



# Mod. Vaude. Pres.

Modern Vaudeville Press  
Catalogue

# Modern Vaudeville Press Catalogue

Updated January 2022

by Thom Wall, Sarah Baker, and Kate Peterson Koch

“  
Modern Vaudeville Press is changing the game – they are setting a new standard for circademics around the world [in their commitment] to writing entertaining books that don’t sacrifice academic scrutiny.  
”

*-the International Jugglers’ Association*

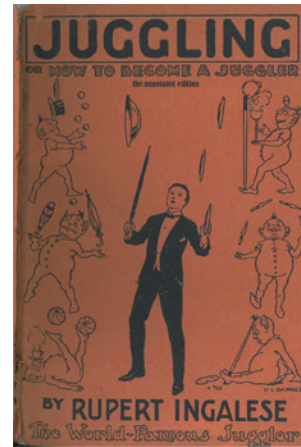
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## Books



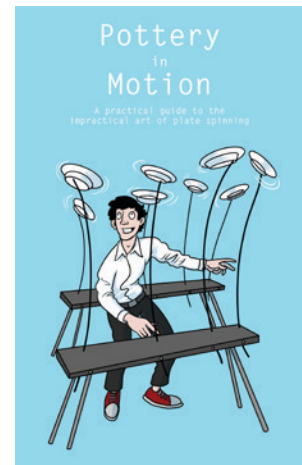
### *Juggling: Or How to Become a Juggler (annotated edition)*

Rupert Ingaese, annotated by Thom Wall  
ISBN – 978-1733971201

99 pages

MSRP: \$15 USD

The fully annotated edition of Rupert Ingaese’s 1921 “how to juggle” manual. This book covers basic juggling technique, tricks with hats and canes, practice methodology, and more. Ingaese’s manuscript provides an interesting look at the state of juggling pedagogy in Britain’s music hall era. Annotations by juggler and circus researcher Thom Wall bring insight and context to Ingaese’s descriptions and instructions.



### *Pottery in Motion*

Sam Veale

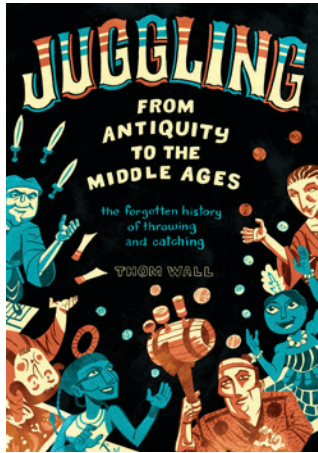
ISBN – 978-1733971232

71 pages

MSRP: \$15 USD

British juggler Sam Veale’s *Pottery in Motion* is the first of its kind - a straightforward book that provides aspiring plate spinners both the specifics of the props (such as plates, sticks, and rack) and comprehensive instruction on the skill of plate spinning itself.

This small but detail-packed guide appeals to individuals looking to learn plate spinning and provides the knowledge to take it to a performance-ready level, just add practice.



## *Juggling: From Antiquity to the Middle Ages*

Thom Wall  
ISBN – 978-0578410845  
129 pages  
MSRP: \$25 USD



As with dance, so with juggling—the moment that the performer finishes the routine, their act ceases to exist beyond the memory of the audience. There is no permanent record of what transpired, so studying the ancient roots of juggling is fraught with difficulty. Using the records that do exist, juggling appears to have emerged around the world in cultures independent of one another in the ancient past. Paintings in Egypt from 2000 BCE show jugglers engaged in performance. Stories from the island nation of Tonga place juggling's creation with their goddess of the underworld—a figure who has guarded a cave since time immemorial. Juggling games and rituals are pervasive in isolated Inuit cultures in northern Canada and Greenland. Though the earliest representation of juggling is 4,000 years old, the practice is surely much older—in the same way that humans were doubtlessly singing and dancing long before the first bone flute was created.

This book is an attempt to catalogue this tangible history of juggling in human culture. It is the story of juggling, represented in art and writing from around the world, across time. Although much has been written about modern jugglers—specific performers, their props, and their routines—little has been said about those who first developed the craft. As juggling enters a golden age in the internet era, *Juggling: From Antiquity to the Middle Ages* offers a look into the past—to the origins of our art form.



