

Andrea Balcar Dillon

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BIO AND STATS

Andrea is a versatile acrobat and actor known for sculpted strength and seat-shifting performance. Native to San Francisco, she specializes in aerial straps, silks and cyr wheel, and brings over two decades of theater and dance experience to her circus career. Andrea is also a NASM Certified Nutrition and Sports Nutrition Coach and has 17 years of experience designing and managing humanitarian aid initiatives for major international organizations.

Height: 5'8" // Weight: 137 lbs. // Born: 1989 // Citizenship: Dual USA and EU // Languages: English, Spanish, Arabic, int. French

EDUCATION

NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SPORTS MEDICINE, Nutrition Coach and Sports Nutrition Coach double certification Las Vegas, NV, 2025

NEW ENGLAND CENTER FOR CIRCUS ARTS, ProTrack program Brattleboro, VT, Sept 2018 - June 2019

MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE ARABIC SCHOOL (4 university credits), 4.0 GPA Oakland, CA, June - Aug 2015

BROWN UNIVERSITY, B.A. International Relations, 3.90 GPA Providence, RI, 2007 – Dec 2011

PERFORMANCE EXPERIENCE

HATS & HEROES BALL, *ARTZFACTORY ENTERTAINMENT* – solo aerial silks act “Queen of Hearts” Orlando, FL, Oct 2026

MEDITERRANEAN FILM FESTIVAL, *GOLDEN BEE AWARDS* Malta, June 2026

- Aerial harness and cyr wheel for live televised awards ceremony

JAILBIRDS THE SHOW – solo aerial straps, character actor Las Vegas, Feb – April 2026

CIRQUE DU SOLEIL, *CORTEO* International Tour, Nov 2023 – Nov 2025

- Aerial chandelier, cyr wheel, harness, and character acting. International tour including a residency at Royal Albert Hall.
- Completed double certification in Sports Nutrition Coaching through Cirque’s Professional Development Training program

MADISON SQUARE GARDEN SPHERE/DWIGHT KENNEDY MUSIC, *AURA* Las Vegas, NV, Sept – Nov 2023

- Voice and improv actor. Creation and original cast of immersive installation at 20,000-seat venue MSG Sphere.

FROOOGS LAS VEGAS – cyr wheel for major U.S. media outlets Las Vegas, NV, 2023

DAHLIAS ENTERTAINMENT – aerial silks for Kansas City Chiefs Las Vegas, NV, 2023

PAPER PLANE THEATER COMPANY, *HAUNTED* – character actor Las Vegas, NV, 2023

DRAGONE, *TERHAL* Dubai and Saudi Arabia, Dec 2022 – Mar 2023

- Silks, straps, aerial pole, dance. Creation of a custom show for Saudi Arabia’s Ministry of Culture.

CIRQUE DU SOLEIL, *AMERICA’S GOT TALENT LAS VEGAS LIVE!* Las Vegas, NV, Sept 2021 – Nov 2022

- Aerialist, silhouette dancer, showgirl, and magic assistant in AGT-winning acts. Creation and original cast of Season 1.

CIRQUE DU SOLEIL, *9TH SUMMIT OF THE AMERICAS* Los Angeles, CA, June 2022

- Duo synchronized cyr wheel for 38 heads of state including Joe Biden, Kamala Harris, and Justin Trudeau.

CIRQUE DU SOLEIL AT SEA, *SONOR AND VIAGGIO* MSC Meraviglia, October 2019 – March 2020

- Solo aerial silks, duo synchronized aerial silks, harness, wall-walking/vertical dance, modern dance, and character acting.

HBO MAX, *FINDING MAGIC MIKE* – actor in HBO series based on *The Real Magic Mike* Las Vegas, NV, 2021

FUN CORPORATE MAGIC – showgirl and emcee for custom private event at the Crockfords Hotel Las Vegas, NV, 2021

