



The atmospheric new contemporary circus show from Francesca Mari 'Tangle...in the womb of a juggler' explores movement in an abstract dream, freely inspired by the myths and legends of Tonga, femininity and the thousand facets of the juggling discipline. A tribute made by an Italian juggler to a traditional culture which unites women in the immense joy brought by the simple act of throwing objects.

Made through conversation with many different people met whilst traveling throughout Tonga, Tangle is inspired by the game "Hiko" of the Tongan islands. A game in which ball shaped fruits (tui-tui nuts) are thrown into the air in a circular pattern. A dance made only by young women through movement, song and juggling. In combining her own practice with that of Hiko traditions, Francesca aims to highlight femininity and ask what brings women together within and between differing cultures. Tangle is a thoughtful, charming and intimate piece of circus, filled with virtuosity and gorgeous hints of humour.

Offering a chance to experience the rarely seen remarkable art of antipodism (juggling with the feet) fused with dance and theatre, this 45 minutes long show is suitable for every and all ages.

---

45 minutes indoor.  
30 minutes outdoor.  
For audiences of any age.  
Ground Based.  
Contemporary Circus, dance,  
theatre.

Minimum playable stage:  
6m x 5m x 5m height.  
Front on.  
Black dancefloor.  
No rigging points needed.



ph. Stefano Schoda

## Tangle... in the womb of a juggler

**Written, devised, choreographed:** Francesca Mari

**Performed by:** Francesca Mari

**Cultural Advisor:** Losalio Milika Pusiaki

**Outside eye:** Piergiorgio Milano, Katy Yla-Hokkala

**Juggling consultant:** Christopher Patfield

**Collaborator, advisor:** Connie "Paprika" Leaverton

**Lighting Designer:** Franco Campioni

**Sampling:** Massimiliano Gaetani

**Costume:** Lucia Squillari @Larimeloon

**Touring party:** 1 performer (occasionally +family)

**Rider:** 1 dressing room, water, snacks

**House technician required.**

**Lighting Plan and Technical Rider attached.**

If lights pre installed, same day get in, tech rehearsal with technician, show, get out.

**Organizers required to provide:**

**lighting, sound equipment and dancefloor.**

**Indoor and outdoor version available.**

**Access:** The show is movement based with little or no text and therefore does not present any language barriers. No captions or BSL interpretation would be necessary. Audio description of the show possible in collaboration with the theatre. Relaxed Performances and welcome brochures available.

**Wrap around activities:** juggling workshops, Q&A. Film "Hiko in Tonga" by Connie Paprika Leaverton at extra cost.

**Full video available upon request**

**Trailer:**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=11dijfNdiLc>

**Extracts: The seed juggling scene**

<https://youtube.com/watch?v=x8pT7KGqalE>

**Extract from the premiere at Dinamico festival**

<https://youtube.com/watch?v=Y9ESMUKQtos&t=15>

*"The work of Francesca Mari between jester and actress is of great inspiration, in the effort, relaxed and fun, to explore the roots of an ancient art typical of our species wherever it is"*

– Horacio Oscar Czertok- Actor Teatro Nucleo

A special thanks for collaborating to Kati Yla Hokkala, Connie "Paprika" Leaverton, Losalia Milika Pusiaki, Piergiorgio Milano, Franco Campioni and Chris Patfield.

JACKSONS LANE  
MEDITERRANEAN'S  
CREATIVE SPACE

  
Le Cetre Ogilby

TEATRO  
MUTUALITÀ

la maison  
des jonglages



DINAMICO  
FESTIVAL

F.L.C.  
SCUOLA  
DI  
CIRCO



Francesca Mari Juggling is a contemporary circus theatre company founded by Francesca Mari, a juggler and street performer with 10 years international performance experience. She tours her own work alongside performing internationally with a wide range of critically acclaimed circus companies, directors and choreographers. Francesca draws from this experience, working with an extensive variety of physical disciplines and teachers in a range of environments, to make personal and innovative work.

'Tangle' is Francesca Mari's newest solo work and stems from the desire to challenge herself as a juggler and circus maker with ideas closely linked to antipodism, the seldom seen remarkable discipline of juggling with the feet. It relates to her anthropological studies at University and is inspired by the touring life of a female performer and the thousand facets of the juggling discipline. Francesca aims to combine cross-discipline research to create an intimate, thoughtful, refreshing and original piece of circus theatre.

Francesca has worked with Gandini Juggling Company since 2013, performing in "Clowns and queens", "Smashed", "8songs", "Meta", "Smashed 2" and the Olivier Award winning Opera "Akhnaten" ENO production at the London Coliseum. In 2017 she performed at the GOP Varietè theater in "Metropolitan". An experienced street performer, Francesca has worked in the outdoor-arts scene since 2008 performing in numerous street arts festivals internationally. Her one woman street show "Circo at Pois" is still touring.

With Chris Patfield she founded Lanciarte APS. Their show "NON SONO" presented at "Festival due Mondi" di Spoleto and their juggling workshop "The Juggling Body" has been taught around Europe. Francesca collaborates with a wide variety of other companies including Upswing Aerial (UK) for the new production "Seasons", CircusMash (UK), Area 51 (UK), Debòrdement (FR) (project by Nicanor de Elia), Circo In Zir (IT), Arterego (IT), Teatro Nucleo (IT).



Lanciarte APS is a company that work on the Contemporary Circus field, on the production, creation and diffusion of shows and that promote the organization of cultural events.