



Aerial Rigging Training Prospectus

version 1 Nov 2022



Introduction

As a professional circus artist or a recreational circus enthusiast, you often come in different spaces to train or perform. The most important question is always, is it safe to fly? And that is not always so easy to assess. But at the same time your life is literally on the line and often the only thing you can do is to trust others when they say it is safe.

Say no more! This training will change everything. Under the inspiring guidance of Bryan Donaldson of High Performance Rigging, you will learn to assess if there are any red flags in a rigging situation. This two-day training covers not only the basics and not so basics of rigging for aerial performance but also your legal obligations and requirements so you can keep yourself and people in your care safe and alive. At the end you will be able to fly with confidence in the future.

“... an outstanding resource for artists or technicians of any level or background...”

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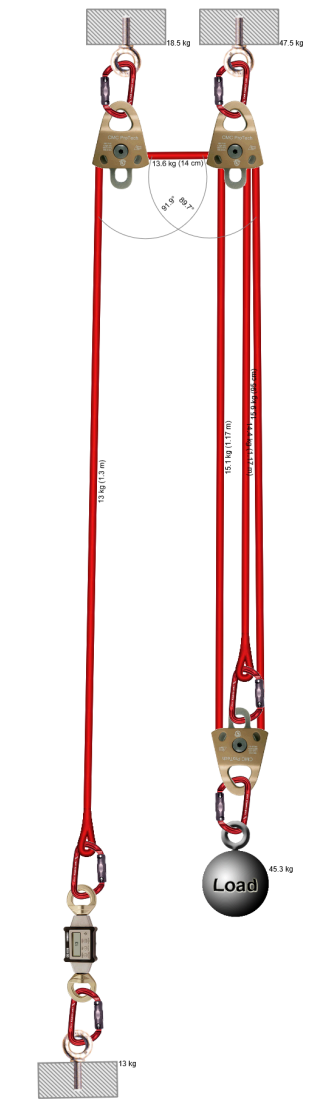
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1) About



1.1) Your trainer, Bryan Donaldson

Bryan Donaldson is the founder of High Performance Rigging. He comes from a 3rd generation theatrical family in New Zealand. Although beginning at a young age acting in theatre and performing as a magician, Bryan went on to become an experienced aerial & acrobatic circus artist performing doubles corde lisse, flying trapeze, balance perch, adagio, Russian swing, the wheel of death and casting cradle.

Bryan travelled the world as an aerial artist and rigger with touring circus companies for many years establishing an accomplished and respected reputation as part of 'Duo Vertigo' In 2003 he co-founded 'High Performance Rigging & Productions' and has since become a highly acknowledged practitioner and consultant in the world of circus production & performer rigging.

Credits include:

- Aerial Director on the Olivier award winning 'Zorro the Musical' World Premier
- Circus consultant on Disney's Dumbo for director Tim Burton
- Flying consultant on Billy Elliot the Musical - World Premier
- Circus consultant for Warner Bros. Batman Live World Arena Tour
- Safety consultant on Love Never Dies for Sir Andrew Lloyd Webber World Premier
- Circus rigging design for the Barnum the Musical for Sir Cameron Mackintosh



Bryan Donaldson of High Performance Rigging

1.2) High Performance rigging

Having met whilst living and working at the National Centre of Circus Arts in London (formerly The Circus Space), Bryan and Joe held an informal meeting in the basement of Shish (the only venue in Hoxton with air-con at the time!) and formulated an idea for running a new business specializing in circus rigging.

Both coming from a circus performance background, they felt this would give them an invaluable edge for their new venture.

The idea quickly became reality and before long they were working all over the world delivering exciting and safe rigging solutions for aerial performance. Breath-taking high wires, ziplines and crane shows to fitness studios & intimate venues. High Performance bring aerial circus rigging expertise and safety to the entertainment and leisure industries

Past & Present Clients:

The Royal Shakespeare Company - The Really Useful Group - Disney - HBO - BBC - NBC - Sky - Channel 4 - ITV - RTE - MTV - Cameron Mackintosh Ltd - Stage Entertainments - Royal Opera House - Royal Albert Hall - Cirque du Soleil - La Soiree & La Clique - English National Opera - Secret Cinema - Les Sept Doigts de la Man - Punchdrunk - ARUP - The Royal Variety Performance - Rihanna - Fuerza Bruta - iTunes Festival - Batman Live World Tour - Zorro The Musical - Sister Act the Musical - X-Factor - Britain's got Talent - Billy Elliot the Musical - Love Never Dies - Circus Oz - National Theatre - Barbican Theatre - Lady Gaga - The Roundhouse - Event 360 - Private Drama - The Old Vic - Bristol Old Vic - Theatre Royal London - Shakespeare's Globe - Chichester Festival Theatre - Bord Gais Theatre, Dublin - Knee High - Museum of London - Natural History Museum - Sadler's Wells - Wembley Stadium - Battersea Power Station - Bloomberg - Jack Morton - Acrobat Productions - Stage Electrics - Decca Records - Cirque Bijou - AXA Insurance - Norwich Union (Aviva) - Barclays (BGC)



1.3) Tall Tales Company - Circus Studio Rotterdam

About Circus Studio Rotterdam

Circus Studio Rotterdam is part of Tall Tales Company. The circus studio was established in 2016 as a means to accommodate training for graduated circus artists, that no longer had a training place when finished with school. Circus studio Rotterdam is the Circus Hub of Rotterdam, a circus breeding ground with an open training space, weekly lessons and workshops aimed at both recreational and professional circus artists.

The studio is fully equipped for practicing circus: aerial rigging points, a longe and crash mats. The studio offers the ideal facilities for almost any circus discipline. The Circus Studio is located in **De Kroon**, a multi-company building which includes offices, several sheds, workshops, a campsite, music studios and a large outdoor area.



About Tall Tales Company

Tall Tales Company creates visual circus performances that use object manipulation and acrobatics to tell stories. From a fascination with human nature, the company creates layered and accessible performances; magical, with risk and a touch of humor.

Tall Tales was founded in 2012 by Harm van der Laan and Maartje Bonarius. Their collaboration arose at the circus school of Codarts Rotterdam where they specialized in aerial acrobatics (Maartje) object manipulation (Harm) and partner acrobatics (together). Tall Tales Company introduces the whole of the Netherlands to circus as an art form.

Performances:

“Weg” (2012) - ‘Solo’ (2013) - ‘Langs’ (2017) - One of These Days (2018) - Square Two (2020) - On the move (2021) - A Clockwork Orange (2021)



2) The Training

2.1) Description

This two-day training covers not only the basics and not so basics of rigging for aerial performance but also your legal obligations and requirements so you can keep yourself and people in your care safe and alive. The training has a theoretical and practical part as well as video demonstrations. Aerial Rigging Fundamentals is organized in collaboration with **Circuspunt**.

2.2) Prerequisites

Delegates should ideally come from an aerial performance or technical background with a reasonable level of physical ability/fitness for optional practical 'At Height' demonstrations.

The course is delivered in English and delegates will be required to take notes during theory lessons.

If students have their own WAH PPE equipment (harnesses, etc.), they should be brought for possible use in demonstrations.

2.3) Timetable

The course is run over two weekend days, 21 and 22 January 2023 (5-6 hours per day including a one hour lunch break) and is split into classroom theory and onsite practical rigging.

Recommended times are:

Day 1)	10:00 - 12:30 Theory 12:30 - 13:30 Lunch Break 13:30 - 15:00 Practical	Day 2)	10:00 - 13:00 Theory 13:00 - 14:00 Lunch break 14:00 - 16:00 Practical
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2.4) The venue

The theoretical part of the training will be classroom based. The practical part of the training will be at the circus studio, with the use of the available rigging and a Scaffold tower.

The studio is located in **De Kroon** at the address Schiemond 20 Rotterdam, 3024 EE, NL. The studio is easy to reach with public transport (tram stop *Schiemond* or metro or Watertaxi stop *Delfsthaven*) and it is possible to park your car (paid) in front.



