

Mucirque

*A contemporary piece of art.
An interaction between music and circus.*

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**Music meets circus.
Guitar meets juggling in movement.
And the story begins.**



"I recommend this incredibly talented duo. They have everything it takes for any venue from ace skills to love that shines through what they visually create. Book them now."

- Steve Mills, Inventor of juggling tricks

"The combination with a guitar player fits theatrically very well together"

- De Piste: Monthly organ of the club of circus friends of the Netherlands

General information:

<u>Artists:</u>	Sophia Oltmanns, Juliano Abramovay
<u>Concept:</u>	Sophia Oltmanns
<u>Music:</u>	Juliano Abramovay
<u>Duration:</u>	ca. 8 min
<u>Target Audience:</u>	All age, all audience. Family-friendly. Especially interesting for music and circus audience



Art, as people, comes in all different shapes and colors.

There is music and a man,

a character which is strong and powerful, but he is also soft and sensitive, maybe even a bit shy and introvert.

And then, suddenly, there is circus and a woman.

Curious. A character which needs space. She needs attention.

She doesn't know any boundaries. And she wants it all.

When these two very different characters suddenly meet, they have to find a way to get along, to share the space

– to adapt to each other and each other's needs.

Slowly approaching each other they start merging together until you will wonder if music and circus are really so different or if it is not one of the same kinds after all.

Idea, concept and directing:



Sophia Oltmanns

After four years of studying circus at the circusschool “Codarts” in Rotterdam she created this act as her graduation project.

Her main discipline is (club) juggling, which she combines with her own movement and dance material.

This act is the result of her ongoing fascination with different art forms and the potential she sees in the possible combination and interaction between them.

The artists:



Juliano Abramovay, Sophia Oltmanns

Circus artist, juggler, dancer

Sophia Oltmanns



Finding herself accepted at a circus school one day might have surprised nobody as much as Sophia herself, but in the end, there was only one way for her to react: Challenge accepted!

In the following four years the circus school offered her the chance to not only define her personality and grow into the person she is now, but also to discover her fascination with the possibilities to mix and combine different art forms

and create new languages and material within these combinations. There is so much to discover – and the world is just starting to open up.

Musician, composer, guitar player

Juliano Abramovay



A guitar player, coming from Brazil, studying Turkish music, living in the Netherlands.

This confusing statement might show better than everything else what music means to Juliano – a chance to break boundaries and leave everything normal far behind.

Composing soundtracks for theatre and films he ought himself prepared for the world of a musician in a circus piece – And quickly found

himself in a battlefield of abused instruments and flying objects. In a world of juggling, dance and acrobatics he knows one thing for sure: Boring was yesterday!

Technical Rider

Stage:

Generally speaking the act can be performed inside as well as outside.

Due to the juggling it is impossible to perform the act in a windy environment, so the stage has to be protected from wind, or possible adjustments in the juggling technique might be necessary depending on the weather.

The stage has to have a minimum size of 6x4m, preferably at least 7x5m.

A ceiling height of minimum 5m is required, preferably at least 6m. (This does not include rigging, lamps or other objects hanging from the ceiling – required is a free space of at least 5m.)

Smaller stages are possible to work on, it will require an additional stage check and some adjustments in the act might be necessary.

Dance floor is necessary.

Sound:

As the performance contains live music an amplifier with a D.I. Input is required.

Technician:

One technician responsible for light and music is required.

Lights:

The act can be performed by daylight without artificial lights as well as inside/outside with professional stage lighting.

If performed on a stage with light settings the only strict minimum lighting requirement is that there needs to be at least as much light coming from the sides and overhead positions as from the front or else the performer gets blinded during the juggling routines.

Otherwise, theatrical stage lighting is generally recommended for the best overall presentation.

An optional light plan can be found at the end of the document.

Props:

Five juggling clubs, one stool, one guitar. (All props are being provided by the performers)

Preperation area:

A backstage area and/or dressing room near the stage but not exposed to the audience to change, get ready and warm up is necessary.

General planning:

A sound and light check with the technician is required.

A stage and spacing check of at least 10 minutes – preferably with the set lights – is necessary. (This stage checking is independent from the sound and light check, to

give the juggler the possibility to become familiar with the stage, try out the juggling in the new space with the ceiling height and lights).

Time to relax, eat, warm up before the performance: One hour minimum.

Additional requirements:

Water and some light snacks (fruit, etc.) are provided in the backstage area.

If the act is booked for more than one performance a day a real meal for the artists has to be provided.

This meal has to be provided either after a performance or at least two hours before a performance.

If the act is booked for an event of more than one day accommodation and food has to be provided for the artists.

If food and accommodation can not be provided the extra costs will be additional for the booker.

Light plan

Functions of light:

– Visibility:

As for a juggling act there needs to be at least as much light coming from the sides and overhead positions as from the front or else the performer gets blinded during the juggling routines.

The throws have a max. height of five meters.

– Mood:

The act has a calm and happy energy, the light should be bright and warm, without too much extra added colors. As the costume scheme is yellow, light brown and red the light should not emphasize the same colors too much.

– Distribution:

As you can see in the added drawings of the stage settings the spacing during the act changes from a broad use of the whole space to a centered and limited use quite a lot. These changes should be emphasized by the light, so that the light makes the stage appear smaller when the act is focused on the center of the stage (Stage setting part 1, 3, 5), while lighten up the whole stage when the whole stage is in use (Stage setting part 2, 4).

Additional information:

– Storyline:

- Musician and Juggler enter the stage together
- 2nd Part: Musician plays for juggler: No interaction
- 3rd Part: Juggler discovers musician, interaction starts around musician, interaction escalates, musician leaves, comes back, new interaction
 - 4th Part: “Push and Pull” - Power games between juggler and musician, who does what, who leads?
 - 5th Part: Victory of the juggler, leaves the musician behind on stage.

– Emotions:

- 2nd Part: Soft, happy, introvert, concentrated
- 3rd Part: curiosity, openness, playful, fun – turns into annoyance, disturbance, anger
- 4th Part: Challenge, power games, playful, action – reaction
- 5th Part: Victory, power playful

Timeline:

- Cue1: Stage is black
- Cue2: Slowly starting to light the stage, starting from the center so that the stool gets lit first.

While light goes on Performer enter the stage, starting after the light

Whole stage gets lit.

- Cue3: Part 2 ends in position of juggler hanging with clubs in front of musician → Light changes from lighting the whole stage to lighting only center of stage (Stage setting part 3)
- Cue 4: Part 3 ends with musician pushing juggler off the stool and starting his big guitar solo. During juggler getting up, walking around the chair and picking up 2 clubs → Light changes from lighting only the center of stage to lighting the whole stage again, has to be full lit when juggler falls to floor and musician jumps up (Stage setting part 4)
- Cue 5: Juggler starts stacking 5 clubs on musician → Light slowly changes from lighting the whole stage to only lighting the center
- Cue 6: Juggler takes the guitar, walks out, focus is on musician left on stool, 1-2-3 → Black out.