## *Spanish Edition:*

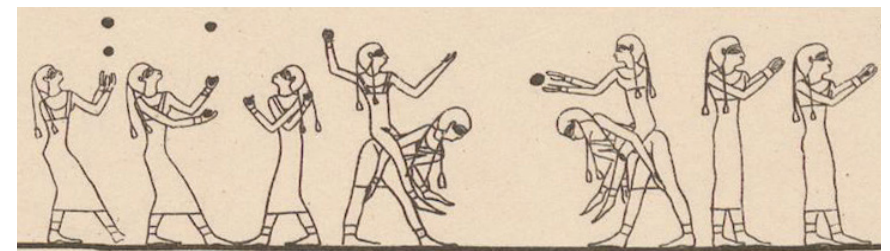
*Malabares - desde la Antigüedad hasta la Edad Media: la historia olvidada de lanzar y cachar*

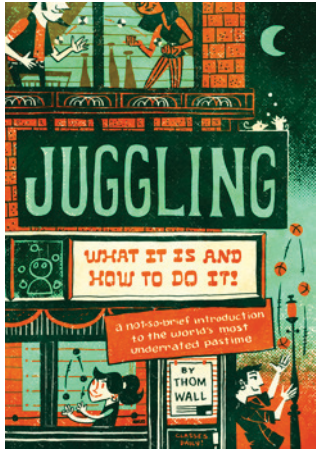
Thom Wall, et. al.  
ISBN – 978-1733971263  
179 pages  
MSRP: \$25 USD

*Malabares - desde Antigüedad hasta la Edad Media*, es un divertido viaje por

países, por épocas. Desde el Antiguo Egipto y sus ya famosas malabaristas profesionales de la tumba nº 15 de Beni Hasan, a los juegos para niñas de la isla de Tonga y otras zonas del Pacífico Sur; pasando por los edictos del rey Alfonso X de Castilla sobre la regulación de los juglares o los antipodistas aztecas actuando ante el Papa Clemente VII en el siglo XVI. También reserva un espacio al final del libro para, aprovechando su faceta de lingüista, realizar unas reflexiones acerca de la propia definición de la palabra “juggling” [malabarismo] a lo largo del tiempo y sus orígenes. Es, por tanto, un libro ideal no solo para malabaristas o cirqueros, sino para cualquiera con curiosidad sobre la historia, en especial de aquellos hechos que en ocasiones pasan más desapercibidos en los textos cotidianos.

A través de este libro aprendemos sobre leyendas y juegos antiguos, fantaseamos con grandes artistas y actuaciones que nunca podremos ver y que nos hacen dudar sobre esa tan manida sentencia que a veces afirma “esto nunca se ha hecho antes”. -*Malabares en su Tinta*





## *Juggling: What It Is and How to Do It*

Thom Wall, et. al.  
ISBN – 978-1-7339712-5-6  
224 pages  
MSRP: \$25 USD



*Juggling: What It Is and How to Do It* teaches learners of all ages how to juggle – one of the world’s oldest artforms. With a kind demeanor, humor, and enthusiasm, this authoritative manual explains the process of juggling through four different modalities, bolstered by the latest physical education research.

*Juggling* is an accessible primer that a middle-schooler can hit the ground running with, or that families can enjoy together. The result of six years of work by 2021 International Jugglers’ Association *Excellence in Education* award winner and former Cirque du Soleil juggler Thom Wall and featuring guest chapters by some of today’s juggling masters, *Juggling* provides a wealth of content for even the most serious adult learner.



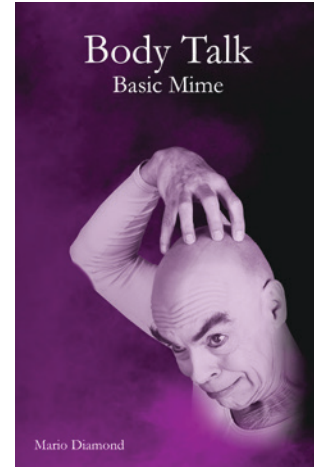
## *Book plus Juggling Kit!*

*Includes juggling balls  
by Alchemy Juggling*

MSRP: \$60 USD

This exclusive kit makes the perfect gift for any aspiring juggler. Includes one copy of *Juggling: What It Is and How to Do It* and three professional-grade beanbags.

