

A A R O N B I R K dancinglaughingking@gmail.com
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W W W . A A R O N B I R K . C O M

ARTIST BIO

Aaron's inquiry into Movement Arts encompasses 15 years of research, training, and performance, with a special emphasis on Contact Improvisation and The Axis Syllabus. Beyond the dance, Aaron maintains a 25 year career as a professional Illustrator and Sculptor. His pathways have extended to Carpentry, Forestry and Wetland Restoration. Aaron is a Teaching Candidate for The Axis Syllabus, and has been found fabricating his own shoes.

EDUCATION

- Oberlin College, Bachelor of Arts, Double Major: Visual Arts & English 2001
- Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts, Continuing Education, 2006-2011

THE AXIS SYLLABUS

- Axis Syllabus workshop with Jerome D'Orso, "Prendre la balle au bond," Exosquelette, Luc En Diois, France, Winter 2024
- Ongoing Axis Syllabus Mentorship with Francesca Pedulla, Online Study, 2020-2024
- Axis Syllabus "Broadband" Workshop, Frey Faust, Francesca Pedulla, Barış Mıçı, Ostuni, Italy 3 weeks, Fall 2023
- Nomadic College 2, Francesca Pedulla, Barış Mıçı, Luc En Diois, France Summer 2023
- Nomadic College 1, Frey Faust and Francesca Pedulla, Ostuni, Italy Spring 2023
- B.A.A.S.E. Bay Area Axis Syllabus Exchange, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021
- Cultivating Potential with Kira Kirsch, Online Course, 2020, 2021, 2022
- 1-Year Residential Study and Internship with Nuria Bowart, Berkeley, CA 2019
- Training with Rotating Teachers, including Kira Kirsch, Nuria Bowart, Frey Faust 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023
- Nomadic College, Luc En Diois, France, 3 weeks, 2019
- Nomadic College, Earth Dance, Plainfield, MA, 3 weeks, 2018
- Pathways To The Axis Syllabus, Nuria Bowart and Daniel Davis (Produced and Hosted By Me) Asheville, NC 2017
- Axis Syllabus with Frey Faust, Moving On Center, San Francisco, CA 2017
- Axis Syllabus Intensive with Daniel Davis, Durham, NC 2017

CONTACT IMPROVISATION

- "PILOBOLLUS Master Class" with Renee Jaworski, Headlong Dance, Philadelphia, PA 2024
- "Esprit De Corps," Artistic Director, Performance-Research Ensemble, Philadelphia, PA 2023-2024
- Ci Workshop with Alicia Greyson, Peaceable Barn, Redding CT 2023
- Biannual Ci Retreats, East Coast Jam, Claymont, WV 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2022, 2023
- Collaborative Research Lab with Zornitsa Stoyanova, Fidget Space, Philadelphia, PA 2021, 2022, 2023
- Ci Workshop with Irene Sposetti, Washington DC 2023
- Ci Mentorship with Nita Little, Online Study, 2023
- Ci Workshop with Nita Little, Durham 2023
- Ci Intensives with Rotating Teachers, Durham Dance Tsunami, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2023
- Ci Workshop with Nita Little (Produced and Hosted By Me), Philadelphia 2022
- Ci Trios Workshop with Alicia Greyson, Gwen Ritchie, Tim O'Donnell 2022
- Ci50 Global Conference, Oberlin, OH 2022
- Relational Intelligence with Nita Little, Online Workshop, 2021
- Ci Retreat, GLACIER, (Great Lakes Area Contact Improv), Wilard, WI 2019
- SkyCamp Ci Workshop with Paul Singh, Fall Creek, OR 2019
- WICCI Jam, Annual West Coast Contact Improv Festival, 2017, 2018, 2019
- Ci Intensive with Aaron Brando, Asheville, NC 2018
- Summer Ci Intensive, Leviathan Dance Studio, Lasqueti Island, British Columbia 2017
- Ci Workshop with KJ Holmes, Durham, NC 2017
- Annual Ci workshops with Alicia Greyson, Asheville, NC and Durham, NC Workshops 2013, 2014, 2016, 2018, 2019
- Ci Workshop with Angie Howser and Chris Akin Durham workshops, 2017, 2019

