

## MINI NEWS: OCTOBER 2009

The Circus Development Agency has been set up by a group of people with a professional involvement in circus. It aims to:

- Raise the profile of circus as a cultural activity
- Ensure that circus is a viable industry offering secure and worthwhile employment
- Promote training and sharing of skills
- Provide a forum between the different facets of the industry

### Members of the CDA board are:

- Ali Williams (Nofit State Circus)
- Michael Day (Equity)
- Robert Davies
- Lynn Caroll (Nofit State Circus)
- Tony Hopkins (Tony Hopkins Entertainment)
- Mike Wright (Above and Beyond)
- Brett Jackson (Swamp Circus)
- Gerry Cottle
- Chris Barltrop
- Verena Cornwall (Circus Futures)
- Steve Cousins (Let's Circus)
- Vicki Amedume (Upswing Aerial)
- Ian Scott Owens (Albert and Friend's Instant Circus)

## GENERAL NEWS

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### NORTH EAST CIRCUS DEVELOPMENT TRUST

Established earlier in 2009, NECDT is connecting actions and aspirations of circus arts in the North East of England. Managing the strategic development of circus to 2012 and beyond, we have a major youth circus network planned, European partnership opportunities and a church to circus facility conversion underway. Have you got an interest in the region? Are you following a parallel path? Can you offer support, advice or sponsorship? Get in touch.

[helen@letscircus.com](mailto:helen@letscircus.com)

### NETWORK OF INTERNATIONAL CIRCUS EXCHANGE, 5<sup>TH</sup> SEMINAR

5<sup>TH</sup> - 8<sup>TH</sup> NOV 2009

Riverside Studios, Crisp Road, Hammersmith W6

RSVP to [trea@albertandfriendsinstantcircus.co.uk](mailto:trea@albertandfriendsinstantcircus.co.uk), 020-8237-1030

#### **What is N.I.C.E.? (Network of International Circus Exchange)**

Founded in 2005, N.I.C.E. is an informal networking event of European Youth Circus groups drawn from across the EU. The Seminars take the form of an open forum where topics relevant to youth circus - exchanges, skills training, European Voluntary Service, are discussed. The relevant information is then disseminated back to each individual country to help build a bigger and stronger youth circus sector.

The N.I.C.E. Seminars build upon an initial informal network of European Youth Circus groups. In previous years the N.I.C.E. Seminars have been held in Berlin, Paris, Tampere & Amsterdam.

#### **How did A&FIC get involved?**

A&FIC attended the 4th N.I.C.E. Seminar held in Amsterdam in Autumn 2008. It was a brilliant opportunity to meet a wide range of European youth circus enthusiasts, trainers, managers, performers, administrators and young people in a non-formal, relaxed environment for sharing and exchanging practices and information. Every year the delegates decide which country will host the next Seminar.

As a representative of Youth Circus in the UK, A&FIC is very proud to have been elected to host the 5<sup>th</sup> N.I.C.E Seminar. Consequently, representatives from France, Holland, Germany and Estonia met with A&FIC at Riverside Studios in February 2009 to discuss the planning, content and daily activities. This was followed by a successful funding application to the EU, Youth in Action Programme.

#### **Where are the delegates from?**

All partners are drawn from the UK and the wider European Youth Circus. 19 countries have been invited some of whom have attended N.I.C.E Seminars before. Others have expressed an interest in participating so that they can join in the wider discussions, about the role of young people and circus within the European Community, that this Seminar would facilitate.

#### **What are the aims of the 5<sup>th</sup> N.I.C.E. Seminar?**

The 5<sup>th</sup> Seminar aims to enrich the knowledge of all the participants and engender a true feeling of European solidarity, creating an opportunity for UK youth circus groups to be actively involved in the European Youth in action programme.

#### **What will the daily programme include?**

##### *Themed Presentations*

Youth Circus in the UK, Inclusion, Introduction to Umbrella of Umbrellas, Best Practice

##### • *Workshops*

Cross Fertilisation, Finance, Games Exchange, Inclusion, PR/Marketing, Crossing Borders, Training Standards, Value

##### • *Networking*

##### • *Social interaction*

##### • *Demonstrations/performances*

#### **What does the N.I.C.E. Seminar hope to achieve?**

The activities (presentations, demonstrations, discussion forums, workshops) and the kinesthetic working methods planned for this Seminar will address learning objectives, support the exchange of experiences, expertise and good practice between those active in youth work and youth organisation as well as the establishment of long lasting, high quality projects, partnerships and networks. They will facilitate, educate and inform a wider understanding of the role that Circus can play in the development and training of young people throughout the UK & the EU, enhance the participant's skill and knowledge base and encourage a broader understanding of the benefits that an intelligent physical activity such as circus can bring to young people and the organisations they represent.

