



CIRCUS IN PERFORMANCE 2012



*The UK's premiere
foundation course
in circus skills.
Accredited to Level 3
by the National Open
College Network*

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*It has been a life changing experience,
something that was a far off dream,
is now a reality.*

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The Venue

Greentop Community Circus Centre is situated in north Sheffield, and is housed in a beautiful old church. The building was converted in 1995 by the BBC programme "Challenge Anneka", with support from the local community and is now a well equipped training space for circus and the performing arts in general.

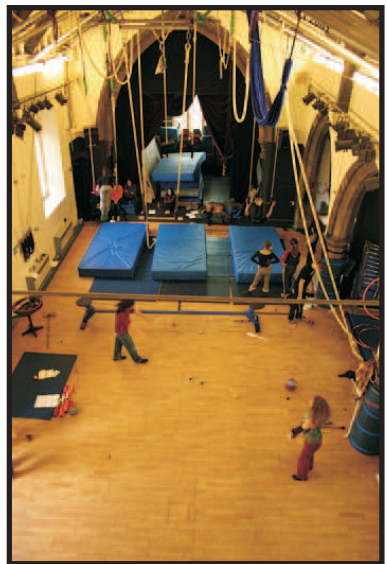


Greentop has run the highly successful 'Circus in Performance' courses since 1997. Many students of past courses have gone on to successful careers in circus and performance, including working at Zippos, No Fit State, and the Millenium dome show.

The centre also runs evening workshops for adults and children, and weekend workshops in specialist skills. We also deliver a vast amount of community outreach work.

The Centre regularly hosts innovative live theatre and cabaret and has a particularly lively programme during the 'Circus in Performance Course' giving learners access to input from current practitioners.

Greentop operates an Equal opportunities Policy and strives to provide access to the performing arts for all. Greentop is a non profit-making organisation.



The Course

The course runs for 12 weeks. Classes run from 10am to 12.30pm and 1.30 to 4pm Monday to Thursday, and 10 to 12.30pm Friday. This timetable will increase in the lead in to the show.

There are seven classes taught each week. Students study all seven classes for six weeks and then choose skills to specialise in. They perform these skills in the show.

- **Acrobatics and Acrobalance** - including tumbling, hand to hand balancing, pyramids
- **Aerial** - focussing on Static trapeze but including other disciplines such as silks, hoop and corde lisse
- **Clowning** - Clowning and clown characters
- **Equilibrastics** - tightwire, unicycle, walking ladder, stilts, rola bola and walking globe
- **Manipulation** - including juggling, diabolo, devil stick, staff, hat manipulation
- **Movement Arts and Dance** - e.g. contemporary dance and movement for performance
- **Performance Skills** - e.g. physical character work, energy, focus, vocal and physical techniques.

We teach performance skills alongside circus skills throughout the course, and aim to integrate the two. All the skills are taught within the context of creating performances.

The course finishes with a fortnight of preparation for the show. This is a valuable process in itself, as it includes many aspects of preparing work in a professional environment. The show is performed on the final weekend of the course to capacity audiences of family, friends, agents performers and the general public.

The course is accredited by the National Open College Network. Progress is documented and evaluated throughout the course, mainly through practical demonstration.

The Tutors

Our course tutors are all working performers selected for their experience as practitioners and teachers in their field. Their practical background allows them to offer targeted help to students wanting to enter the profession.

Tim Byrom • Course co-ordinator and Equilibristics tutor

Tim has a wide range of skills in manipulation and equilibristics, and specialises in unicycle, stilts and walking ladder as well as club juggling, devil stick, and hat. He has been performing solo shows for 15 years and is particularly interested in audience rapport within performance.

Dave Proctor • Manipulation tutor

Dave is an expert juggler of 5 clubs, 6 rings and 7 balls and is an internationally respected diabolist. An experienced tutor, Dave also teaches traction kiting, dog training and is an incredible BMX rider.

Claire Crook • Aerial tutor

Claire is an extremely accomplished aerialist and is one of the best Corde Lisse performers in the country. She also performs on static trapeze, aerial hoop, silks and web. Claire has performed across Britain with Bassline Circus and Ricardo's amongst others, and has toured India with Empire Circus.

Juan Carlos Benitez & Jackie Sysum • Acrobatics Tutors

Juan Carlos and Jackie are highly experienced and respected teachers of acrobatics, hand balancing and tumbling. They are both BGA qualified coaches. They were the acrobatic balance tutors for the Millennium Dome and were acrobatics tutors on the BA(Hons) degree course at Circus Space. As Tuyo they perform a hand to hand adagio act internationally.

Rick Allan • Clowning tutor

Rick Allan has performed worldwide since 1990 and has trained with many eminent clown practitioners. He has drawn on these experiences to develop a clown course suited to both complete beginners and the more experienced, bringing together many different ideas gleaned from both workshops and the stage.

Gerry Flanagan • Performance Skills Tutor & Show Director

We are very pleased that Gerry will be directing the end of course show. He is an extremely experienced drama teacher and director as well as performing with his company Shifting Sands. He was appointed Associate Creative Director of Greentop in 2011.

Caitlin Smith • Dance Teacher

trained at the Laban Centre London. She has worked in dance and physical theatre in the UK and Germany with companies including Mobius Dance Theatre, Theater der Klaenge, Aegis Productions and Slung Low. Choreography and movement directing has included work for Grimeborn Opera Festival, Actor's Themselves, Comedy Central and co-directing Strati project. She has taught widely in schools and community groups, Sheffield Hallam University and other higher education institutions, the Generate project for Danceworks, and leads training and movement sessions with actors and dancers.

“The course has gone far beyond all expectations. It helped me improve physically and mentally, and has given me confidence to go out and perform.”

Former student Michael Hoy





Other tutors

Depending on demand, we may bring in additional tutors to provide even higher skills in certain disciplines.

The course will also include sessions on First Aid, Child protection and setting up in business.

Greentop reserves the right to substitute the listed tutors with other similarly experienced tutors without notice

Craig Gamble Pugh • Greentop CEO & Internal Moderator

Craig has overall management responsibility for Greentop and is an experienced community arts, education and regeneration practitioner. An experienced tutor himself, Craig acts as moderator in the assessment process, and is on hand along with the other Greentop staff to deal with enquiries and to support students throughout their time on the course and beyond.

Course Dates:

The course will run from Monday 23rd January to Monday 16th April 2012.

Course Fees:

£2000 (£250 payable on acceptance of a place, the remainder by 16th December 2011)

It is possible to source funding/bursaries to help towards tuition fees.

Please contact Tim Byrom or Craig Gamble Pugh on **0114 244 8828** for information on transport and accommodation etc.

We look forward to seeing you at the auditions.



Former student Jess Samuels...

“The Greentop Course? I've never ached so much in my life! But I didn't know hard work could be so much fun. It gave me all the confidence and skills to get into Circomedia. Since then, I've worked as a professional aerialist and performer in theatre, opera, cabaret and in nightclubs. I've had work offers to perform in clubs and festivals in Ibiza, Miami and Oslo. I still use the centre to train in.”



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