NEW ENGLAND CENTER FOR CIRCUS ARTS, <i>ALUMNI SHOW</i> – aerial silks soloist and headliner in <i>Her Life</i>	Brattleboro, VT, 2021
TITLE NINE APPAREL – fitness model	Las Vegas, NV, 2020
MARLA DELL TALENT – fit model	San Francisco, CA, 2018 – 2020
THE VIVA FEST, <i>BREW REVUE</i> – solo aerial silks in <i>Andromedan</i>	Las Vegas, NV, 2020
CIRCUS CENTER, <i>LEAP!</i> – aerial silks soloist and headliner in <i>El Tango de Roxanne</i>	San Francisco, CA, 2018
CENTRO KULTURAL TRIVENCHI, <i>VARIETE TRIVENCHI</i> – aerial silks	Buenos Aires, Argentina, 2015
CENTRO KULTURAL TRIVENCHI, <i>GALÁCTICA</i> – aerial silks	Buenos Aires, Argentina, 2014
CENTRO KULTURAL TRIVENCHI, <i>AIRE</i> – aerial silks	Buenos Aires, Argentina, 2014
GRANOFF CENTER FOR THE CREATIVE ARTS, <i>LIVER COUNTRY</i> – improv actor	Providence, RI, 2011
NEW WORKS/WORLD TRADITIONS, <i>POSITION/OBSESSION</i>	Providence, RI, 2011
NEW WORKS/WORLD TRADITIONS, <i>LUNA RISE</i> – aerial silks, modern and West African dance	Providence, RI, 2011
NEW WORKS/WORLD TRADITIONS, <i>TOPICAL HEAT</i> – physical theater, modern and West African dance	Providence, RI, 2011
PRODUCTION WORKSHOP, <i>COBRA</i> – improv actor and dancer	Providence, RI, 2011
PRODUCTION WORKSHOP, <i>DOVETAIL</i> – actor and dancer	Providence, RI, 2010
PRODUCTION WORKSHOP, <i>DEEP STORY</i> – actor	Providence, RI, 2009
BROWN UNIVERSITY SHAKESPEARE ON THE GREEN, <i>EDWARD II</i> – actor	Providence, RI, 2008
BROWN UNIVERSITY SHAKESPEARE ON THE GREEN, <i>THE COMEDY OF ERRORS</i> – actor	Providence, RI, 2007
ST. IGNATIUS THEATER DEPARTMENT, <i>FIDDLER ON THE ROOF</i> – actor	San Francisco, CA, 2005
ST. IGNATIUS SPRING FESTIVAL OF DANCE – modern dancer	San Francisco, CA, 2005
ST. IGNATIUS THEATER DEPARTMENT, <i>THE MUSIC MAN</i> – actor	San Francisco, CA, 2004
ST. IGNATIUS SPRING FESTIVAL OF DANCE – jazz dancer	San Francisco, CA, 2004
ST. IGNATIUS WINTER ONE ACT FESTIVAL, WOODY ALLEN’S <i>GOD</i> – actor	San Francisco, CA, 2004
AMERICAN CONSERVATORY THEATER, <i>CLOWN LIFE</i> – actor	San Francisco, CA, 2004
PHILLIPS EXETER ACADEMY THEATER INTENSIVE, SAMUEL BECKETT’S <i>ENDGAME</i> – actor	Exeter, NH, 2004
• Received honors in drama coursework ending in the performance of two one-act plays	
PHILLIPS EXETER ACADEMY THEATER INTENSIVE, <i>HAMLET</i> – actor	Exeter, NH, 2004
AMERICAN CONSERVATORY THEATER, <i>ROMEO AND JULIET</i> – actor	San Francisco, CA, 2003
CENTER STAGE THEATER ARTS, MOZART’S <i>THE MAGIC FLUTE</i> – actor	San Francisco, CA, 2002
CENTER STAGE THEATER ARTS, <i>LEGEND OF PELÉ</i> – actor	San Francisco, CA, 2001
CENTER STAGE THEATER ARTS, <i>THE LION KING</i> – actor	San Francisco, CA, 2000
CENTER STAGE THEATER ARTS, <i>MADAME BUTTERFLY</i> – actor	San Francisco, CA, 1999

PRODUCTION AND DIRECTION EXPERIENCE

BELLAGIO CASINO/SIX FOOT CREATIONS, <i>LAVISH</i> – production assistant for MGM NYE bash	Las Vegas, NV, Dec 2025
FUN CORPORATE MAGIC – show coordinator for custom private event at the Crockfords Hotel	Las Vegas, NV, 2021
NEW WORKS/WORLD TRADITIONS, <i>RHYTHM OF CHANGE FESTIVAL</i> • Producer of international dance festival blending dance, theater, mask work, improvisation, and aerial arts	Providence, RI, 2013
PRODUCTION WORKSHOP, <i>THE REAL INSPECTOR HOUND</i> – lighting designer	Providence, RI, 2007
ST. IGNATIUS WINTER ONE ACT FESTIVAL, GLEN MERZER’S <i>GOING NOWHERE APACE</i> – director	San Francisco, CA, 2007
ST. IGNATIUS WINTER ONE ACT FESTIVAL, RICHARD DRESSER’S <i>THE ROAD TO RUIN</i> – director	San Francisco, CA, 2006
ST. IGNATIUS WINTER ONE ACT FESTIVAL – lighting designer and production assistant	San Francisco, CA, 2005

