

Richard Durnford

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Date of Birth: 27th July 1963

Performance Mar-Aug 2002 NoFit State Circus - SciCircus

Performer and rigger for this tented circus' educational/entertainment science based show.

Nov-Dec 2001 Cirque Noel . Performer and rigger for new company providing entertainment for corporate functions.

Oct-Nov 2001 Swamp Circus - Moto Performer and Rigger for Swamp's tour of medium-scale theatres in Holland.

Jan-Oct 2000 Dark Horse - Dive-Urgence Performer and rigger for Circomedia's flagship company touring in the UK and in Spain. Winner of the Herald Angel Award at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival.

1995 - 1999 Founder Member of Stage Fright Productions, North Wales

- Performance

Devised and performed various shows, from short cabaret pieces to hour long productions involving the entire company. Responsibilities include prop making, lighting, rigging and choreography. I have performed at most major festivals throughout the United Kingdom and also in France, Australia, Japan and Jordan.

- Teaching and Community Projects

Organised a number of community projects in North Wales that have involved teaching young people and adults. I have also taught acrobalance and aerial skills at various venues throughout the UK.

- Administration

My administration duties within the company include liaison with customers, funding applications, publicity and marketing

1988 -1994 Part of double-acts Messrs. Spooof and Hoodwink and Token Jester, Manchester

Devised and performed various comedy routines, performing throughout the UK, using acrobalance, juggling, trapeze, equilibristics, escapology and illusion.

## Teaching

Nov 99-Present Circomedia

Joint head of acrobatics teaching acrobalance, handbalancing and chinese pole. Sept 99-Feb 00 Belfast Community Circus Joint acrobatic teacher for their first one year full-time circus/teacher training course.

Jun-Sept 1996 French Woods Festival of the Performing Arts, New York, USA

Stage Fright Productions were invited to oversee the running of the circus department at a summer camp for young people with a staff of eight teachers. Responsibilities include teaching all circus skills; specifically acrobalance, doubles trapeze and flying trapeze. Each three-week session culminated in a show by all two hundred participants to an audience of over a thousand people. Our team was responsible for all elements of production including script, choreography, props, costumes, sound and lighting.

April 1992 Designed and taught a physical theatre weekend workshop as part of a performance course run by Broli Cymraeg in North Wales.

May-Sept 1990 Five months performing and teaching circus skills at youth clubs and play-schemes in

the Manchester area.

## Training

Sept-Dec 1998 Centre National des Arts du Cirque, Chalon en Champagne, France

Specialising in acrobalance with Geza Trager. In addition I was taught theatre by

Paula Rizza and Philippe Peychaud, dance by Martine Evrard and Emanuelle Gorda and acrobatics by Witek Nowotynski.

Jan-Mar 1996 San Francisco School of Performing Arts, USA

Specialising in Flying Trapeze, trampoline and hand balancing.

Jan-Apr 1993 Yoga Ashram, Sri K Pattabhi Jois, Mysore, South India

Three months intensive study of Ashtanga Vinyasa Yoga

1992 - present In addition I have trained with a number of respected professional artistes, at The Circus Space and Skylight Circus, including: |

- Acrobalance: Jackie Sysum, Juan Carlos, Paul Miller, Peter (Ijs en Weder);
- Aerial: Jackie Sysum, Rita van Opzeeland, Mike Wright;
- Clowning: Angela D'Castro, Pete Cooper;
- Performance: H~mish McCloud~ John Lee, Bim Mason, Ron Bunzl;
- Mime: Rachael Shroeder.

### Qualifications

April 1995 BAGA Gymnastics Coach - Level 5.

1986 - 1987 O Levels: English, Mathematics, Economics and Sociology.

1981 Full Driving and Motorbike Licence.

### Education

1986 - 1987 Technical College, Bangor, North Wales.

1976 - 1979 Grammar School, Ilkley, West Yorkshire.

### Hobbies and Pastimes

Rock climbing, mountain walking, yoga.