

## **ROPE & SILKS WORKSHOP WITH GAIA SANTUCCIO**

**Artistenkombinat, Kletterhalle**

### **When?**

**28./29. Januar 2023  
14-18 Uhr**

### **Price:**

**1 day: € 90  
2 days: € 130**

### **Sign up:**

**giasantuccio90@gmail.com**

**28<sup>th</sup> January**

#### **DAY 1**

#### **CREATIVE: ROPE MANIPULATION - understanding knots**

During this session, I will share a series of methods that I have developed in the last two years as part of my Master studies at DOCH in Sweden. Focus of the first half of the seminar is ROPE MANIPULATION: A series of task-based improvisation approaches to create confined spaces of research within which the practitioners can experiment freely on the aerial apparatus. The emphasis of such exploration is the study and understanding of knots, as well as experiencing knots as opportunities for creative research. The intention is to stimulate to think through movement, make conscious choices and expand knowledge of our practice through personal experience. What happens if the focus is not the tricks but the tasks and the transitions?

#### **TECHNIQUE: through my lens**

Technique and tricks are the words of our circus language, words necessary to be able to create. Without this vocabulary, it would be impossible to navigate our apparatus and to make sentences. This session comprises a variety of tricks, mostly sequences that I have generated and investigated over the years through my creative methods. We will break them down, try them on the floor and up in the air, through a progressive process that allows participants to get a better understanding of the movement and the appropriate technique to succeed.

**29<sup>th</sup> January**

#### **DAY 2**

#### **CREATIVE: SENSING - DECONSTRUCTING ROPE PRACTICE**

Rather than approaching rope as an object to master with the intention to display my tricks, I became interested in a process of re-introduction to my discipline through my subjective, intuitive approach. During the pandemic, I decided to stop defining rope as

an object, rather I prefer to refer to it as a body. And so, it changed my whole perspective and approach to it. This session is dedicated to the investigation of the non-verbal dialogue we establish with our apparatus through a process of deconstruction of the practice. Sensing it, exploring the actions and qualities that make our props what and how they are as well as the actions that make the rope(silks)-doing and focusing on the question WHAT IS THERE OF ROPE (SILKS) IN ME? CAN MY APPARATUS CHOREOGRAPH ME? IF SO, HOW? We will stay in very close connection to the ground.

## **TECHNIQUE: FLOOR ROPE AND ROLLING**

In this first section, we will focus on FLOOR ROPE and ROLLING TECHNIQUE. I will share a variety of single exercises and small sequences to help improve and better understand the art of rolling. Roll ups, roll downs, rolling on the spot, entries into propellor that I have found through my creative research. Starting from the ground, we will gradually move onto a higher level, allowing everyone to refresh the basics while experiencing them through my lens, giving the opportunity to each participant to push their own limits. Personal technical advice and requests can be taken on board too if some participants have specific questions or ideas they would like to try out.

**All levels welcome.** The workshop is open to all interested in improving technical skills and creative research on rope and silks. The technical part will be adapted to the needs of the participants, while the creative research is personal and varies depending on the single participant's vocabulary and knowledge. I believe that where you can't do it, you can observe, write or participate in other ways that can help you grow creatively, artistically and technically.

## **BIO Gaia Santuccio:**

Originally from Sicily, grew up all over.

I am currently studying at ICCAR (International Circus Centre for Artistic Research) after having just finished my Master studies at DOCH in Contemporary Circus Practices in June 2022. Prior to this I studied Etienne Decroux' mime techniques at Moveo in Barcelona and graduated at Circomedia in Bristol and the National Centre for Circus Arts in London in 2014.

Movement research through knots and *sensing* is the core of my creative research. My workshops are designed to encourage participants to develop their styles, words and language through approaches aimed at stimulating to think through movement and experience rope personally and intimately for a more conscious and in-depth practice.

My work is interdisciplinary. I use writing, movement, photography, videography and crochet as part of my investigation. I believe in structured improvisation, as well as verbal and physical communication with animate and inanimate bodies as the most natural and therefore most obvious approach to create.

**Instagram:** [gaiamoves](#)