ADDITIONAL PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

STANFORD UNIVERSITY IMMIGRATION POLICY LAB, RESEARCH PROGRAM MANAGER • Original quantitative research published in journals including <i>Science</i> , <i>Comparative Political Studies</i> , and <i>Political Analysis</i> . • Managed IPL's global refugee research and innovation portfolio, comprising projects that leverage data-driven methods to develop and evaluate new approaches to integrating refugees and asylum seekers into host societies. • Spearheaded the lab's research agenda in the Middle East by forging partnerships with governmental, U.N., and NGO agencies. • Ran the first randomized study of the impact of private co-sponsorship on outcomes for resettled refugees. • Coordinated with multiple U.S. resettlement agencies and foreign governments to launch three randomized controlled trials testing the impact of computer-assisted algorithmic matching on integration outcomes for resettled refugees. • Managed IPL's involvement in a collaborative, cross-agency human-centered design sprint to tackle key inefficiencies in the U.S. refugee resettlement process, including financing mechanisms, ESL instruction, and volunteer management. • Wrote grant proposals and presented research findings to donors, major media outlets, and members of the research community.	Stanford, CA, Dec 2016 – May 2025
STANFORD, YALE, PRINCETON UNIVERSITIES, RESEARCH PROJECT MANAGEMENT CONSULTANT • Managed roll-out and expansion of multi-country randomized controlled trial evaluating social trust in inter-gender interactions.	Stanford, CA, Apr – Dec 2022
MERCY CORPS, HEAD OF OFFICE, KOS • Oversaw emergency refugee response programs on Kos and Leros, incl. shelter, food, cash assistance, and informal education. • Managed Kos program and administrative staff, as well as the cash program's monitoring and evaluation team. • Represented Mercy Corps publicly in interagency meetings and working groups at the local and national levels to rapidly develop collaborative solutions to new emergencies, avoid duplication of services, and share reports on human rights abuses. • Co-developed the first direct cash transfer program for refugees in Greece, which has since become a ubiquitous form of aid. • Managed a shelter for vulnerable refugees, collaborating with partner organizations to establish interagency referral pathways.	Kos, Greece, Jan – Jul 2016
FREELANCE RESEARCH TRANSLATOR AND EDITOR (SPANISH-ENGLISH) • International clients include the UNESCO Regional Chair on Women, Science, and Technology in Latin America; the Latin American Social Sciences Institute; and the Council on International Educational Exchange (CIEE).	Buenos Aires, Argentina, March 2014 - Dec 2015
TALENT BEYOND BOUNDARIES, CONSULTANT • Conducted research on international labor markets and accreditation systems to inform the design of this UNHCR-partnered startup's pilot project. TBB creates new pathways to international employment for refugees.	Washington, D.C., Sept - Dec 2015
UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES, PUBLIC INFORMATION INTERN • Monitored 30 Spanish-language media outlets and reported on political developments impacting regional refugee flows. • Staged film and photo exhibitions in partnership with local artists to raise public awareness of refugee resettlement in Argentina.	Buenos Aires, Argentina, Oct - Dec 2014
FULBRIGHT U.S. STUDENT PROGRAM, FULBRIGHT SCHOLAR, INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS • Awarded a competitive U.S. federal fellowship to create a photographic essay exhibition documenting Arab refugee resettlement in Chile, including original Arabic, Spanish, and English translations of my subject interviews. • My multimedia exhibition was selected for publication in the Library of Santiago, Chile's largest public library.	Santiago, Chile, March 2013 - Dec 2014
BROWN UNIVERSITY MIDDLE EASTERN STUDIES DEPARTMENT, RESEARCH ASSISTANT	Providence, RI, Sept 2010 – June 2011

- Conducted research for Melani Cammett's publications on social welfare distribution by Middle Eastern sectarian organizations.
- IRAQI STUDENT PROJECT, INTERN** **Damascus, Syria, Summer 2010**
- Awarded the Marla Ruzicka International Public Service Fellowship to co-supervise operations and manage volunteers.
 - Designed and taught software and cross-cultural trainings for Iraqi refugees preparing to study at U.S. universities.

