

## **gandini juggling: Education Packages 2014**

### **The Company: Gandini Juggling**

Formed in 1992 by world-renowned juggler Sean Gandini and champion Rhythmic Gymnast Kati Ylä-Hokkala, Gandini Juggling continues to be at the vanguard of contemporary circus, reinventing and reinvigorating juggling for the 21st Century.

The company celebrates juggling in all its facets, exploring not just what juggling is, but what juggling can be.

Currently an ever-evolving ensemble made up of a virtuosic core group of four jugglers, they regularly expand to include up to 20 for specially commissioned events and performances. Ferociously prolific, they are constantly creating new works from radical fusions of art and juggling, through theatrical juggling performances, to family-friendly entertainment.

Gandini continue to collaborate with a wide range of leading artists, including composers, computer programmers and sound engineers. They have even juggled alongside symphonic orchestras, their choreographed juggling patterns slightly meshed to canonical classical works.

In addition to performing, Gandini continue to be very much in demand at leading circus schools; teaching workshops, creating performances and supporting the next generation of circus artists. Alongside this, Gandini Juggling publish their own books and DVDs, continuing to support the wider understanding of the beautiful possibilities of juggling, for jugglers and non-jugglers alike.

### **Core Team:**

#### **Sean Gandini (Artistic Director)**

As a child growing up in Havana, Sean was fascinated by Magic and Mathematics. In the 1980s, he was a regular performer in London's Covent Garden and toured with various theatre groups. Since then, Sean has spent the last 25 years researching and contributing to all aspects of juggling; he is a prolific creator and his work also extends to choreography and directing. With Gandini Juggling, Sean has performed in over 2,500 shows from art galleries to palaces; street corners to stadiums. He also regularly teaches in many of the world's leading Circus Schools.

#### **Kati Ylä-Hokkala (Artistic Director)**

Kati is one of her generation's iconic jugglers. Renowned as one of the leading innovators in dance/juggling, her ability to combine movement and extremely complex coordination is second to none. A former rhythmic gymnast, Kati's juggling has a unique calm precision, which comes from 25 years of throwing whilst standing on one leg. In recent years she has co-directed many of the company's pieces.

#### **Owen Reynolds**

Owen grew up in Dublin and threw himself into juggling and the street theatre scene at an early age. He studied at Circomedia, Bristol where he graduated in 2001. Owen co-founded juggling duo Spot the Drop with Malte Steinmetz and later Freehand with juggler and video artist, Howie Bailey. From 2005-2007, Owen was 'Head of Juggling' at Circus Space, London where he continues to teach. Owen has worked with the core Gandini Juggling group for 4 years and has had a particularly large input in to the complex programming that has gone in to the popular Glow Club pieces.

#### **Iñaki Fernández Sastre**

Iñaki was born in Spain and started to juggle 18 years ago when group juggling and the modern notational and mathematical ideas within the art form fascinated him. After graduating from university and working with several theatre and juggling companies in Spain, Iñaki moved to London and has been working with Gandini Juggling for the last 10 years. As a core company member, he has performed hundreds of shows in over 20 countries and is greatly featured in the Siteswaps and Social Siteswaps DVDs; the Gandinis' epic mathematical juggling videos. Iñaki continues to teach juggling at The Circus Space, London.

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### **Workshops and Lectures:**

The Gandini team are highly experienced facilitators, teaching in the world's best circus schools. We have a range of workshops available, aimed at both professional jugglers/ performers and those that are new to the art form.

- Each workshop last **2 hours** and will be led by **2 performers**.
- Group size can range from **20-30 participants**, depending on space.
- All of the workshop titles below can be used as **lecture topics**.

<b>Workshop Title</b>	<b>Level</b>	<b>Focus</b>
Basic Juggling Technique	<b>All</b>	The fundamentals of juggling. Content will be varied depending on participant skill level.
Movement & Juggling	<b>Jugglers/ performers with movement skills</b>	Fusing juggling and dance / pathways in space / technique V creativity
Rhythm and Mathematics of Juggling	<b>Intermediate / advanced jugglers</b>	The notation of juggling / breakdown of rhythm / patterns
Social Juggling	<b>Intermediate / advanced jugglers</b>	Multi-handed juggling / group juggling and timing / passing
Ensemble	<b>All</b>	Finding a common language / working physically together / group images
Disruption*	<b>All</b>	Deconstruction within performance / <i>Smashed</i> sequences. *This workshop can be taught with apples.

### **Weekly Engagement:**

For weekly bookings of *Smashed*, we will provide:

- 2 x 2 hour practical workshops, led by 2 performers
- 1 x 1-1.5 hour lecture/ talk, led by 2 performers
- A post-show Q&A with at least 3 members of the cast

This package can be tailored as appropriate.  
Please contact us for prices.

*If you need any further information please contact us:*  
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