

RACHEL STRICKLAND

AERIALIST, PERFORMANCE ARTIST, SPEAKER, AND ARTISTIC MENTOR

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CV 2025



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Performance and Choreography

The Monstrous Feminine June 2025

WIP showing of one woman show (dance, storytelling, mixed apparatus)

Queen Street Playhouse, Charleston SC

Guest artist with Georgia Schrubbe's *The Yellow Wallpaper* double billing

Shadows presented by Bloom Movement Artistry Charlotte, NC December 2024

Guest artist: Opening WIP of *The Monstrous Feminine* premiere

Storytelling, performance arts

City of Brunswick, GA First Friday Halloween Festival 2024

Featured performing artist- the Quadruped roaming character

Irish Aerial Dance Festival

Performance of *Teeth* at An Grianan Theatre, Letterkenny Ireland 2023

Excerpt from solo show in progress *The Monstrous Feminine*

Fur Ball Fundraiser Gala- PetHelpers.com 2023

Aerial hoop soloist, Charleston SC

Rome Symphony Orchestra 100 year anniversary concerts October 2022

Aerial hoop and petri dish soloist *Genesis*, Rome Georgia

Midas is King aerial dance film 2021

Official Selection: Women's International Film Festival 2023

Awarded **Excellence** in an original score

Awarded **Exceptional Merit** for an Art Haus Film

Official Selection: San Souci Festival of Dance Cinema 2021

Women's History Month Official Selection: 2022
Official Selection: Exeter Dance International Film Festival 2022
Official Selection: Circus International Film Festival 2023

Caroline Calouche & Co. Charlotte, NC

"Dance and Circus for All" 2020 livecast virtual performance
Aerial hoop quartet *Glittercrash*
Mud bath aerial hoop solo
"Rouge Cabaret" 2022
Aerial hoop and water performance *Genesis*
Monologues/spoken word: *Meatsuit Monologues*

Blood Meal multimedia performance piece created with digital artist Katina Bitsicas 2021

Exhibitions:

- Fried Fruit Art Gallery, Wilmington, NC (invitational) 2024
- Bolivar Art Gallery, University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY 2022
- Performance is Alive at Satellite Art Show, Miami Art Basel Week, Miami Beach, FL, Curated by Quinn Dukes 2022
- Act Creation Lab, Montreal, Canada, Curated by The Artist Athlete 2022

Nick Price Foundation New Years Eve Gala 2020 Charleston, SC

Double mask character/belly dance

Quadruped four-legged stiling monster character 2019 Charleston SC

City of Charleston Farmers market
Circus Building Entertainment- Day of the Dead event
Quadruped character performance
Group choreographer and casting
Cirque du Cosplay convention, Charlotte, NC 2022
City of Brunswick, GA First Friday Festival 2024

Bloom Festival 2019 Charlotte, NC

Aerial hoop soloist *Lion Skin*

Circus Center Cabaret 2018 San Francisco, CA, guest artist

Aerial hoop soloist- *Chariot*
Aerial loops duet- *Archetypes*

Corporate Events, San Francisco Bay Area 2013-2018 produced by:

Earth Circus Productions
Intrepid Entertainment (formerly Trapeze World)
Circus Center Productions
Syn Circus
Entire Productions
Velocity Circus

Kinetic Arts Productions Oakland, CA- a disobedient circus
Co-casting, Aerial performer, choreographer, *Salvage* 2015
Co-casting and choreographer, *Inversion* 2016

Circus Automatic San Francisco, CA- experimental circus and storytelling
Soloist, *Raised by Wolves* 2015
Soloist, Corps, *Into the Mouth of the Wolf* 2016
Soloist, duo aerial loops, *The Boy Who Died Wolf* 2017

Fidget Feet Aerial Dance Ireland 2011-2013
Aerial performer: *Rite of Spring* Cavan, IE
Aerial performer, actress: *A Fairy's Tale*, Middleton, IE
Choreographer: *The Elves and the Shoemaker*

Artist Residency at Supperclub San Francisco
Resident artist and performer: Feb-March 2014
Guest artist Supperclub LA 2012

Natural Wings Aerial Dance Western Australia / Canada 2012-2014
Performer, choreographer: *Candy Girls*
IGA Perth Royal Show 2012
Perth Fringe Festival 2013
Performer, choreographer: *Elements*
Toronto Busker's Festival 2013, **Awarded People's Choice**
Port Credit Busker's Festival 2013
Choreographer, guest director: *Tandem* 2014

