

VARIETY ENTERTAINER * JUGGLER * SIDESHOW MARVEL * CLOWN * MASTER OF CEREMONIES
PERFORMING PROFESSIONALLY SINCE 1994

Performance Skills

Sideshow Feats:

Sword Swallowing
Fire-eating
Bed of Nails
Human Blockhead
Mental Floss
Straight Jacket Escape

Circus Skills:

Clowning
Stilt Walking
Unicycling
Basic Tumbling/Acrobatics

Diabolo
Balloon Sculpture
Balancing
Mouth sticks
Bottle and glass tricks

Bullwhip
Archery
Gun Spinning

Prop Manipulation:

Juggling
Plate Spinning

Western Skills:
Trick Rope Spinning
Knife Throwing

Additional Skills

Tuba
Concertina
Magic
Basic Tap Dancing

Work Experience - Venues & Festivals

Avery Fischer Hall (w/ Ornette Coleman), NYC
Hall & Christ's World of Wonders, NJ
Yale Cabaret, Yale University, CT
Toyota Comedy Festival, NY
Burning Man Festival, NV
Glastonbury Festival, UK
Coney Island Sideshow by the Seashore, NY
Wild Style Tattoo Convention, Austria

King Opera House, Van Buren, AK
San Diego Street Scene, CA
Blue Angel Cabaret, NY
Knitting Factory, NY
Bonnaroo, TN
All Good Festival, WV
MGM Grand Theater, Washington, DC
Borgata Hotel and Casino, Atlantic City

Television/Film/Video

Late Late Show with James Corden
Late Night w/ David Letterman," CBS
"Carson Daly Show," NBC
"Oddville," MTV
"OZ," HBO

"The Today Show," NBC
"Twisted Lives of Contortionist,"
Discovery
"Rock of Ages," VH-1
"212," FOX

"On the Inside," BBC
"Tudo de Bom," MTV Brazil
"Tonigh Show wih Jay Leno"

Clients

Bendel's
Discover Channel
Stober Brothers Construciton
Ringling Brothers and Barnum &
Bailey Circus Clown Alley
Village Voice
Club Med

Sunny DeLite
KBA Marketing,
Bloomberg
Magic Hat Brewing Company
New York Housing Authority
Bard College
NYC Parks & Recreation

Hendricks Gin
Coney Island Brewery
Six Flags
Cirque du Soleil

Other Skills/Past Jobs/Hobbies

Computer skills, graphic design, driving, cooking, promotions, carpentry, school bus driver, camp counselor, waiter, video editing, scuba diving, mountain unicycling and kayaking

Interesting Notes and Honors

Eagle Scout (BSA), Amateur Radio Operator (KB4DJU), and walked across United State in 1991

references available upon request

PO Box 386, New York, NY 10009 (347) 404-0422 keith@bindlestiff.org

Keith S. Nelson

Artist * Producer * Director * Entertainer

Keith Nelson is a variety artist—prop manipulator, physical comedian, juggler, and sideshow entertainer—and circus skill instructor. Keith learned to juggle and eat fire at Hampshire College in 1989. Since then he has added numerous circus skills, sideshow feats, and clowning to his list of skills. In 1995 he co-founded Bindlestiff Family Cirkus, a national touring variety arts troupe. He produces, directs and performs. Keith has an act for every stage, from the carnival sideshow to the Broadway stage, from the college campus to the kindergarten class room. As an instructor he has taught circus skills to people of all ages.

Professional Experience

Keith Nelson has been performing in New York since 1994. He has performed on every type of stage imaginable, from CBGB's to Lincoln Center. In 1995 He and Stephanie Monseu created Bindlestiff Family Cirkus, a Brooklyn based troupe that is legendary for its unique blend of American popular entertainment.

Working in conjunction with Bindlestiff, as a duo act with Stephanie Monseu, and as a solo performer, Keith has toured internationally, performing and teaching for an ever increasingly diverse audience. With twelve years of operating Bindlestiff Family Cirkus Keith has additional experience with public relations, media, construction, graphic arts, video editing, writing, and directing.

As a teacher, Keith has worked with people of all ages and ability levels in learning basic juggling and circus skills. Experience includes private clients, theater workshops, cruise ship recreation programs, after-school programs, summer camps and festival settings.

Teaching - Workshop Experience

20 Circus skill instructor at Brooklyn Art Exchange Summer Camp Program
2012 - 2014 Circus skill instructor for Rudolf Steiner After School Program, NYC
2012-2013 Circus skill instructor for Hunter College Elementary School after-school Program, NYC
2007 - 2014 Circus skill instructor for after school program at Children's Workshop, Manhattan, NY
2007-2010 Instructor for home school circus program, NYC
2006-2008 Guest Instructor, Wagner College Theater Department. teaching a Circus skills and Physical Comedy
2006/2007 Substitute instructor with Cirque du Monde (Cirque du Soleil youth outreach program) at the Point, Bronx, NY
2006 Circus skills coach for Snug Harbor Cultural Center's Theater
2005 - present Instructor and co-director of Bindlestiff Family Cirkus' Cavalcade of Youth program
2004 Cirque du Jour Summer camp instructor
2003-2005 Substitute instructor for New York City after school programs
1998 Circus skill instructor for Jonathan Williams After School Program (NYCHA), Brooklyn, NY
1996 Guest teacher at Tyler College, PA

Training & Education

2012 Completed International Juggling Association Youth Educational Program training
2007 - present Regular training through American Youth Circus Organization
2004 Eccentric Performing w/ Avner Eisenberg & Julie Goel
2002 NY Goofs Ultimate Clown School
2001 & 2003 Motion Fest
2001-2007 Tap dancing with Germaine Salzberg, Broadway Dance Center, NYC
2000-present International Juggling Convention Workshops
1999 - 2006 Wild West Arts Convention (regional and national)
1998-2000 Arobatics with LAVA
1992 BA in Social Sciences from Hampshire College
1986-1992 Camp counselor at a number of summer camps in North Carolina