- Ci Classes at Movement Research, New York City, NY, 2017, 2018
- Ci Workshops with Brad Stoller, Durham, NC 2015, 2016
- Produced, Facilitated and Taught weekly Ci events, Asheville Jam, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018
- Ci Philly Classes and Workshops, Philadelphia, PA 2009, 2010, 2011
- Ci Workshop, Wild Meadows, Schellsburg, PA 2009

TEACHING

- Introduction to Contact Improvisation - 4-Part Series - Sound Space Performing Arts, Philadelphia, PA 2023
- Teacher's Candidate Certification - Axis Syllabus - Frey Faust and Francesca Pedulla 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023
- "Vestibular Journeys" East Cost Jam Claymont, WV 2023
- "Pleasure, Power, Atunement, Emergence" East Coast Jam, Claymont, WV 2022
- "Spinal Articulation in Ci" Ci Philly - Philadelphia, PA 2022
- Ensemble Scores in Ci, Asheville Jam, Asheville, NC 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018
- Proprioception Labs, Asheville School of Contemporary Dance 2018
- Yoga For Children, Rainbow Mountain Community School, Asheville, NC 2014

PERFORMANCES & PRODUCTION WORK

- Aura CuriAtlas Circus Co. - College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, VA 2023
- "ZEPHYR-Dancing With The Elements" A Dance Film, Producer and Soloist, Ithaca, NY and Belmar, NJ 2023
- Performance Ensemble, with choreographer Megan Mazarick, Almanac Circus Festival - Philadelphia Fit-Fest 2023
- Ci Workshop with Nita Little, Producer, Philadelphia, PA 2022
- Ink on Shadow, Performance with Jennifer Jane Hong, Luc En Diois, France 2019
- Pathways to TheAxis Syllabus, Producer, Asheville, NC 2017
- Asheville Fringe Festival, Dancer and Performer, Asheville, NC 2016, 2017
- "Immigrant Clown" and "Sand Worms," Performance Duets with Idelle Packer, LEAF Festival, Black Mountain NC 2014
- Puppet Uprising, Performer, Dancer and Creator, Philadelphia, PA 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010

OTHER MODALITIES

- Acrobatic Handstands, Private Mentoring with Nicole Burgio 2021, 2022, 2023
- Stone Carving Scholarship, The Carving Studio, Rutland, VT 2023
- Improvisational Clowning with Robertt McNeer, Ostuni Italy 2023
- Egyptian Dance Workshop with Hazem Header, Almanac Circus, Philadelphia, PA 2023
- Fighting Monkey Workshop with Linda Kapetanea, Online Course 2021
- Figure Skating Classes and Lessons, Wissahickon Skating Club, Philadelphia, PA 2021, 2022
- Salsa and Bachata, Urban Movement Arts, 2021, 2022
- Kizomba, Afro-Hatian Partner Dance, Urban Movement Arts, 2021, 2022
- Lindy Hop Workshop, Urban Movement Arts, 2022
- House, Breakdance and Raegeton Classes Urban Movement Arts, 2021, 2022
- Aerial Rings, Training with Cirque De Soleil Acrobat Micah Ellinger, Alexander, NC 2020
- Trapeze Rig Construction, Acro Circus Farm, Alexander, NC, 2020
- Butterfly Technique & Total Immersion Swimming, Philadelphia, PA and Berkeley, CA 2012, 2019
- Aerial Silks, Lyra, Parkour, Handstands, Fighting Monkey, Athletic Playground, Berkeley, CA 2017, 2018, 2019
- Noguchi Taiso, Japanese Water Body Movement with Mari Osani, Asheville, NC 2018
- Yoga Teacher Training and Ongoing Vinyasa Classes, Asheville, NC 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018
- Thai Massage Certification, Sean DeClue, Philadelphia, PA 2012
- Modern Dance, Weekly Classes with Myra Bazell, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012
- Vipassana Meditation, 10 and 20-day seminars, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2012, 2015
- Chen Style Thai Chi, New York City 2001-2005