The 5<sup>th</sup> N.I.C.E. Seminar is generously supported by a EU Youth in Action, Training & Networking Grant

## PERFORMANCES/EVENTS

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### **PANGOTTIC PRESENT FULL TWIST, BRISTOL**

Wed 28<sup>th</sup> Oct – Sun 8<sup>th</sup> Nov (Not Mon & Tues) 8:15pm

Stretching the boundaries between circus and physical theatre Full Twist is a witty tale of lust and love, poetics and absurdity, where the audience is taken through the life of a colourful couple stumbling into love from the very first date, right through to marriage and babies. But this tale has more to it, in contrast to the slightly exaggerated and certainly whacky couple, there are two other, more naïve, clumsy, intimate characters (probably considered by the audience as simple stage hands), and they too are making their own quirky journey through romance.

The Brewery (Tobacco Factory), 291 North Street, Southville, Bristol, BS3 1JU

Box Office: 0117 902 0344

Tickets: £9/£7 (No conc Fri or Sat)

For further information please contact:

Matt Pang – 0117 955 6261/0776 207 2463

[contact@pangottic.com](mailto:contact@pangottic.com), [www.pangottic.com](http://www.pangottic.com)

### **MADAM SILK BY FIDGET FEET – IRELAND**

Sun 8<sup>th</sup> Nov, Co, Donegal and Fri 13<sup>th</sup> Nov, Co Kerry

Three Fantastic female aerial dancers who evolve in a universe of veils and drapes creating a sensual atmosphere that gives birth to remarkable aerial choreography performed to eclectic music and film projections composed and mixed by Jym Daly, with costumes designed by award winning Paul Shriek ( UK).

A co-production with Fidget Feet (Ireland) and Cie Drapès Aériens (France). Choreographed by Fred Ded' from Cie Drapès Aériens. Funded by Irish Arts council and Blank Canvas, The Frikin Crane ,Cork. A 40min version of Madam Silk was first performed at longford Dance Festival in April with huge support from Shawbrook.

Before the tours begins Fidget Feet will be at The Firkin Crane on a Blank Canvas Residency working on mixing film with Madam Silk.

There will be a free sharing on Friday 23rd Oct at 6pm all welcome.

Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> November at 8.30pm– The Balor Arts Centre, Ballybofey, Co Donegal. Box Office 074 91 31840

[conor@balortheatre.com](mailto:conor@balortheatre.com)

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> November at 8pm - Tralee Circus Festival @ Siamsa Tire theatre, town Park, Tralee , Co Kerry. Box Office 066 71 23055 [info@siamsatire.com](mailto:info@siamsatire.com)

## **WIRED AERIAL THEATRE – SHARING OF A TASTER OF THEIR NEW WORK 'ROSA'S BAR', MAIDENHEAD**

Friday 30<sup>th</sup> Oct // 3.30pm – 5.00pm

At Norden Farm Centre for the Arts, Altwood Road, Maidenhead SL6 4PF

Sizzling with the ring-a-ding-zing of Wired's famous bungee-assisted dance technique and bursting with humour and passion... Rosa's bar is alive with people! A place to discover your hidden desires and true passions! There's no such thing as strangers, just friends you haven't met. Friends who all have one thing in common, they all need Rosa's bar to help them take that step closer to what or who they really want! Brimming with quirky characters, tango beats, magic tricks and illusions from the Master of Mystery Zac Zen!

Rosa's Bar was developed with an initial injection of support from Without Walls Consortium in 2008 and the piece has recently been performed during the summer at 'Step Up Bradford,' 'Dance Daze' in Penrith, out2dance in Blackpool and The Shimmy in Wandsworth.

Reply to Nicky at this email address and RSVP by 5pm on Thurs 22<sup>nd</sup> Oct

**[Watch our tasty trailer on YouTube](#)**

Come along in your professional capacity and see how the production might work for you, or just visit us out of pure curiosity! We are presenting the show with minimal lighting, this way you can see its potential for presentation in a full range of contexts, including those with minimal technical facilities, and adding some imagination you can envisage how it will work in all singing all dancing theatrical settings. We are aware that this event falls over half term, so if you have childcare issues then by all means bring the kids! They'll love it and you'll get to do some research and networking!

