



1 - 9 MEI 2021  
ROTTERDAM

## DUTCH CIRCUS SHOWCASE

NAME OF COMPANY

Balancealots

NAME PERFORMANCE / PROJECT

Link the Click

SUMMARY OF  
THE PERFORMANCE / PROJECT  
(max 100 words)

In an urge to connect with the area, two quirky & colorful individuals show the difficulty of learning to work together by trying to find the balance between the two extremes of social connection: the online and offline presence. They drag their wonky kart everywhere they go, bringing life to any street corner through a complex mashup of skills and live beats to

## PRACTICAL INFO

☒ READY TO TOUR

☐ IN CREATION

(EST.) PREMIERE DATE

6.5.2021

DURATION OF PERFORMANCE (in min.)

20

TYPE (indoor/outdoor/tent/site specific...)

outdoor

LANGUAGE OR NON VERBAL

non verbal (small text in local language)

TARGET AUDIENCE (e.g. all ages, +10)

4+

CAN PERFORM MULTIPLE TIMES PER DAY

☒ YES

☐ NO

## TECH SPECS

DIMENSIONS OF THE STAGE  
(width, depth, height)

9x9 metres

AUDIENCE ORIENTATION  
(frontal/round/180 degrees/bi-frontal)

180 degrees/ arena style

DO YOU NEED RIGGING?  
(if yes: what type of rigging)

☐ YES

☒ NO

SET UP TIME

instant (1 hour for preparation/ warm-up)

BREAK DOWN TIME

5 minutes

OTHER CRUCIAL POINTS  
FOR YOUR PERFORMANCE?

clean, flat and dry surface



## DUTCH CIRCUS SHOWCASE

### VISUAL

#### IMAGE



#### IMAGE



### CONTACT

#### NAME

Ales Hrdlicka

#### EMAIL

info@aleshrdlicka.cz

#### PHONE

+420773676735

#### CREDITS

(performers/ artistic team etc.)

Performers: Hannah Lennox & Aleš Hrdlicka  
Artistic coach: Joris De Jong  
Co-production: Circusstad Festival Rotterdam  
Supported by: Gemeente Rotterdam, Fonds Podiumkunsten, De Kattendijkse/Drucker Stichting, Werkplaats Diepenheim, Cirqueon

Set: Jan Smrkovsky  
Special thanks: Lucho Smitt, Circusstad team, Botovna, Manon Verplancke, Mikulas Hrdlicka, Lena Hermann, Alessio Sev Motta, Børre Isac L'orange

Photos by: Manon Verplancke

### LINKS

#### WEBSITE

[www.aleshrdlicka.cz](http://www.aleshrdlicka.cz) , [www.hannahlennox.com](http://www.hannahlennox.com)

#### YOUTUBE / VIMEO

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KSQSoqjGIEo>

#### SOCIALS

<https://www.instagram.com/balancealots/>







*PROJECTPLAN*

# **BALANCEALOTS**

## **“LINK THE CLICK”**

**Balancealots**

Hannah Lennox

Ales Hrdlicka

Groene Hilledijk 266A

3074 AE, Rotterdam

BTW: NL588922092B01

KVK: 73316644

IBAN: NL54 INGB 0705 4180 65

+420 773 676 735

[info@aleshrdlicka.cz](mailto:info@aleshrdlicka.cz)



## Balancealots

Balancealots are a brand new Rotterdam based circus company, consisting of two emerging circus artists, Hannah Lennox (26) and Aleš Hrdlička (24), who graduated this year, from Codarts Circus Arts in Rotterdam. The duo are a quirky and colourful circus company, eager to connect to the city around them, whilst making statements by being.

This contemporary circus company finds inspiration in traditional circus but presents it with a twist- in a fresh and modern way, making their shows even more suitable for all ages.



The first version of Link the Click is so far being supported by Circustaad Festival as co-producers. The performance will be used to promote the festival, to the schools all around Rotterdam, this means that the show has to be strictly 15 minutes in length. This way the artists get many tryouts with their short version before going into a deeper creation to build a longer outdoor show for future events. This show is primarily made for all ages, especially young audiences/families.

## The Show - Link the Click

In an urge to connect with the area around them, two quirky, colorful & theatrical individuals show the difficulty of learning to work together but prove that a stronger connection creates the best destination, anywhere you go. The duo combine their specialisations: handstands & juggling together, which is not an easy task as they are opposites, manipulating gravity in two different ways. It also includes partner acro, live music & comedy to create a show that will oddly normalise weirdness.

Two silly individuals try to find common ground by making a physical and virtual connection to the area around them, creating energy together to power their show. Not only do they approach their circus with ease on the stage, they are also casually breaking gender norms and stereotypes too.



Whilst exposing their unique qualities, they embrace them and use these quirks to their advantage. Thus, making statements just by being themselves. They drag their mechanical and musical kart everywhere they go, bringing life to any street corner, through a complex mashup of skills and live beats to generate positive energy.

