



2015 PROGRAM GUIDE

AMAZING AERIALISTS

JULY 21

CIRCUS OF THE NIGHT
CABARET SHOW

JULY 24 & 25

AERIAL AWARDS SHOWS

LAKWOOD
CULTURAL CENTER
COLORADO

Hosted by Jim Jackson
and Birgitta De Pree

www.aerialartsfestdenver.com

THE SHOWS

The Aerial Acrobatic Arts Festival was created in 2011 by Lynn Coleman and financed all five years by her small company, Aerial Fabric Acrobatics. It is the first Festival of its kind in the US and the world. Along with her friend, Marshall Garfield, formerly of Cirque du Soleil, a team of passionate volunteers, supporters, artists, and family members the Festival has presented shows, workshops, inspiration, and opportunity to many individuals each year. It has shown what a small group of dedicated people can do!

The first Festival shows (2011 and 2012) were held in the Oriental Theater in Denver. In 2013 and 2014, the Festival was sponsored by the University of Colorado at Denver's Theater Department and moved to the Auraria Campus. Now in the 5th year, the Festival is offering three shows at the Lakewood Cultural Center.

The Festival opens with "*Circus of the Night*", a Cabaret show under the direction of Jim Jackson and Birgitta De Pree of the Milliboo Art Theater. They bring a cast of artists who will fill the theater with laughter, song, and world-class physical skill.

The Aerial Award Shows feature aerialists who are debuting their acts for the audience's appreciation and the judges' scores. Over 100 aerialists sent in video applications and a pre-selection panel selected the best to perform on Friday and Saturday nights.

Three judges who are industry experts will score each act using a criterion based on standards of Aerial Festivals from around the world. The audience response will be metered to learn who is their favorite.

At Friday's show, the judges select one artist per discipline to perform again on Saturday. The Audience response helps select an Encore Act to perform in the Saturday show.

Saturday's Award Show will feature all finalists, the Encore Act, an Innovative Performance, and our Young Aerialist who was selected from all those aged 15 to 17 who applied. At the end of the show, the Best Technical, Best Artistic, and Best Over-All Performance will be awarded along with the Audience Choice Award.

Jim Jackson and Birgitta De Pree will host the Award shows. Peter Davidson, renowned Colorado juggler, will add his skill to their wit and whimsy.

The Aerial Acrobatic Arts Festival was created with a circus spirit of innovation and discovery. These are the final three annual shows. The Festival hopes to continue to resonate as a positive force in the community. As the first Festival of its kind it has inspired others to create their own Festivals. It has given wings to artists, and offered an opportunity to connect, be inspired, learn and have fun!

Welcome to the Fifth and Final
Aerial Acrobatic Arts Festival Shows.
We welcome your enthusiastic participation. Enjoy!

THE PERFORMERS



KELSEY AICHER began her aerial training in 2011 when she moved to Portland, Oregon. A year later she had her first student showcase and fell in love with performing. She has been performing professionally since 2013 as both a solo artist and as part of a duo act with her partner Larke. Kelsey has performed with companies such as Night Flight Aerial and Prismagic. She currently teaches static trapeze in Portland.



JUNE SCOTT BARFIELD enjoys fusing comedy and movement and is a visual artist. She's usually behind the scenes designing and painting, and has designed sets for many local theatres including SET, CSS, CMHS, CHS, BTOH, and FAC. Though she loves working behind the scenes, she is grateful for the fun she has performing.



SYDNEY BILLINGS is a 15-year-old Aerial Silks artist from Chicago who has been involved in the circus arts for a decade. She has trained at a number of studios in Chicago, including Aerial Dance Chicago, MSA & Circus Arts and Aloft Loft. Sydney is excited to share her love of aerial with the Festival audience and to connect with other artists from around the country.



