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Modern Vaudeville Press
Catalogue

Modern Vaudeville Press Catalogue

Updated Spring 2024

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.

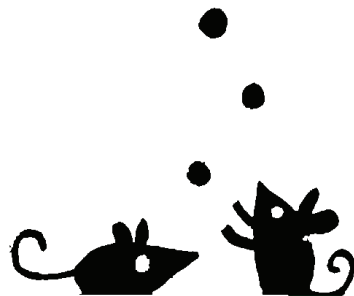
-the International Jugglers' Association

”

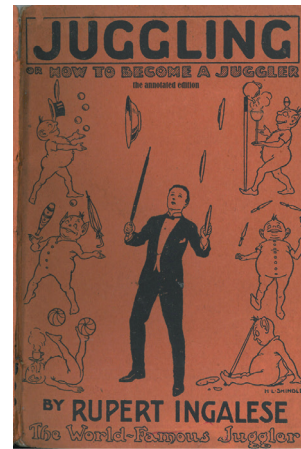
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Books



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

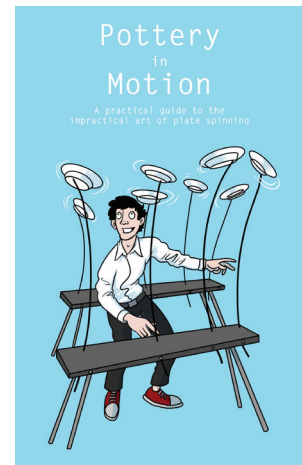
Rupert Ingaese, annotated by Thom Wall

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

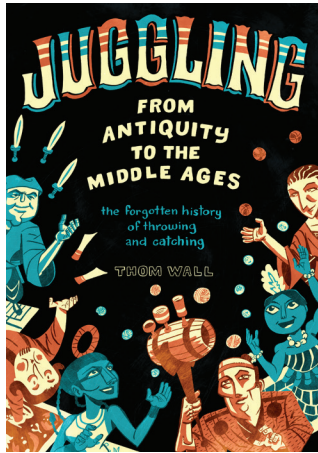
Sam Veale

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:

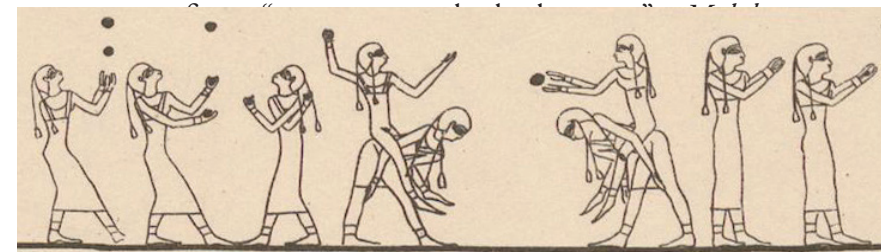
Malabares - desde la Antigüedad hasta la Edad Media: la historia olvidada de lanzar y cachar

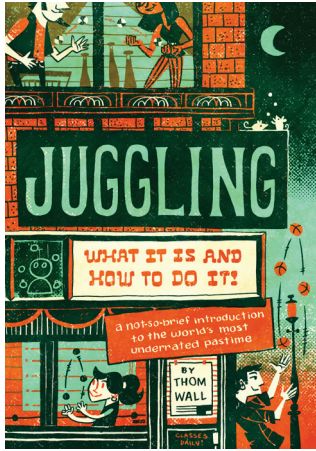
Thom Wall, et. al.
ISBN – 978-1733971263
179 pages
MSRP: \$25 USD

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





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 great content for even the most serious adult learner.



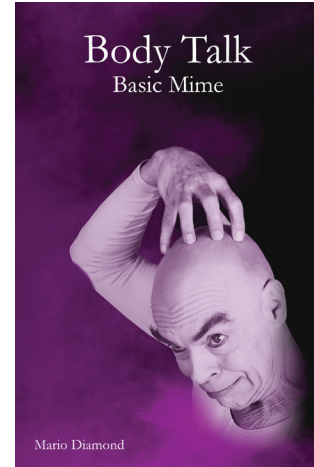
Book plus Juggling Kit!

