

# Circus Unique

The Children's Theatrical Circus

(Established 1997)

## A LITTLE ABOUT THE INSTRUCTORS . . .

Circus Unique has some of Sydney's most talented and dedicated instructors whose skill level ranges from recreational to elite encompassing gymnastics to traditional big top circus to new circus. Instructors are Pixie Williams, Linda Coupland, Emma Lian Goh, Ilyan Keay, John Williams, Vincent Parfitt and John Hosie. All instructors assist with team building programs for corporate and community groups.

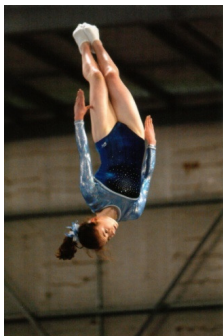


### **PIXIE WILLIAMS – instructor for Circus Unique programs**

Pixie co-founded Performance Extra P/L & Circus Unique in 1997. She has a background in children's entertainment and learned circus skills through master workshops and private tuition. She has run numerous programs for disadvantaged and indigenous children. Pixie delights in assisting children in their development and has produced several costumed children's theatrical productions for Circus Unique. Pixie's strength is co-ordinating and teaching the programs at Glebe with a large team to ensure a fun and friendly atmosphere where children all enjoy and continue to be challenged with activities presented. Pixie also provides entertainers for all styles of events.

### **LINDA COUPLAND – instructor for after school program at Glebe**

Linda competed at State gymnastics competitions as a level 7 competitor. She became an accredited coach with the Australian Gymnastics Federation and a judge for State competitions Level 1 to 7 at the age of 16. She has a traditional 'big top' circus background and has been performing since she was 7. Her first act was a double aerial act with her mother. Linda performs Spanish web and flying trapeze with the travelling big top circuses, Stardust Circus and Webers Circus. She has been teaching students for Circus Unique since 2007.

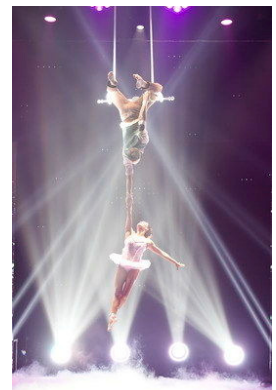


### **ILYAN KEAY – instructor for after school and holiday programs at Glebe**

Ilyan attended Newtown High School for the Performing Arts and majored in dance. She trained at the Australian Institute of Sport and NSW Institute of Sport. Ilyan was a national competitor in acrobatics, artistic gymnastics and trampoline. She was an Australian Youth Olympic team member and became the National Junior Trampoline champion, individual and synchronized and was the highest ranked Australian at World Age Games in 2003. Ilyan has considered running away to join the circus but decided that the circus was already right here! She has been teaching with Circus Unique since 2009.

### **EMMA LIAN GOH - instructor for after school and holiday programs at Glebe**

Emma started her career in Classical Ballet and her first professional engagement was as a soloist with The NSW Ballet Company, followed by engagements with the Queensland Ballet. A desire to travel took her to Europe, Asia and the Americas where she worked as a freelance dancer. This gave her the opportunity to work with some amazing artists and explore new genres of performance including Adagio and, more recently, aerial work. Emma's diverse aerial skills include trapeze (solo, double, triple), silks, Spanish web and Iyra (solo & double). In 2010 Emma co-founded their aerial duo business. In 2011 they were semi finalists on *Australia's Got Talent* and are already gaining profile and recognition for delivering seamless majestic performances with precision and artistry. Emma has been teaching with Circus Unique since January 2011.



## VINCENT PARFITT – instructor for Circus Unique programs

For over 20 years Vincent has been a professional actor, magician and circus performer. His career has taken him from London's theatres to Australian television. Since 2002 Vincent has taught acting and circus techniques in schools such as Screenwise, Circus Unique and Mad Cow Theatre Company. He has directed numerous plays from Shakespeare to Neil Simon. He wrote and directed "The Transition" for Circus Unique students in 2006. Vincent continues to entertain the crowds with his amazing magic tricks. Vincent has been teaching with Circus Unique since 2005.



## JOHN WILLIAMS – instructor for Circus Unique programs

Over the last 25 years of performing, teaching acrobatics and circus arts John constantly reminds us that one is only as old as they think! He continues to complete and win medals at the Australian Masters Gymnastic competitions as well as performing as a variety circus artiste. John's approach to incorporating laughter with learning has evolved through many years of putting smiles on the faces of seriously ill children as a Clown Doctor from 2000-2007 and having the opportunity to train and work with circus artists from all over the world. He was a trainer with Cirkids in Adelaide in 1991-92 and co-founded Circus Unique in 1997. He is an accredited Level 1 coach with the Australian Gymnastic Federation.

*(John juggling on John Hosie's shoulders)*

## JOHN HOSIE – instructor for after school and holiday programs at Glebe

John Hosie is an accredited NSW Gymnastics coach and teaches a full range of gymnastic skills, in particular acrobatic circus tumbling and partner balance sports acrobatics to adults and children. He has been teaching for over 10 years particularly in the eastern suburbs of Sydney. John also teaches flying & static trapeze, tissu, corde lisse, juggling, unicycling, hoops, stilts, slackwire, poi and contact-staff spinning. He juggles 5, 6 & 7 balls – WOW . . . John has been teaching with Circus Unique since 2009.