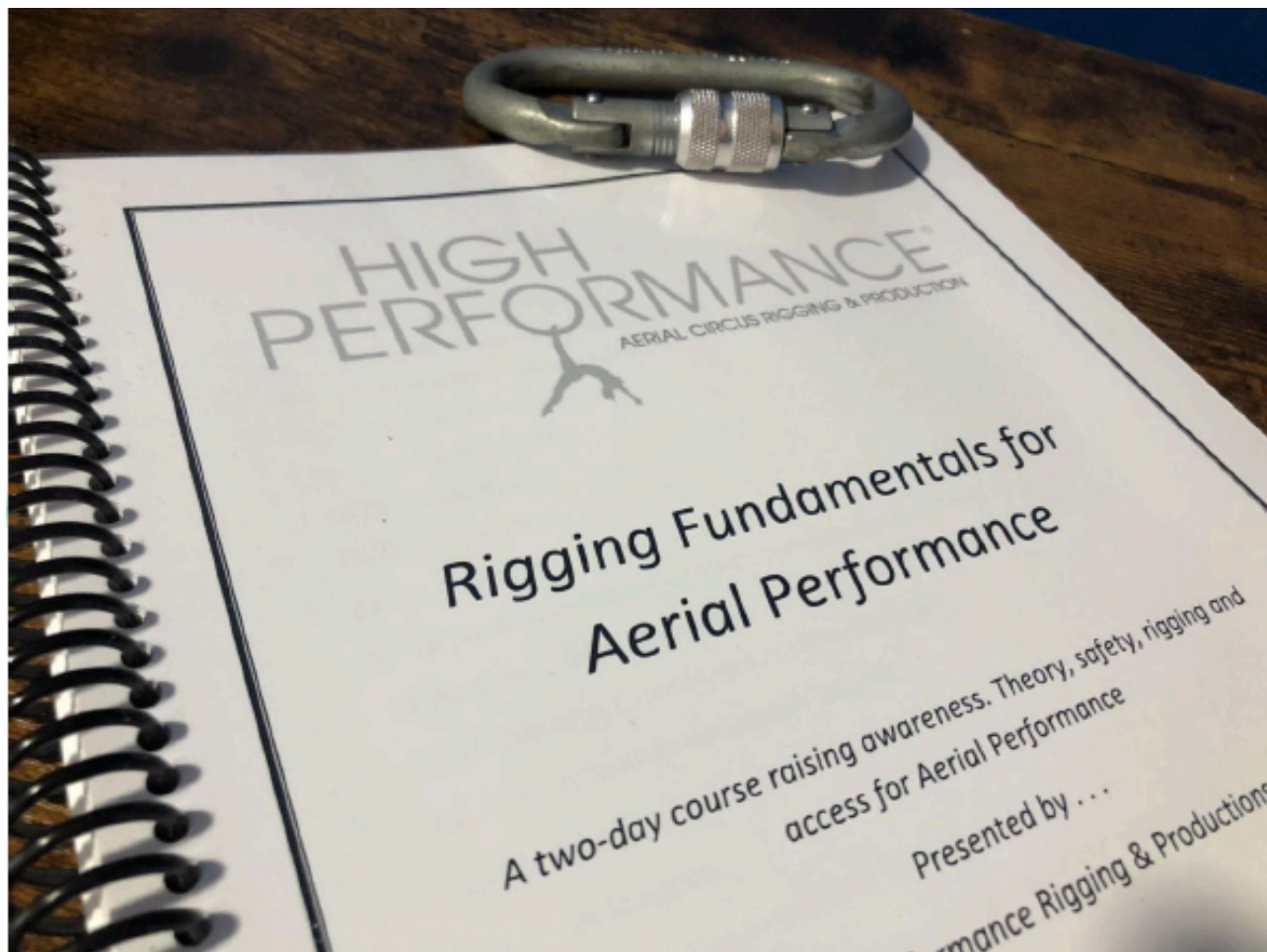
2.5) Mode of instruction

The class size will be restricted to a maximum of 16 delegates, to ensure that each delegate gets sufficient attention during the training.

Delegates will receive a comprehensive manual.

During the training there will be practical demonstrations of hardware and techniques.

At the end of the training an online file will be sent with different background information that can be use in day to day practice.



2.6) Catering

During the training light refreshments such as water, tea and coffee will be available at lunch a simple and healthy plant-based meal will be served.

2.7) Certification

There will be a multiple choice/theory test at the end of the theory lesson on the second training day. Upon successful completion of the test, the delegates will receive a certificate of attendance and completion.