Beanbag specs: 90g ea., approx. 2.75” diameter. Machine washable / dryable. Made in USA.



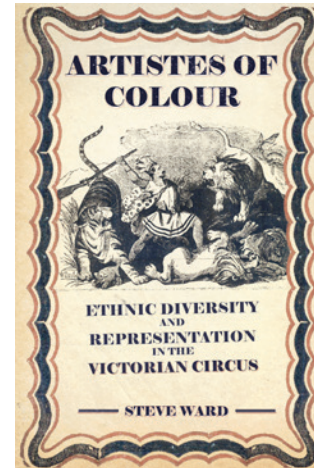
## *Body Talk: Basic Mime*

Mario Diamond  
ISBN – 978-1733971218  
73 pages  
MSRP: \$15 USD

*Body Talk: Basic Mime* covers the fundamental skills of mime in an easily accessible workbook format. Diamond brings over 40 years of teaching and performance experience to *Body Talk*, which includes rich photography illustrating

various mime techniques.

“[*Body Talk: Basic Mime*] should be required reading for any theater participant looking to incorporate elements of mime into their routines.” - *Midwest Book Review*



## *Artistes of Colour*

Steve Ward, PhD  
ISBN – 978-1-7339712-7-0  
317 pages  
MSRP: \$25 USD

In a society that places an increasing value in ethnic diversity and cultural identity, the contribution that performers from a variety of ethnic backgrounds made to the development of the circus in the nineteenth century is often dismissed and largely forgotten. Using contemporary records and images, *Artistes of Colour* explores the wealth and depth of talented black and other performers of colour, and the contribution they made to the success of the nineteenth century circus. Ward draws iconic figures from the margins of history and gives them the recognition they deserve, illustrating what the BBC calls “a field of study that has been overlooked far too long.”



## *Circus Games*

Compiled by Lucy Little & the American Youth Circus Organization (AYCO)

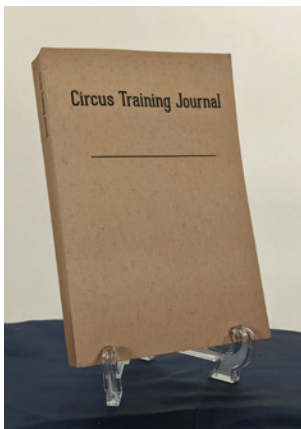
ISBN – 9781733971225

124 pages

**MSRP: \$15 USD**

With over 100 games organized for optimal use in cooperative movement based settings, this is a must have for every circus school, teaching artist, and arts education program! Games are organized by age, number of participants, energy level, and social/emotional learning outcome, and also includes special notes for working with a variety of populations that may require adaptation or modifications to each game. Find more info about the project here:

<https://www.americancircuseducators.org/gamesproject/>



## *Circus Training Journal*

Thom Wall & Rebecca Starr,  
Consultant editor: Sarah Baker

ISBN – 978-1-7339712-9-4

9×6” paperback

380 pages

**MSRP: \$20 USD**

What’s measured is managed! The *Circus Training Journal* is the result of a year of collaboration between Thom Wall and Rebecca Starr, head aerial coach at Circadium: School of Contemporary Circus. This undated journal, which spans three months of daily training, tracks workouts, nutrition, goal-setting, and more. Heavyweight groundwood paper optimized for ballpoint and pencil.



## *Mongolian Contortion: An Ethnographic Inquiry (monograph)*

Mariam Ala-Rashi

Monograph / no ISBN

100 pages

**MSRP: \$10 USD (eBook)**

**\$15 USD (archival print)**

This project introduces the performance art form of Mongolian contortion by examining its theories and functions before and after the establishment of the Mongolian State Circus in 1941. Through qualitative research it investigates events that led to the transformation and re-emergence of Traditional Mongolian Contortion in Mongolia as an international export to the West in recent years. Mongolian Contortion examines the numerous challenges contortionists face with traditional aesthetics and presentations, and proposes solutions for the safeguarding of this art form.





Make a difference by sponsoring...

# ★ The World's ★ Newest Juggler!



**Each book** bought directly through MVP gets **one new juggling kit** out into the world and **into a new juggler's hands!**

(We also sell pins that directly sponsor the program!)