The main theme of the show is *connection*, which has many **inspirations** for the duo to work with. These days, everyone is connected to a phone, even one of the show's new props needs a mobile phone present to work on stage. They will explore this attachment and enhance the invisible weight that is created virtually by this small device, on stage.

By trying to find the balance between the two extremes of social connection, the online and offline presence, literally represented by creating unison between their skills: handbalancing and juggling. The couple use their circus skills to "juggle" both physical and virtual interactions between one another, their physical skills should impress and surprise the audience whilst emphasising the message of the show too.

But first of all, Balancealots would like to remind everyone that, especially in these times, it is good to stay responsibly silly and to not take life so seriously all the time.

## Artistic team

### Makers and performers

#### Hannah Lennox

Hannah is a born and raised Scottish acrobat, handbalancer and clown. She may be small in size but always commands the stage with her big and honest personality. This character has always been more on the creative and active side of life, she started acrobatic gymnastics at the age of 5, art classes at age 9, theatre at age 10 and eventually working in a circus company at 14 and kept up most of these activities into her late teens.

Hannah was the only youth in the Glasgow circus scene and would perform often for events, cabarets, festivals etc. around Scotland/England but she wanted more opportunities to create different kinds of acts for her circus than what was already typically seen all around her.

She always knew she was meant to be a performer but Scotland has a very small circus scene so she had no idea that she could make it professionally as a circus artist until after her 3 year course in Acting and Performance in Glasgow Kelvin College.

Hannah then quickly moved to start Codarts and Rotterdam opened up a whole new, international world of circus to her and is extremely grateful for this.

She is into her sixth year of living in The Netherlands, just graduating this year and has already managed to perform in most of the country with Tall Tales Company over the past 3 years. She has also been a popular pick for hosting shows too, with her Scottish charm and funny sketches, making appearances at a few different events already and hopes to carry more shows again in the future. She likes to turn the public's frowns, upside down.



#### Aleš Hrdlička

Aleš Hrdlička is a Czech emerging artist, professional juggler, magician, creator and contemporary circus performer.

He is the Czech Champion of Magic, a fresh graduate from the contemporary circus university Codarts

Rotterdam and one of the original members of Cink Cink Cirk, an established Czech circus company founded in 2012.

Aleš was born in Prague, Czech Republic, this is where he started practicing and performing magic at the age of 6 and picked up juggling when he was 10. During his circus study, Aleš found the passion in connecting these two art forms in his original contemporary circus creations. As a member of the French charity organisation Magiciens du Monde, Aleš is grateful to spread joy and inspiration in orphanages, hospitals and third world countries.

Whilst taking his art on the road, he has appeared on several live television broadcasts and has performed in hundreds of venues, including festivals, theatre shows, corporate events, cabarets and fairs in many countries across Europe, Africa and Asia.

### Artistic coach

They chose **Joris de Jong** as an artistic coach for quite a few reasons, some to mention are: experience working together for 3 years, similar artistic visions, is an helpful/informative/honest outside eye, worked in the Dutch circus scene for over 10 years, playful use of objects on stage, creates unique circus props of his own, enthusiastic to build his repertoire of circus creations.

Previous experience: 7 Fingers, Cirque Eloize, Scapino ballet Rotterdam, Holland opera etc.

## Summary

- a portable and self sufficient circus street show for all ages (handbalancing, juggling, clowning, balance and partner acrobatics)
- using circus to challenge the balance between physical and virtual worlds
- looking for more partners, residencies and funds to make the show full length
- **short version ready for booking from May 2021**

## “Link the Click” - Technical rider

**Rough estimation of the floor space:** 9x9 metres

**Length of the show:** 20 minutes

**Requirements:** clean, flat and dry surface (if possible, not in too loud an environment), audience in 180degrees, backstage and parking close by

**Supplied:** speaker, microphone, cables, kart (set), instruments and props

## Credits

**Created by:** Hannah Lennox & Aleš Hrdlička

**Artistic coach:** Joris De Jong

**Co-production:** Circusstad Festival Rotterdam

**Supported by:** Gemeente Rotterdam, Fonds Podiumkunsten, De Kattendijke/Drucker Stichting, Werkplaats Diepenheim, Cirqueon

**Set:** Jan Smrkovsky

**Special thanks:** Lucho Smitt, Circusstad team, Botovna, Manon Verplancke, Mikulas Hrdlicka, Lena Hermann, Alessio Sev Motta, Børre Isac L'orange

**Photos by:** Manon Verplancke



## Contact

Aleš Hrdlička

[info@aleshrdlicka.cz](mailto:info@aleshrdlicka.cz)

+420 773 676 735

<https://www.instagram.com/balancealots/>

[www.aleshrdlicka.cz](http://www.aleshrdlicka.cz) , [www.hannahlennox.com](http://www.hannahlennox.com)