- A MOTHER'S WISH FOUNDATION, SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROJECT** **Arenoso, Dominican Republic, 2008**
- Conducted an impact assessment of development interventions and structured representative Community Council Boards in five neighboring towns to formalize feedback mechanisms between the foundation and its beneficiaries.

HONORS AND AWARDS

- OFFICIAL SELECTION, CIRCUS INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL** **2022, 2024**
- Original circus film *Do it for Me* selected for 2024 film festival
 - Original circus film *Andromedan* selected for 2022 film festival
- INDIVIDUAL ARTIST FELLOW, CALIFORNIA ARTS COUNCIL** **2021 - 2022**
- Awarded a competitive state-funded fellowship for the creation of original acrobatic work *Do it for Me*
- GUEST LECTURER, CENTER FOR NONPROFIT LEADERSHIP, UC BERKELEY HAAS SCHOOL OF BUSINESS** **Berkeley, CA, Oct 2016**
- "Communication-Based Advocacy in the Refugee Crisis"
- FULBRIGHT SCHOLAR, FULBRIGHT U.S. STUDENT PROGRAM** **Santiago, Chile, Mar - Dec 2013**
- PRODUCTION WORKSHOP FELLOW, PRODUCTION WORKSHOP GRANT FOR NEW WORKS** **2011**
- Awarded a competitive grant to create original silks act *Position, Obsession*
- DOUBLE FINALIST, BROWN UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH** **Providence, RI, December 2011**
- Barbara Banks Brodsky Prize for Excellence in Real World Writing and David Rome Prize
- WATSON ASSOCIATE, WATSON INSTITUTE FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDIES, BROWN UNIVERSITY** **Providence, RI, May 2011**
- Nominated by faculty to a select community of alumni demonstrating "outstanding talent in the area of international affairs."
- MARLA RUZICKA FELLOW, WATSON INSTITUTE FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDIES, BROWN UNIVERSITY** **Damascus, Syria, 2010**
- Recipient of a single annual award for summer work and study in the field of human rights

WORKSHOPS AND COACHING

- The Artz** – Spinning technique, straps conditioning, aerial silks performance and stage presence **Houston, TX, 2024**
- Private acrobatic coaching** – Aerial silks **San Francisco, CA, 2020 - 2021**
- Lotus Om Pole Dance and Aerial Arts Studio** – Movement therapy and aerial conditioning for Syrian refugees **Kos, Greece, 2016**
- Rhode Island Library Summer Series** – West African and modern dance workshops for youth **Providence, RI, 2011**
- Bidna Capoeira** – Capoeira workshops for Iraqi child refugees **Damascus, Syria, 2009-2010**
- Center Stage** – Teaching assistant and production assistance for youth theater company **San Francisco, CA, 2003**

TRAINING

- Las Vegas, NV** – Aerial Straps (Dima Deyneko), Scene Study (DK Acting Class)
- Montreal, Quebec** – Aerial Silks (Sarah Poole), Cyr Wheel (Eric Deschenes), Aerial Straps (Victor Fomine)
- New England Center for Circus Arts ProTrack (Brattleboro, VT)** – Aerial Silks and Rope (Molly Graves), Cyr Wheel, Tumbling, Trampoline, Partner Acro, Straps, Modern Dance, Ballet, Physical Theater
- Centro Kultural Trivenchi (Buenos Aires, Argentina)** – Aerial Silks
- Casa Bufo (Santiago, Chile)** – Aerial Silks
- Brown University (Providence, RI)** – Aerial Silks, Modern and West African Dance, Contact Improvisation, Theater
- San Francisco Circus Center (San Francisco, CA)** – Aerial Silks, Aerial Rope, Cyr Wheel
- American Conservatory Theater (San Francisco, CA)** – Acting Technique, Physical Theater, Musical Theater, Clowning
- San Francisco Conservatory of Music (San Francisco, CA)** – Voice
- Academy of Ballet (San Francisco, CA)** – Classical Ballet