Each kit contains a set of three juggling balls and a booklet of beginner juggling instructions. Sponsor a new kit today!

*"Thanks to all of you, something beautiful has come into the world. Times are hard, and especially challenging for children who are facing huge disruptions to their lives at home and at school. Things like these juggling kits can feel like gifts from a kind world to some of these people."*  
-anonymous

*"To the kind person who left the beginner's kit in the Little Library on Wonderland Drive - Thank you. You made my day! I had earlier in the day joked to myself about all the new hobbies I started to fill my time since COVID. I joked to myself that I should take up juggling. During my run later, I poked my head in the Little Library and discovered the kit. Made me laugh. Thank you. Thank you."* -M.S.



Find out more at [www.modernvaudevillepress.com/sponsor](http://www.modernvaudevillepress.com/sponsor)



## China's Bending Bodies (monograph)

Mariam Ala-Rashi  
Monograph / no ISBN  
138 pages  
**MSRP: \$10 USD (eBook)**  
**\$15 USD (archival print)**

This research study proposes an introduction to the performance art form *contortionism* by examining its theories and functions throughout the 20th and 21st century. It considers themes including the appropriation of contortionism during the golden age of Hollywood and discusses definition issues between contortionism and other disciplines that highlight body flexibility, such as gymnastics and yoga. By examining the genesis of contortionism in ancient China, it aims to explore parallels between the origins of Chinese contortionism and the establishment of Chinese acrobatics. It later dissects the political use of contortionism in socialist China and the development and institutionalization of acrobatic troupes since the founding of the People's Republic of China in 1949. Drawing upon a Foucauldian perspective, it further examines the parallels between the Western training of soldiers during the 17th and 18th century, and methods of traditional Chinese acrobatic training in the 21st century at the *Beijing International Art School*. This monograph includes data from a wide range of literature, material evidence, oral history, current media reports, and considers recent work in anthropology, archaeology, and political history. It, therefore, offers the interested reader, the scholar, the contortionist and contortion practitioner a substantial treatise about the art-form *contortionism*.



## Coming Soon:



### Circus Games (v1.1)

Compiled by Lucy Little & the American Youth Circus Organization (AYCO)  
**MSRP: \$15 USD**

Due to the huge success of the first edition of *Games for Circus Educators, Organizers and Innovators*, the American Circus Educators (ACE) are creating a 2nd edition. This book is comprised entirely of games submitted by ACE community members across the country!

This book contains the original 100+ games from the first edition, as well as new games, variations on, and expansions upon games in the first edition. Conditioning games, aerial games, and games for preschool-age children are now included! Play on!



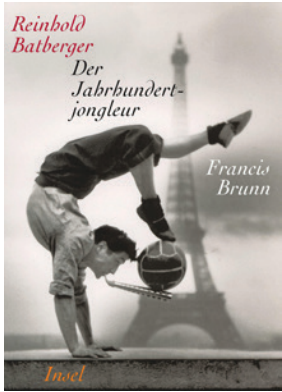
### The ABC Tour

Jon Udry  
**MSRP: TBD**

Ever felt like a challenge? For juggler and comedian, Jon Udry, the ABC Tour — 26 letters, 26 shows — seems the perfect way to shake things up.

What started as a silly idea he believed would take two to three months to complete, ended up being a mammoth three year project that included some of the toughest, most brutal and most enjoyable performances of his life.

From attempting to juggle while wearing roller skates and the unexpected discoveries of performing at a Naturist's Resort, to the challenges that came with working in rainforest conditions covered in ants or in snowy conditions at -10°C, Jon tells the full story from A to Z.



## *The Century's Juggler*

Reinhold Batburger, translated by  
Kathrin Wagner, edited by Thom Wall  
**MSRP: \$25 USD**

He throws a ball in the air and makes millions. And millions of people watch – and did for more than fifty years.

His performance takes seven minutes, and that's his life. Reinhold Batburger tells a family story – the story of a world career, the story of the life and art of juggler Francis Brunn (1922-2004).