Rosa's bar will be available for outdoor festivals for the summer season 2010 and then a further development stage aims to whisk the show inside for a spring 2011 tour of UK theatres.

At the event we will be presenting a 13 minute taster of the full production available.

## **MUALLA - TUULA JEKER & ILONA JÄNTTI, LONDON**

Shunt Lounge, Wed 21 to Sat 31 Oct

Mualla is a collaboration between architect and animator Tuula Jeker, circus performer and choreographer Ilona Jäntti.

The company explores the dialogue between the real and virtual worlds in a live performance context.

Music and sound design by Tuomas Norvio.

Supported by Arts Council of Finland and Helsinki Festival.

Mualla is performed at the Wake Space.

For further information visit [www.shunt.co.uk](http://www.shunt.co.uk)

## **TRAINING AND WORKSHOPS**

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### **CIRCADIUM, NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE**

October 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>, 10am to 5pm - FREE

Let's Circus present CIRCADIUM, a new regional gathering for circus arts in the North East of England. Big Top participation event hosting a dedicated youth circus training schedule, master classes, convention-style drop-in sessions, shows and demonstrations - open to all circus participants and the public as part of the Xperience extreme sports festival.

The schedule so far is:

**10:00** - Registration and sign-up (get in early as some activities will reach capacity quickly)

**10:30-12:30** – Youth Circus training event - Open to 10-25 year olds with current experience of circus, extreme sports, physical theatre activities, etc. This section of the day will include Chinese Pole, Aerial, Tightwire, Clowning, Manipulation and Acrobalance/Acrobatics.

**10:30-12:30** – Open Toybox and play space – bring your own toys, or borrow from the toy library

**12:30-4** – Convention style workshops and master classes, games, and demonstrations - teachers include Edd Muir (Chinese Pole), Haggis McLeod (Juggling and manipulation), Massi and Tiago (Acrobalance, Adagio and Acrobatics), Flame Oz (Fire Arts), Grace Billings (Hula Hoop), Joe May (Clowning and act mentoring), Danuta Ramos (Silks), Amy Cohen (Tightwire) and more

**4:00** – Circadium Show (Saturday is teachers show, Sunday is community show)

**5:00** – Event finishes

We will be launching more information on the event website [www.xperience09.com](http://www.xperience09.com) in the next few days.

There is an e-flyer at [www.letscircus.com/whatsOn.htm](http://www.letscircus.com/whatsOn.htm)

All of this is attached to an Extreme Sports Festival ([www.Xperience09.com](http://www.Xperience09.com)) and all of it is free!

### **CLOWN THROUGH MASK COURSE, LONDON**

4<sup>th</sup> Jan – 4<sup>th</sup> Feb 2010

To coincide with the London International Mime Festival, Shams is running another of its acclaimed trainings in Clown through Mask - a visionary synthesis of Native North American and European clowning traditions. In a month-long

process from 4 Jan - Feb, we face all aspects of the self through each making and wearing six masks that allow us to embody our humanity fully, both ridiculous and beautiful at once. The rich inner worlds and personas we discover through the masks then serve as guides, letting us to go much further than we could alone and creating a strong foundation for our clown.

The course is an exhilarating, challenging journey where we explore presence, colours, innocence and experience. Games, movement exercises and bodywork sessions supplement the improvisations and performances, giving a thorough grounding in the art of clowning. This visionary training is open to performers and artists who are open to working through the body, voice and imagination. The course is led by Jonathan Young, artistic director of Shams and an experienced teacher, performer and writer/director.

10% off if booked by 1st November - For full details, please see [www.shamstheatre.org.uk](http://www.shamstheatre.org.uk)

*'By far the most productive, supportive and informative route into clown that I have so far encountered - I look upon the red nose with fresh eyes'*. Veronica from clown-theatre company Barabbas

## AERIAL WORKSHOPS IN IRELAND

### Aerial Workshops with Fred Deb'

Friday 30<sup>th</sup> October 11am – 6pm in Legan hall in Legan Co Longford.

( train to Edgeworthstown and FF will pick you up)

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> November 11am -6pm @ Tralee Circus Festival in Siamsa Tire theatre, Town Park Tralee Co Kerry.

