Paris to compete in the "Cirque de domain" world children's circus competition, where she won gold in the aerial section, and performed and toured to Canada three times. As a performer and circus teacher, she participated in two Nanjing International and the Russian International training projects. Credits include World Expo 88, Rock'n'Roll Circus (now Circa), Circus Oz; and then "CirFunKus".

2011 Tanya ran local circus troupes in Tallangatta and Yackandandah, teaching circus skills to people ranging from two to 70 years of age fulfilling her passion to

teach people of all ages and to pass on the joy and benefits of circus to all.

JULIE WILSON - Juggle, Tumble

Julie first joined the Flying Fruit Fly Circus in 1986 and remained with the circus for a decade. She was trained in the disciplines of foot juggling and object manipulation by Russian and Chinese trainers. Tours include most parts of Australia, and Nauru for its 25th independence celebrations. She rejoined the Fruities as a trainer in 1998. Julie specialises in ground-based acrobatics and manipulation.

STUART CHRISTIE – Trapeze, Double Trapeze, Tissu/Rope

Stuart graduated from the NICA in 2004 with a Bachelor of Circus Arts. He is a multi skilled performer in circus acrobatics, aerial apparatus 'corde lisse' (smooth rope) and musical performance. From 2006-08 Stuart was a full time performer with Circus Oz. He also specialized in a high paced duo acrobatic routine and group acts such as flying trapeze, Chinese pole, group balances and character performance.

Stuart's other performing credits include a seven month residency in Nagoya at World Expo 2005 for the Australian Pavilion, corporate events, and producing a cabaret night 'a little bit of Shhh' at the Order of Melbourne and NYE 09/10 EQ Bar/Black Box. October 2009 saw Stuart produce his first independent full-length show 'Dos or Duo', to much acclaim: receiving a highly commended nomination for best Circus Show Melbourne Fringe 2009, best circus Adelaide Fringe Festival 2010 and a season in Gasworks Melbourne Comedy Festival 2010. Stuart joined us in 2010. His specialty is corde lisse.

PHIL WITT - Tumble, Teeterboard

Phil joined the the Flying Fruit Fly Circus as a youngster in 1990. Having run his own company, Evolution Acrobats, Phil has travelled widely in Australia and abroad to perform and direct shows. In 2008 he worked with Circus Oz choreographing tableslides for their 2009 show. Phil currently works as a trainer and director for the Flying Fruit Fly Circus, his signature skills are: mini tramp, teeterboard and comedy.

KENNETH LINDEMANN – Tumble, Straps, Teeterboard, Tissu

Kenneth is a circus performer in multiple disciplines and specialises mostly in aerial straps (solo/duo), hand-balancing and aerial rope. Kenneth trained at École de cirque de Québec and has been coaching there for the past five years. Kenneth has performed on Broadway in 'Pippin' and with companies such as Cirque Du Soleil, 7 Fingers and other major companies throughout the world. He is currently a trainer at the Flying Fruit Fly Circus.

MASON WEST – Tumble, Teeterboard

Mason started his acrobatic training at the age of 7 at the Flying Fruit Fly Circus. He has over 20 years of professional work under his belt and has worked around the world in over 15 countries. From Broadway to Blenheim, from the street to the stage, the BBC to Good Morning New Zealand, Patch Adams to the Bling Ling Bros, Moscow Circus, Chinese State Circus and Circus Oz. Mason is trained to high level

in adagio, pole, hoop diving, rolla bolla, pyramids, knock about (slapstick), sway pole, chairs, clowning, toss the girl, flying trap, teeter board and more.

LISA LOTTIE – Hula

Lisa is a cabaret artist, corporate entertainer, festival performer and YouTube sensation. Lisa Lottie's hula hoops, contortion, style and beauty have been seen across Europe and around the world.

A world-class, highly-skilled artist, Lisa was born in Amsterdam, began her career in a traditional circus in India, has trained at Escola Nacional de Circo in Rio de Janeiro and holds a degree in Circus from NCCA in London. Based now in the UK and Australia, Lisa delights international audiences with her festival show *Bend It Like Barbie* and her sophisticated, skilled and sassy performances at elegant supper clubs, star-studded galas, and high-profile corporate events. She has worked with companies such as Strut & Fret, La Soiree, Rock in Rio and Live Nation.

Professional and amateur performers as well as fans worldwide have racked her up millions of views on YouTube; Lisa is also highly in demand as a teacher and coach.

TOM McKINNON – Cloud Swing, Swing & Static Cloud

Tom is a graduate of the National Institute of Circus Arts (NICA) where he completed three years of full time training. He is an acrobat and aerialist with skills such as tumbling, rope, handstands, hoop diving, and his specialty; cloudswing. Tom's credits include performing at the opening of Cirque De Demain in Paris and working for P&O Australia on the Pacific Jewel cruise ship as a performer. Tom has also been teaching beginner and intermediate students at NICA since 2012.

ALEX MIZZEN – Handstands

Alex's background has left a wonderful imprint on the artist we find today. As a trained gymnast and a graduate from the National Theatre Ballet, Alex worked as a contemporary dancer, honing both her physical and performance skill before turning her eye to circus. Now as an established circus artist with specialties in both hand balance and aerial chair Alex has worked with some of the leading Australian & international companies Les 7Doigts de la Main, Company 2, Cantina, Circa, Legs on the Wall, La Soirée, Tanssiteatteri Hurjaruuth **and** Le Grand Cirque.