THE BOBSIE TWINS, Staza Stone and Heidi Lajos are a dynamic duo of entertainment. They consider aerial art their number one specialty and love to make people laugh. The Bobsie Twins touch hearts and present life experiences using contemporary circus and the trapeze. While being in the air is fun for them, emcee work and character acting have found their way into their repertoire..



SARAH BRUBAKER is a competitive gymnast and coach. Sarah performed in her first Millibo Art Theater show over 10 years ago. Working with Jim Jackson and Bob Hill, she has developed and performed many outstanding acrobatic routines and magic illusions.



CRYSTAL CARTER is thrilled to be in this production! Her favorite roles so far include Charlotte Corda in TDA's "Marat/Sade" and Stella in Starbar's "A Streetcar Named Desire." Last year she was a Muse in the "Circus of the Night", a Naughty Elf in "Christmas Shorts" with SET, and a Vixen in "Dracula" at the FAC. She's currently a company member of SET and a cool mom.

THE PERFORMERS



Peter Davison has performed throughout the US and internationally, receiving awards for juggling and choreography. As Co-Artistic Director of Boulder Ballet, his choreography has been performed by companies including Boulder Ballet, Ballet Nouveau Colorado, David Taylor Dance Theater, Saint Paul Ballet, and the Colorado Shakespeare Festival. He has taught in Boulder, the National Circus Schools of France and Quebec under the direction of Cirque du Soleil director Guy Caron.



KAE DEVYN is a Chicago-based aerialist specializing in lyra, trapeze and duo acrobatics. A former gymnast, Kae brings a high level of athleticism and dynamic energy to her aerial acts. Kae has performed across the Chicagoland area with the Carnival of Curiosity, Acrobatica Infiniti and in Aloft Circus Arts' El Circo Cheapo Cabaret. Kae coaches gymnastics and ground acrobatics at IK Gymnastics and at the Aloft Loft.



DUO FLEX combines the talents of Marshall Jarreau and Chelsea Laumen. These two have been training and performing duo trapeze in the central Texas area for two years. Marshall has danced with Cirque du Soleil. Chelsea is a founder and instructor at Sky Candy Aerial Arts Studio in Austin, Texas. Duo Flex is happy to have the opportunity to share their new act with the circus community here in Denver.



"SUPER" DAVE HALE has been working with the Milliboo Art Theater for 15 years. He began learning and teaching acrobatics and circus skills at Artsports (now Trampoline Works) 24 years ago and has been performing professionally for 13 years. You can catch him on weekends at The Mansion in downtown Colorado Springs working with Aerial Dreamworks.



AMY SUE HARDY is a well known Colorado Springs actress and star of many musicals at the Fine Arts Center - most recently Guys and Dolls and Drowsy Chaperone. She is a billboard charted recording artist signed to Hollywood Records who is fortunate to have worked with Justin Timberlake, Christina Aguilera, Wayne Brady and Queen Latifah. Amy Sue is featured on many TV/Movie soundtracks including 102 Dalmations, The Parent Trap and The Wedding Planner.

THE PERFORMERS



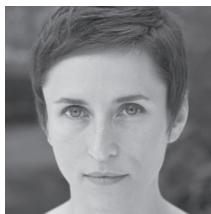
MAM'ZELLE HEPZIBAH dreamt of running away with the circus as a young girl. She has been performing burlesque with a local award winning troupe 'Peaks and Pasties' since 2010. Mam'zelle Hepzibah returns to us this year with a new act blending classic style burlesque and neo.



BOB HILL has been part of the Millibo Art Theater family for over 10 years. He is an accomplished magician and has been gleefully stuffing Sarah into small spaces for years. He designs and builds from scratch all of his illusions, each is unique and one of a kind. Bob is delighted to share his new piece and bring the magic to this year's Circus of the Night.