New Orleans Fringe Festival
Performer, choreographer: *domestic variations* 2011 with **tictock aerial dance**
Awarded "Best of the Fest" by the Nola Defender
Writer, director, performer: *Icarus* 2013 self produced duo aerial theater,
Awarded "Best Bet" by Southern Glossary

Resident Aerialist: The Pink Door 2009-2012
Weekly performances in Seattle, WA

Emerald City Trapeze Arts 2009-2012 Aerial performer, choreographer, coach
Director, *Carnevolar iv: The Haunting* 2013
Guest artist, *Carnevolar viii: Phobia* 2017

Bellevue Arts Museum Bellevue, WA 2011
Commissioned full length aerial theatre show
Director, choreographer, performer
Dance and aerial fabric soloist

Moisture Festival Seattle, WA

2010 soloist

2011 soloist, corps "Moistettes"

QUEENSRÿCHE Cabaret National tour USA - July-October 2010

Aerial fabric soloist, Aerial hoop soloist

Pointe soloist

Guest artist 2014 The Triple Door Seattle WA

Commercial for Xbox - Twisted Pixel's Comic Jumper - September 2010

Stunt actress

Star Angels - The Show Tulalip Casino WA, May 2010

Company member

Dancer, vocalist

The Vau de Vire Society 2007-2009 company member

- *Hell in the Armory*- scare actor in immersive haunted tour of iconic SF landmark, harness work (Svetlana) and speaker/character in rolling platform dress (Madame Voya)
- *The Soiled Dove*- corps aerial hoop guest choreographer 2016
- *The Moscova Affair* - National Tour presented by Stoli - August-October 2009
 - Pointe soloist, corps dancer, pole acrobat
- *Outside Lands Festival* 2009 ~corps dancer
- *Edwardian Ball* 2009 ~corps and pointe soloist
- *Storytime Festival* 2008 ~corps dancer

Nekyia Dance 2007-2009 company member

Scorpio Showgrrrl Sublime 2007 dance soloist, corps

Exhibitions and Installations

2024 Fried Fruit Art Gallery, Wilmington, NC (invitational) installation of *Blood Meal*

2022 Bolivar Art Gallery, University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY (invitational) *Blood Meal* screening and artist talk

2022 Performance is Alive at Satellite Art Show, Miami Art Basel Week, Miami Beach, FL, curated by Quinn Dukes featuring *Blood Meal*

2021 Act Creation Lab, Montreal, Canada, curated by The Artist Athlete (invitational) *Blood Meal* screening and artist talk

Coaching and Speaking Experience

The Audacity Project 2017-present: Founder, Director

8-week online mentorship course in professional development for working artists
Equipping artists with the tools necessary to be working professionals
Over 350 artists served

BossUp 2024, Redondo Beach CA, Guest Speaker

Guest speaker at BossUp hosted by Dr. Shante Cofield and Jill Coleman
Conference for female entrepreneurs in the online space
Presented on imposter syndrome and getting out of your own way

The Well 2024, Charleston SC, Guest Speaker

Hosted by Creative Living, a community for teaching artists
Presented on pricing art and building a sustainable career

Sweet Retreats Mexico 2024, 2025

Co-host with Jenny Tufts for intermediate and advanced aerial artists
Creative mentor and act development

Creatrix: Unleash the Muse 2024, 2025: Creator, Director

Week-long Artist retreat on Edisto Island, SC
Focus on creative and spiritual practice development for artists

The Movement Maestro's Mafia, Guest speaker 2023

Irish Aerial Dance Festival 2011-present:

Aerial Hoop coach, skilled/advanced 2011-2019
Aerial Rope coach 2013-2014
Group hoop choreographer/facilitator
Guest artist
Act development/refinement
Aerial storytelling

Circollective Society, Vancouver, CA 2023

Guest presenter for workshop: *Get Your S*#t Together*
Business tools for performing artists

Gravity & Levity Present: Dissecting Aerial Symposium 2022 virtual and in person summit

Guest speaker presenting: *POSER*

Caroline Calouche & Co: Rouge, solo speaker *Meatsuit Monologues 2022*

Charlotte and Greensboro, NC

Alpha Rho Chi Fraternity for Architecture and the Allied Arts 2021: virtual summit

Featured speaker on Imposter Syndrome and reclaiming your future as an artist

Aerial Dance Festival presented by Frequent Fliers 2020: virtual summit

Speaker/Presenter on Imposter Syndrome and reclaiming your future as an artist

React RISE Mentorship Course for performance artists 2018-2020 Auckland, New Zealand

Guest Lecturer in Professional Development for artists

Artistic mentor

Taking Flight: CREATE aerial intensive Dublin, Ireland 2020

Creative mentor to 4 aerial hoop artist's

Funded by the Irish Arts Council

Piccolo Spoleto Festival 2019 Charleston SC

Guest speaker / storyteller, The Best of "Truth Is..."