## *The Rise and Fall of the Sideshow Geek - Snake Eaters, Human Ostriches & Other Extreme Entertainments*

Nathan Wakefield  
ISBN: TBD  
**MSRP: \$25 USD**

Not for the faint of heart, it is one of the most gruesome acts in all of carnival history. An act so vile and riddled with controversy that it is largely a thing of the past: the geek act. A lack of consolidated historical documentation and questionable portrayals in recorded media have made it difficult to separate fact from fiction - until now. *The Rise and Fall of the Sideshow Geek* presents a detailed and unflinching history of this sideshow spectacle. Along the way, author Nathan Wakefield examines adjacent genres of live entertainment from years gone by, leaving no detail unexamined: wild men, stone eaters, human ostriches, competitive goldfish swallowers, and more.

# MVP Exclusives!



## *Stickers*

**MSRP: \$5-25 USD**

A pack of ten high-quality, all-weather vinyl stickers! Ten stickers per pack, chosen at random from a collection of over 80 designs.

Buy more than one pack and our team will ensure that you won't get any duplicate designs (we'll even throw in a few extras for free! shh!)



## *Chair Stacking Earrings*

**MSRP: \$8 USD**

Show your love for hand-balancing with the world! These miniature (20mm tall) handbalancing chairs look great on your lobes — whether you're standing upright or inverted on a chair!

Made of body-safe PLA with stainless steel hardware. 3d printed in the USA.



## *Click-Together Ring Stands*

**MSRP: \$12 USD**

These click-together ring stands offer a new, unobtrusive way to present juggling rings on stage. These stands are precisely sized, allowing you to place and pick rings up without moving the stand — zero friction!

Made with body-safe PLA, 3d printed in the USA. Black available online, other colors available at in-person events. 3x per pack.





## *Hula Hoop Scarf*

**| MSRP: \$45 USD**

This gorgeous scarf was designed by Spanish watercolor artist Marika Mihalache using colorful splashes of colors to bring hula hoop motion to life. 90cm square (big!), 100% pure silk (quality!), machine-rolled hems (no child labor!)

This is an extremely limited run and likely will not be produced again!

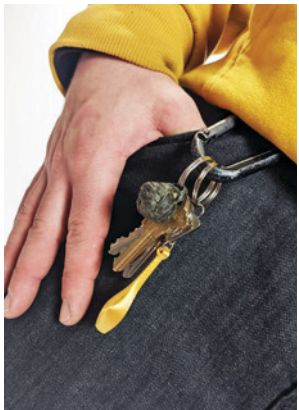


## *Hula Hoop Popper*

**| MSRP: \$6 USD**

Collapsible hula hoops destroying your fingers? That was our problem, too — and why we designed this simple solution! These solid-plastic hula hoop poppers are designed to fit easily in your hand and protect your fingers from that familiar pinch when deconstructing hula hoops.

Made from body-safe PLA with metal keychain hardware.



## *Juggling Club Keychain*

**| MSRP: \$7 USD**

Love juggling clubs? We do, too! MVP is excited to share these beautiful 3d-printed shiny gold keychains with you... so you can share your love for juggling with the world!



## *MVP Logo Beanie*

**| MSRP: \$20 USD**

Share your love for Modern Vaudeville Press with the world!

These lovingly embroidered hats feature the MVP logo – subtle dark grey stitching on black knit fabric.

100% acrylic, one size fits most.



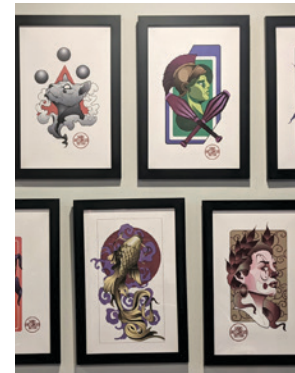
## *MVP Patch*

**| MSRP: \$15 USD**

Have a jacket or bag that needs a little flair? Try one of these oversize (4×4”) stitch-on ModVaude patches!

Custom made by an independent patch shop in the upper-Midwest.

Available in white and red text on a black background and black and red text on a white background.



## *Juggling Heritage Poster Collection*

**| MSRP: \$100 USD**

Ten beautiful illustrations, celebrating the world of juggling!

This collection of digitally-printed 11×17 poster prints was commissioned by one of Modern Vaudeville Press’ favorite artists – Gabo Arte & Circo!

Gabo is one of the pillars in the Mexican circus world, and many Latin performers have his art tattooed on their bodies — the perfect person to design a set of posters commemorating our first Spanish-language release!



**Mod.  
Vaude.  
Pres.**

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