SHANAZ KING is a Chicago-based Aerial Straps artist. She began studying aerial arts at the Aloft Loft in Chicago in 2008, where she trained in Static and Duo Trapeze, Lyra, and Straps. Shanaz now trains at MSA & Circus Arts, focusing on Aerial Straps and is currently training Hand Balancing with Nourbol Merimanov. She has performed for El Circo Cheapo, Acrofabulous Circus, Circo Rose, and MSA & Circus Arts showcases.



TERESA KOCHIS is an aerialist based in New Bedford, MA. She instructs and creates original work under the title of Overhead Arts. She has appeared with groups such as SENS Productions, EarSay and White Wave. She was a featured performer in SENS Productions' dance on film project Melt. Teresa's career has taken her to SESC Pinheiros in Sao Paulo, Brazil; Festival Trans-Amerique in Montreal, Canada; as well as national venues.



KEELY LUNA has always been interested in circus. When she was 15, she took her first flying trapeze class at Hollywood Aerial Arts. From there she moved on to try many other disciplines such as Aerial Hoop, Rope, Tissue and Static Trapeze. Aerial Hoop became her main focus and she has been studying it ever since. Based out of Pasadena, Keely likes to integrate humor into all of her performances.

THE PERFORMERS



DANIEL PATRICK is a versatile artist hailing from the hills of New Hampshire, where he has studied the art of acrobatics for over ten years. A graduate of the New England Center for Circus Arts, this eager performer specializes in Hand Balancing and Rope, delivering his skills in an emotional performance. Now based in Texas, Daniel is working towards fulfilling his dreams of touring with an artistic circus production.



PJ is a kinesiologist by day and an aerialist, well, by other days. She has been performing since 2008; working with the Dream Science Circus, Bellingham Circus Guild, and the Aerialistas. PJ's solo efforts are focused on Rope, Spanish Web, and Silks. She's also spent time with partnering and handstand performance. Sharing the fun she's having in the air with the audience on the ground fills her heart.



GRACE RAMSEY has been performing as a professional aerialist since 2010. At first specializing in aerial silk, she has recently branched out into the Lyra, hammock, contortion and the freestanding Lyra, which she learned while working for Celebrity Cruises this past winter. Now she is gearing up for a full summer, including appearances at Electric Daisy Carnival in Las Vegas.



TT ROBSON'S love of gymnastics, dance and rock climbing blossomed into a passion for circus arts. An innovative performer and sought-after coach, TT has developed intricate acts and collaborated with an impressive array of artists. In her 13 years performing, she has worked as an aerialist, dancer and character performer with The Vau De Vire Society and many other prestigious circus companies.



HANNAH ROCKEY has been close to the Millibo Art Theater since the beginning in Manitou Springs. Jim, Birgitta, Lisbet and Ben are like family to her. This year Vivian Volcano and Gertrude Tigerheart are back! They hope to add to the four dollars they made last year from adoring fans.

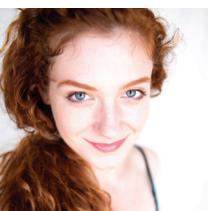
THE PERFORMERS



CAMILLE SWIFT began her aerial training at the Aloft Loft in Chicago and has also trained at the Association Volaverunt in Paris. She specializes in static and single-point trapeze. Her quality of movement is heavily influenced by eight years of experience in classical ballet. Camille practices other forms of artistic movement as well, including four years of breakdancing and five years of training in Japanese swordsmanship.



RACHEL TATEM was a competitive gymnast throughout high school and college. After graduating with an engineering degree from MIT, she moved to Los Angeles. Longing to find a replacement for gymnastics, she stumbled upon circus arts in 2011. Rachel now coaches and trains with Aloisia Gavre at Cirque School LA, specializing in Aerial Straps and training in Hand Balancing and Aerial Rope. Rachel has performed at various events throughout Los Angeles.



