

OUR STORIES

7:30 PM

• MAY 20TH



Liz & Lara - Trapeze

Splits Infinite started when one day in a class Lara looked at Liz and said “you’re small, I could probably throw you around!” and from there they started exploring the world of duo trapeze. They have been training and performing together for over a year and are excited to debut their act.



Kevin Ruddell - Rope

Kevin Ruddell performed Modern Dance in his twenties, then took up aerial in 2013, at the age of 60. For years he had watched his kids taking circus classes and thought it was just for young people. Then he saw someone older than him riding a unicycle and thought he would give aerial a try. It is like dancing in the air!



Valeria Cid Garza - Fabric

Valeria has been with Versatile Arts since 2015, when she started in the youth program coached by Lauren Kehl. Ever since, Valeria’s been filled with joy anytime she comes across a silk and with gratitude towards Lauren for instilling a strong foundational knowledge about form and technique within her. She’s thankful to her friends who’ve come to support her love for fabric!



Monica Yuen - Lyra

Monica took her first aerial silks class back in 2018 (thinking it was an Aerial Yoga class) and absolutely loved it! She didn’t think twice and signed up for her next aerial class before leaving the studio. Her love of aerial eventually led her to try Lyra and Dance Trapeze. This will be Monica’s first aerial performance - an exciting milestone in her aerial journey! Aerial has been one ‘Hellvuaride’ that she doesn’t plan on stopping anytime soon.



Ruin - Dance Trapeze

After a 3-year hiatus due to injury, Ruin found her way back to aerial in August 2020. Despite an at-times paralyzing fear of heights, she is deeply grateful for the lessons aerial teaches her, lessons in self-reliance, and tenacity. The story Ruin presents tonight is dedicated to her dad, Dan: May he find the peace in death that was never accessible to him in life. ❤️



Cheryl Carp - Fabric

Cheryl joined the aerial community last year after a lifetime of following other paths and pursuits. She is grateful for the patient training she has received from Jen and Bev and to have been welcomed into this space. This is her first performance and her piece illustrates the beauty, chaos and confusion, strength, resilience and joy that she finds in life.



Leah Perlmutter - Lyra

Leah started taking aerial classes in 2018 and performed her first aerial act that same year on fabric at Versatile Arts. True to form, she is now performing a lyra act as an almost total beginner at lyra. Leah loves expressing character in the air, tries not to barf after spinning, and doesn’t take herself too seriously on stage. Sound effects obtained from <https://www.zapsplat.com>. Photo by John Cornicello.



Wei - Mini Lyra

Wei (she/they) is excited to debut their mini hoop act, which brings together everything they love about lyra and sling in one package! This act is dedicated to their journey as an Asian American combating cultural stigma in the pursuit of artistic expression. Anyone can be an artist!



Kristiyan Eliev - Fabric

This is a heartfelt aerial silks act, born from Kristiyan’s unwavering dedication to the circus arts over the course of four transformative years. It serves as a poignant expression of his emotional journey, navigating a foreign country with no friends and battling overwhelming anxiety and fear. Through the delicate artistry of silks, he finds solace and release, transcending his struggles with grace and resilience.



Amy Neuburger- Fabric

Amy took her first aerial class 4 years ago and immediately decided she cannot – not be doing aerial! Her apparatus of choice is silks, along with the kitchen-floor for frequent handstands. Other hobbies include tennis, crafting, cats, and ant-keeping. Thank you to her sister Lisa for transporting Amy to gymnastics lessons on her bicycle handlebars in the 70s & 80s. A huge thank you as well to Kim Z for her superb coaching – patient, enthusiastic, and inspirational. Amy’s wonderfully supportive husband Jim needs a shout-out as well!