€70 for 1 day and €120 for 2 days post cheque to Fidget feet

### Aerial Workshops with Fidget feet for beginners'

Thursday, 6th November - 7.30pm - 9.00pm

Balor Theatre in Ballybofey co Donegal Adult workshops in cocoons

€15

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> November 11am -4pm @ Tralee Circus Festival in Siamsa Tire theatre

€50

Spaces are limited to book a place contact Sheenagh Gillen at [sgillen@onstage.ie](mailto:sgillen@onstage.ie) Tel: +353 (85) 127 1102 or

Chantal Mc Cormick at [Chantal@fidgetfeet.com](mailto:Chantal@fidgetfeet.com) Tel: +353 (85) 7411098

## OPPORTUNITIES

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### IDEASTAP: THE 2010 IDEAS FUND – £150K SUPPORTING YOUNG PEOPLE'S IDEAS

The Ideas Fund is IdeasTap's very own funding scheme, aimed at helping 16-25-year-olds realise their creative ideas, with £150,000 to give away each year.

The Ideas Fund offers more than just financial support, with mentoring, marketing and production advice to make sure the project has the best possible chance of succeeding.

The Ideas Fund will shine a light on emerging talent and young people's creativity showing how they can translate ideas into innovative projects and activities and provide a bridge between young people, new audiences, a market, commercial and creative opportunities. These awards are the first of their kind and are backed by a partnership network which includes The Old Vic, the National Youth Theatre, the BBC, Channel 4, Tate Modern and a wide-ranging network of voluntary, Higher Education and youth organisations.

Funding applications can be up to £20,000 and begin at £1,000, with the current Fund split into two prizes, Edinburgh and Innovators. Submissions for the current fund are now open, and the closing date is 11th November 2009.

Ideas Fund: Innovators

A call for entries four times a year that supports young people at the beginning of their creative projects and helps them take these projects to the next stage of development. The award is open to all creative disciplines and offers each winner £1,000.

Ideas Fund: Edinburgh

A £30,000 fund with a first prize of up to £20,000 to develop a performance piece for the 2010 Edinburgh Festival.

Winners and runners-up will get expert mentoring, marketing and production support.

For further information visit [www.ideastap.com](http://www.ideastap.com)

## EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

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### H2OH! ENTERTAINMENT AGENCY LOOKING FOR NEW PERFORMERS

H2oh! Entertainment is a UK based agency specialising in Circus & Variety acts for private and corporate clients. Their books are currently open to professional performers and workshop leaders, who are available to work on a freelance basis.

If you have appropriate experience and would like to be considered for potential performance and/or teaching opportunities then H2oh! Entertainment would like to hear from you.

You must be registered as self-employed and must be covered by Public Liability Insurance. To find out more about the selection criteria and how to be considered by the agency, please contact [hannah@h2ohentertainment.com](mailto:hannah@h2ohentertainment.com)  
For more information please go to [www.h2ohonline.co.uk](http://www.h2ohonline.co.uk) or [www.h2ohonline.com](http://www.h2ohonline.com)

## **SENIOR LECTURER - CIRCO ARTS PROGRAMME, NEW ZEALAND**

Permanent, Fulltime

As part of CPIT's School of Performing Arts, our Circus Arts programme is unlike anything else in New Zealand. Fusing circus with other performance media has placed Circo Arts at the forefront of truly innovative performance. A range of introductory short courses are offered as well as the core Diploma in Circus Arts, covering a comprehensive array of circus, performance and body training skills.

If your passions include teaching and performance then this unique opportunity may be your next move. You'll lead and teach with internationally respected team of academics and performers offering a challenging and exciting learning environment, training the next

generation of creative performer. As a senior member of our staff you will be a qualified and experienced teacher, delivering excellent academic and training standards. You'll take a lead role in circus arts research or teaching and learning, and staff development. Recent successful experience in circus, theatre, comic or related disciplines and involvement in significant productions will make you a stand-out candidate for this role.

For more information on this exciting position please refer to our website at [www.cpit.ac.nz/situations\\_vacant](http://www.cpit.ac.nz/situations_vacant)

Applications Close: 06 November 2009

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## **SUBMISSIONS TO THE MONTHLY CDA NEWSLETTER:**

If you would like to send in information to be included in the next CDA newsletter please send info by the 3<sup>rd</sup> of each month to: [info@circusarts.org.uk](mailto:info@circusarts.org.uk)

Please send your news in straightforward text only (we can't include photos in the newsletter as yet)