ANNA THOMAS-HENRY is a contemporary circus artist and a 2014 graduate of SANCA Seattle's Professional Preparatory Program. Anna earned first place in the 2015 U.S. Aerial Championships with her Fabric act and performed with The Acrobatic Conundrum. Prior to attending SANCA, Anna completed education at the Circus Warehouse Pro Program and The American Musical & Dramatic Academy. She is a multi-disciplinary artist, having performed in circus, dance, and theatre arts across the country.



JESSICA WEIL is excited to join the Milliboo Art Theater to share her love of flow arts. She started hooping three years ago. Over the last year she has expanded her love of dance to include other props as well as fire eating and fire dancing. She performs for festivals and private parties throughout the state.



YULIYA YANKINA has been dancing all her life. She studied classical ballet, culminating in an apprentice program with Diablo Ballet. While getting her Bachelor of Science degree in bioinformatics she took up modern and contemporary dance. After finishing college, Yuliya moved her dancing up into the air, training aerial arts at the San Francisco Circus Center. Currently Yuliya teaches and performs with Pendulum Aerial Arts in Portland, Oregon.

THE PRODUCER



LYNN COLEMAN is an entrepreneur with a zeal for connecting people in projects as varied as the Board of Education and the Flying Trapeze. She grew up in a performing family touring and performing with her family starting at age three. By the time she was 12, she'd been all over the U.S., Canada, and Europe with her family's act. With a background in gymnastics, acrobatics, and dance, Lynn has flown trapeze professionally with the Shrine Circus and performed bungee trapeze and aerial silks for various events. Over the years she has presented aerial workshops both nationally and internationally.

Lynn began supplying her fellow artists with aerial equipment in 2001. Her company, Aerial Fabric Acrobatics has generously underwritten the Festival every year. Lynn created the Festival to connect the aerial community, to offer inspiration and learning opportunities, and to have fun!

THE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR



MARSHALL GARFIELD is an independent Artistic & Creative Movement Director based in Montreal, Canada. His company, Lab in Motion, is dedicated to enhancing and designing the use of performance physicality in traditional, inter-disciplinary and new media productions and platforms. Between 1997 and 2006, Marshall worked with Cirque du Soleil as Assistant Head Acrobatic Coach, Project Manager, and Acrobatic & Performance Designer. Marshall has served as Artistic Director for the Festival since 2011.

FESTIVAL SHOW HOSTS



JIM JACKSON & BIRGITTA DE PREE, the Executive Directors and Co-founders of the Milliboo Art Theatre in Colorado Springs, host this year's festival shows. Together, these two talented performers create and produce over 150 original performances every year. Jim and Birgitta have received a variety of accolades over the years, including the PPAC's Best Original Production Award. Both have also been individually recognized as the Gazette's "Best of the Springs" Local Actor and Actress.

THE JUDGES



CHELSEA O'BRIAN has pursued dance, film, and theatre. She has performed with numerous companies, including Cirque Plume, Cavalia, Sens Productions, and Rea'son d'etre Productions. While attending the National Circus School, she invented the Aerial Kite, a unique apparatus. Her kites can be found all over the world: in Australia, England, Thailand, Canada, and the US. Chelsea is based in San Francisco where she is creating new acts and teaching aerial at Zaccho Dance Theatre, Acrosports, and Kinetic Arts.



ALISAN FUNK has studied circus in New York and San Francisco. She graduated from L'Ecole de Cirque de Quebec (ECQ). She taught with Canada's National Circus School (ENC) the New England Center for Circus Arts (NECCA). She is the head aerial choreographer with Circus Smirkus. Alisan has been a consulting instructor for the ENC, NECCA, Philadelphia School of Circus Arts, AirCraft and Cuba's National Circus. In 2014, her directing debut 'The Rendezvous' was invited to the Chicago Contemporary Circus Festival and Festivale Montreal Complettement Cirque.