2.8) Price and booking

For this two-day comprehensive training on aerial rigging, an investment of € 285 is required.

To book please go to our website <https://circusstudio.nl/> and click on the **BOOK ONLINE** button or email us at: **circusstudio@tal Tales.nl**. We will send you a payment link to our booking platform, Gymdesk.



Rescue at Height, photo taken at the National Centre for Circus Arts in London

3.) Content of the training

3.1) Theory content

- Load calculations and how to calculate the different types of dynamic loads we apply to structures and our equipment.
- How to select your rigging equipment, the formula for converting minimum breaking loads into safe working loads.
- What are factors of Safety? The different values of safety factors and what they mean
- Different types of equipment and their uses i.e., lifting equipment v PPE working at height equipment, steel v alloy etc.
- Automation
- Useful definitions, SWL, WLL, PPE, WAH, kN, KGF, MBL, MBS, LOLER etc.
- Different types of tests, i.e., Proof Loading, destructive tests, non-destructive tests
- Where to source your equipment?
- Access. What this means and the different types of access i.e., Rope access, MEWP access, gantry access, tall-a-scope access, scaffold towers etc.
- Legislation and what laws apply to us? WAH, LOLER, PPE regulations etc.
- Legal Requirements & Responsibilities:
 1. Risk Assessments
 2. Competence
 3. Equipment Certification
 4. Inspecting, testing and record keeping
 5. Liability – ‘Who’s Responsible?’
 6. Rigging Plans, Method Statements, Technical riders, Rescue Plans

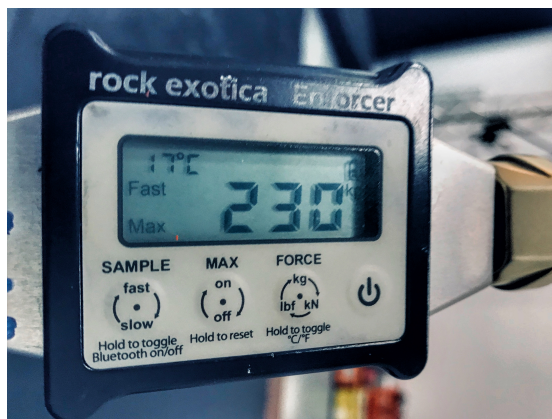


3.2) Video demonstrations

The following real life examples will be shown:

- Working at Height & Fall arrest, Work Positioning and Work Restraint.
- High Performance High Wire installation “BBC, Girl on Wire”.

3.3) Pratical content



Knots and their uses in different circumstances.

- Figure of Eight, Double Figure of 8 and Figure of Nine
- Barrel Knot & Double Fisherman's
- Alpine Butterfly
- Bowline
- Clove Hitch
- Which rope? Dynamic rope, static and semi static rope.

Lifting, loads and reeving.

- Demonstrating mechanical advantage & reeving pulleys for 2:1 & 4:1
- Demonstrating fluctuations in dynamic loads using an electronic load sensor.
- Using descender devices in a pre-rigged application for rescue and lowering.
- What type of pulleys to use for different applications? Aluminium sheave v Steel sheave, PPE and Lifting Pulleys, Snatch blocks/Swing cheek blocks, traction pulleys.

Rigging with slings.

- Different sling configurations and how this affects the strength of your sling. A straight sling, choked sling, basket sling etc.

Temporary terminations in steel wire rope.

- Wedge Sockets
- Steel Wire Rope Grips
- Flemish Eye Splice
- How to choose the correct SWR using SWL's and MBL's.

Connectors.

- Carabiners and their correct use, alignment, inspection, steel and aluminium alloys, gate functions and their differences, screw-gates, triple action etc.
- Maillons, quick links and their uses in different applications. i.e., pear, oval, & delta.
- Shackles. Dee shackles, bow shackles.

Trussing:

- What type of truss, how to interpret specification sheets and calculating the suitability of a truss.
- Slings configurations on trussing.
- Alignment of trussing when assembling.

Working at Height Rescue:

- Assessing potential rescue situations and how best to plan for rescue, practical demonstrations, and delegate participation of a snatch rescue on ropes.

Measuring Force you can generate using a Rock Exotica load cell [Optional]

- It will be possible during the training to measure the force you can generate in your favorite apparatus during your favorite trick or drop.