

NICA's "CONSTRUCTIVIST TRIO" HEAD TO WUHAN!



NICA students compete on the global acrobatic stage!

The National Institute of Circus Arts (NICA) is thrilled to announce that **The Constructivist Trio**, a group of three NICA third year graduating students, have been invited to compete at the 7th International Acrobatic Art Festival of Wuhan in October of this year.

The International Acrobatic Art Festival of Wuhan is one of China's largest and best-known festivals and one of the top four acrobatic festivals in the world. This is only the second time Australia has been represented at the Festival.

The competition takes place in Wuhan from October 27 to November 3 and attracts circus and acrobatic troupes from all over the world including; Canada, Russia, the USA, Japan and France, all of whom will vie for the renowned Gold Yellow Crane Prize.

The Constructivist Trio is a 6 minute dramatic aerial performance piece by NICA third year students; James Kingsford-Smith, grand nephew of aviator Sir Charles Kingsford-Smith; Mathew Loudon, with a background in martial arts and wrestling; and Mace Innes, who has a background in circus and musical theatre. The act draws upon technical elements from the French Corde Lisse and Chinese Straps disciplines, merging them in a unique arrangement.

The act has evolved from the collaborative efforts of three NICA staff. The students are trained in Straps by Guang Rong Lu, Head of Circus at NICA, who has 25 years of experience with the Nanjing Acrobatic Troupe (China) and 15 years as head of the Flying Fruit Fly Circus. French-Australian aerialist Helene Embling is the act's creator and director and has trained the students in Corde Lisse. NICA's Head of Dance, Adrian Dimitrievitch, has worked with the students to expand the act to include a choreographed floor piece that complements the aerial moves, creating a true fusion of art forms.

The National Institute of Circus Arts (NICA) was established in 2001 as Australia's centre of excellence and innovation in contemporary circus arts. Each year NICA accepts 23 students into the three-year Bachelor of Circus Arts in Melbourne, Australia.

Interviews are available with *The Constructivist Trio* and Guang Rong Lu. There will be a special private showing of *The Constructivist Trio*, which we would be delighted if you would like to attend. Please see attached invite.

For information on NICA: www.nica.com.au

For information on the International Acrobatic Art Festival of Wuhan www.whaf.elong.com

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