ANNA VIGELAND, a graduate of the National Circus School of Montreal, has performed in circuses, film, television, plays, festivals, installations, and other projects throughout the world. Her credits include Cavalia, Les 7 doigts de la main, Lookingglass Theater, and more. Her recent work as a choreographer and director has led her to develop and present work in New York City; New Orleans; Naples, Italy; Polverigi, Italy; Athens, Greece; and Hammerfest, Norway.

"The thing about performance, even if it's only an illusion, is that it is a celebration of the fact that we do contain within ourselves infinite possibilities."

—Daniel Day Lewis

THE PRODUCTION TEAM



General Director

DANA FOX brings her unique vision and organizational skills to the Festival as a volunteer this year. She began learning aerial silks with Aerial Fabric Acrobatics in 2014. This inspired her to join the team this year to help the Festival meet its deadlines and manage all the myriad details that need attention. For many years, Dana volunteered for the Time Based Arts and International Film Festivals in Portland, OR. Trained in expressive arts therapy, she runs her own psychotherapy practice. Dana hopes to one day find a way to bring together her love for the arts, aerial silks and helping others with personal growth.



Artist Coordinator

KACEY RAYE always wanted to join the circus growing up, and finally got a small taste of that dream when she started aerial hoop classes at Aerial Fabric Acrobatics in 2012. This is her second year as Artist Coordinator and her third year volunteering for the Festival. Outside of her love for aerial acrobatics, Kacey also enjoys photography, learning foreign languages, and traveling. Kacey works as a transportation planner in Denver.

Artist Lodging Coordinator

ROB LAYNE

Videographer & Website

DAVID MITCHELL, with **One by One, LLC** has brought his unique vision to each Festival since 2011. He is integral to capturing the shows' magic for the artists and to create signature montages for the Festival website. His attention to detail and dedication has benefited the Festival in innumerable ways.

Photographer

SCOTT MURPHY, of **Scott Murphy Photography**, brings a valuable skill to capture the artists at their most flattering and intense moments. He has generously volunteered his time and been a sponsor to the 2014 and 2015 Festivals.

Graphic Design

SUZIE SHAPIRO, with **FigTone Design Studio**, has volunteered with the Festival in 2013 and 2014 and is proud to become a sponsor in 2015.

THE TECHNICAL TEAM



Production Manager

BARCA CHASE has been an invaluable resource to the Festival since 2011. His willing spirit, keen intellect, wide range of experience, and unique ability to see what needs to be done and make it happen are skills many only hope to have. His unobtrusive genius is disarming but effective, especially when coupled with his lively sense of humor and genuine good nature. The Festival welcomes his volunteer assistance each year.



Stage Manager

BRIAN HASSELER first became involved with the Aerial community in 2001 when he took a flying trapeze class with Thin Air Trapeze in Denver. He has since retired from performing but is happy to have an opportunity to contribute to each Festival since 2011. Brian is a Guild Certified FELDENKRAIS Teacher(R) and spends his free time walking his dog, practicing martial arts, and occasionally attempting to practice martial arts on his dog (who usually wins).

Back Stage Team

TONY CARPENTER
CHRIS MCKEEMAN
JAMEY ATCHISON

MEGAN STERN
BENJAMIN PRATT
METOLIUS CHASE

Head Rigger

JEFF RUSNAK

SPECIAL THANKS

TO THE VOLUNTEERS FROM WORKAWAY AND ALL THE VOLUNTEERS
AND SUPPORTERS WHO HAVE HELPED THE FESTIVAL SUCCEED!



AERIAL FABRIC ACROBATICS was founded in 2002 by Lynn Coleman. The company meets the needs of the aerial community world-wide with quality products, information, and meeting customers' deadlines. It is the main sponsor of the Aerial Acrobatic Arts Festival. AFA is a referral based business. The classes follow a copyrighted curriculum.

CONTACT: LYNN COLEMAN
303-263-0278 LYNN@AERIAKFABRIC.COM



FANTASTIC HOSTS



Lab in Motion



SCOTT MURPHY
images