Edisto Women's Club 2019 Edisto Island SC

Guest speaker "Do What You Want"

King's Daughters 2019 Edisto Island SC

Guest speaker "Courage"

Irish Aerial Dance Festival 2011-2019 Letterkenny, Co. Donegal

Guest artist and lead aerial hoop instructor / intermediate through professional

Solo and group choreographer

Irish Aerial Creation Centre's: Creative Intensive 2016-2018 Limerick, Co. Limerick

Artistic mentor, technical coach on aerial hoop, corde lisse, fabric, single point trapeze

Brain's Biceps Bliss 2019: 10-day aerial arts retreat in Krabi Beach, Thailand hosted by Dances in Air LLC

Guest artist, artistic mentor, coach

Aerial hoop, spin theory, artistic process

In collaboration with Dr. Jen Crane and Shannon McKenna

Training and Education

University of North Carolina at Asheville 2005

BA in Literature and Creative Writing / Minor in Dance

City College of San Francisco 2014-15

Studied Medical Chemistry, Anatomy and Physiology, Nutrition, Zoology

Aerial acrobatics: 2007-present

Specializing in solo aerial hoop, aerial fabric, duo aerial loops/lyra, and flexibility acrobatics
Circus Center (San Francisco, CA) Kerri Kresinski, Chloe Axelrod 2007-2009
Emerald City Trapeze Arts (Seattle, WA) autodidactic residency 2009-2012

Classical ballet: 15 years

Royal Academy of England and Cecchetti methods
Company member of the Union County Youth Ballet for seven seasons (Monroe, NC)

Modern dance: 5 years

University of North Carolina at Asheville under Connie Schrader according to the methods of
Martha Graham, Merce Cunningham, and others (Asheville, NC)

Bellydance: 2 years

Egyptian, Fusion, ATS
Onca O' Leary of Baraka Mundi (Asheville, NC)
Kristina Nekyia of Nekyia Dance (CA)

Ballroom/Partnering Dance- Lindy Hop and Blues, one season at Herrang Dance Camp

Frankie Manning and others (Herrang, Sweden)

Awards, Residencies, and Publication

- Official selection of *Midas is King* by
 - Exeter Dance International Film Festival 2022
 - San Souci Festival of Dance Cinema 2021
 - Circus International Film Festival 2023
 - Women's International Film Festival 2023
- *Midas is King* Awarded **Excellence in an Original Score** by Women's International Film Festival 2023
- *Midas is King* Awarded **Exceptional Merit in an Art Haus Film** by Women's International Film Festival 2023
- Artist in Residency at South Porth Artist Residency 2023
- Awarded Associate Artist-in-Residence 2021 by the Atlantic Center for the Arts
- Featured in *Authority Magazine* and *Thrive Global* 2020
- Awarded People's Choice Award, Toronto Busker's Festival, 2013 for *Elements*; performer and choreographer with Natural Wings Aerial Dance (Perth, W. Australia)
- Awarded "Best Bet" by Southern Glossary Magazine for 2013 New Orleans Fringe Festival for *Icarus* full length aerial theater show (writer, director, performer)

- Awarded RAW Performing Artist of the Year, Seattle 2013 aerial sling duet
- Two poems published in Headwater's Magazine, UNCA 2003, 2005
- Awarded \$4,500 in scholarships for essay composition 2000

References

Chantal McCormick, CEO and Creative Director of Fidget Feet Aerial Dance, Irish Aerial Dance Festival, Irish Aerial Creation Centre
chantal@fidgetfeet.com

Kristina Nekyia, Founder and Director of Fit & Bendy (former Creative Director of Nekyia Dance)
Contact available upon request

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Shane Holohan, owner and director of Taking Flight, Dublin Ireland
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