*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*



French Edition:

Corps Expressif: Base du Mime

Mario Diamond
ISBN – 978-1958604984
68 pages
MSRP: \$15 USD

Mario a écrit un tour de force sur l'art du mime. Ce livre est éloquent et concis... riche en outils pour les élèves comme pour les professeurs, facile à comprendre et rempli d'exercices pratiques. Ce livre est brodé de segments historiques et anecdotiques qui en font un manuscrit amusant, plein d'observations charmantes et bouffonnes qui font de Mario un artiste phénoménal, prodige de la caractéristique définitive du mime, la personnalité.



Circus Games (v1.1)

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/>



The ABC Tour

Jon Udry

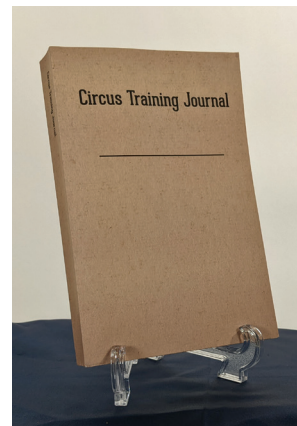
ISBN – 978-0578410852

MSRP: \$25 USD

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.



Circus Training Journal

Thom Wall & Rebecca Starr,

Consultant editor: Sarah Baker

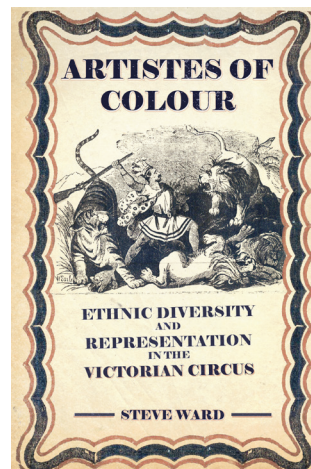
ISBN – 978-1-7339712-9-4

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, aerial coach. This undated journal, spanning three months of daily training, tracks workouts, nutrition, goal-setting, and more. Heavyweight paper optimized for ballpoint and pencil.



Artistes of Colour

Steve Ward, PhD

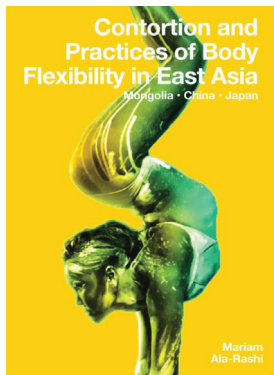
ISBN – 978-1-7339712-7-0

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 their contributions to the success of the nineteenth century circus. Ward draws iconic figures from the margins of history and gives them the recognition they deserve. Long-listed for the American Society for Theatre Research 2022 Book Award.

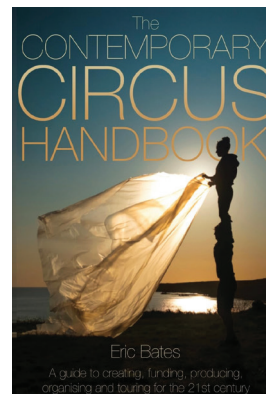


Contortion and Practices of Body Flexibility in East Asia - Mongolia, China, Japan

Mariam Ala-Rashi
ISBN – 978-1-958604-04-5
MSRP: \$25 USD

A collection of three monographs: *China's Bending Bodies: Contortionists and Politics in China*; *Mongolian Contortion: An Ethnographic Inquiry*; and *The Kakubei Jishi: The Rise, Fall, and Restoration of a Japanese Folk Performing Art*.

This compendium examines contortion and practices of body flexibility in East Asia. It explores the performance art forms Chinese contortion, Mongolian contortion and the Kakubei Jishi lion dance of the Niigata prefecture in Japan which utilizes body flexibility. It discusses the investigation of the history and genesis of these art forms and how they developed in various political and social dynamics. This work further offers vast knowledge about crucial elements such as the artist's training processes, their training environment, the development of aesthetics, symbolism in costuming and body movements, religious themes, mythology and natural phenomena, and costume designs. This compendium 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 offers the interested reader, the scholar, the contortionist and contortion practitioner a substantial treatise about contortionism and practices of body flexibility.



The Contemporary Circus Handbook: A guide to creating, funding, producing, organizing and touring shows for the 21st century

Eric Bates
ISBN – 978-1-958604-03-8
MSRP: \$25 USD

The Contemporary Circus Handbook contains interviews with more than 25 professionals, from Gypsy Snider of the celebrated contemporary circus company “The Seven Fingers” to Lydia Bouchard of La Resistance about their work in the performing arts world. Combining Eric Bates’ (Cie Barcode, Cirque du Soleil, et. al.) hard won wisdom as well as tips and insights from his contemporaries, what emerges is an invaluable blueprint of how to progress from the seed of an idea for a show to the full touring timeline. The scope of the book is wide but deeply hands-on, diving into practical details on how to find an agent, start your own company, secure funding and build your niche brand. *The Contemporary Circus Handbook* truly is a unique offering to the circus world, full of insider tips and years of accumulated knowledge from industry insiders.





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★ 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!)

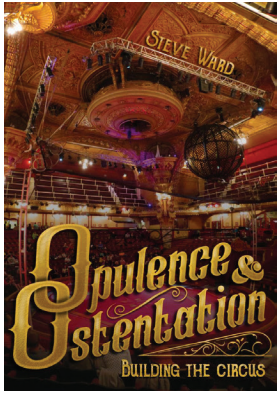
Each kit contains a set of three juggling balls and a booklet of beginner juggling instructions. Sponsor a new kit today!

"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



Opulence & Ostentation

Steve Ward, PhD

ISBN: 978-1-958604-02-1

MSRP: \$25 USD

Since the foundation of the 'modern' circus in the eighteenth century, the circus has been presented in defined spaces. Initially, performances were given in the open air and, over a period of time, these spaces first became enclosed and then later roofed. In the nineteenth century, many permanent stone-built buildings were erected solely for the purpose of presenting circus. This phenomenon spread from the UK across Europe and beyond, creating a style of circus architecture that has never been repeated. The purpose of this book is to examine what caused these buildings to be constructed and their design and architecture. Examples of key structures will be explored in detail, some of them still surviving today and still being used for circus performances. The book will also look at the developments of contemporary circus architecture and raise questions as to the future of the circus building.

CLEVERER THAN GOD

ERIK ÅBERG

Cleverer Than God

Erik Åberg

ISBN – 978-1958604113

MSRP: \$25 USD

Cleverer Than God is a book that tells the story of Paul Cinquevalli, a juggler who rose from the Circus circuit of the 1880s, to attain celebrity status in the British Music Hall and American vaudeville stages until the outbreak of WWI. Through quotes by Cinquevalli himself, woven together with excerpts from journalists and writers of his era, the book tells his story as poignant fragments, capturing the essence of Cinquevalli's triumphs, defining moments, and heart-rending tragedies.

Coming Soon:



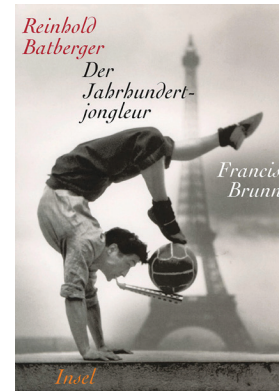
Captain George

Amelia Osterud, Edited by Fritz Grobe

MSRP: \$25 USD

Coming in 2024!

The life and times of the world's most celebrated illustrated man.



The Century's Juggler

Reinhold Batburger, translated by
Kathrin Wagner, edited by Thom Wall

MSRP: \$25 USD

Coming in 2024!

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 Batberger tells a family story – the story of a world career, the story of the life and art of juggler Francis Brunn (1922-2004).

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 (4x4”) 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 11x17 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!

Friends and Family

A rotating assortment of products from our performer friends and family around the world! Distributed commission-free by MVP.



Find Our Books Here!



Waterstones



MVP Mission

Modern Vaudeville Press is a mission-driven, artist-owned independent publishing company. We strive to build a platform for unique nonfiction titles in juggling, circus, vaudeville, and related fields. MVP aims to drive the conversation about circus forward by increasing accessibility to high-quality titles about the history and instruction of circus arts.

Our award-winning books are carried in shops on four continents, as well as by many large online retailers.



Oleg Popov Bookplate. G. Kravtsov. 1968.

Notes about Packaging

We at MVP take the environment and its stewardship seriously. Whenever possible, orders will be shipped in recycled or re-used envelopes, packages, and bubble mailers. Some orders might be delivered in multiple shipments, depending on supply chains.