

Robert Cookson
101-2150 Rue Cartier
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Robert.cookson.iii@gmail.com

Robert Cookson

Artistic Director / Circus Artist / Engineer

Education	Work Experience
2017-2020 <i>Ecole Nationale de Cirque</i> Montreal, QC DEC: Specialist in Circus Arts	2025 <i>Event Manager- We Call It, Scalable Strategic Initiatives • Fever Events Inc.</i>
2012-2016 <i>Georgia Institute of Technology</i> Atlanta, GA <i>BS in Mechanical Engineering</i> <i>Minor: Industrial Design</i> <i>Courses: Thermodynamics, Parametric Product Modeling, Engineering Graphics, Fluid Mechanics, Material Science, Circuits and Electronics, Computer Aided Design, Human Factored Design, Visual Design Thinking, Heat Transfer, System Dynamics, Internal Combustion Engines</i>	2022-2024 <i>Mechanical Design Lead, Custom Projects Manager • CircusConcepts</i>
	2020-2022 <i>Mechanical Designer • Centre de Recherche, Innovation, Transfer en Arts du Cirque (CRITAC)</i>
	2016-2017 <i>Mechanical Designer • Salas O'Brien</i>
	2014 <i>Mechanical Design Co-op • Newcomb and Boyd</i>
Languages	Artistic Direction Experience
English French	2024- Present <i>Collectif Fake Blue- Artist/Co-Creator • Rien d'Inclus• Cyr Wheel, Group Acrobatics, Ground Acrobatics</i>
	2023-Present <i>Mundane Matters- Artist/Co-Director • Non-Sens• Acrobatic dance, Acrobatic Partnering</i>
	2024 <i>Ecole Nationale de Cirque- Artistic Director • Flottant sur les Epaules des Geants</i>
Hobbies	2024-Present <i>La Marche du Crabe- Music Director, Technical Director/Coordinator, Artist • Le Mobile, Le Tout-Petit Cabaret</i>
Music (Violin, Guitar, Mandolin, Voice) Taekwondo (Black Belt) Boy Scouts (Eagle Scout Rank)	2020-Present <i>Collectif Cookson Lachance- Artist/Co-Director • EKLATS• Cyr Wheel, Juggling (Sticks), Acrobatic Dance</i>
	2021-Present <i>Nael Jammal x Bobby Cookson- Assistant Artistic Direction/Artist/Choreographer • Le Bruit du Silence• Cyr Wheel, Juggling (Clubs)</i>

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2021-2022

Collectif ILO (La Quadrature)- Artist/Co-creator • En Echo• Cyr Wheel, Group Acrobatics, Juggling (Cigar Boxes), Music (looping)

Performing Experience

2025-2026

Disney Theatricals- Circus Artist/Curiosity • The Greatest Showman• Cyr Wheel, Group Acrobatics, Banquine, Aerial Straps, Juggling (Passing[rings, hammers], Clubs, Balls)

2021-2025

Les 7 Doigts de La Main- Artist/Researcher • UR360 2021, Cadence 2022, LabO 2022, Foret au Cascades 2024/2025• Cyr Wheel(Ice, Regular, and Water), Aerial Rope, Juggling (Balls, Fire Balls, Sticks), Music (Ukelele, Violin, Guitar, Mandolin), Group Acrobatics, Ground Acrobatics, Acrobatic Dance

2023-2025

Theatre Advienne que Pourra- Artist • Paperplane • Cyr Wheel, Juggling (Cigar boxes, Baseball bats, shirts), Music (Violin, Voice, Guitar)

2023-2025

La Marche du Crabe- Artist • Le Mobile• Aerial Silks, Aerial Square, Group Acrobatics, Music (Ukelele, Guitar, Voice, Xylophone, Violin)

2023-2024

Acting For Climate Montreal- Artist • Branche• Group Acrobatics, Banquine, Ground Acrobatics

2024

Pirate Life Adventures- Artist • FLO• Cyr Wheel(Regular and small), Partner Acrobatics, Juggling(Clubs)

2022-2025

Cirque Du Soleil- Artist • Les Incouchables, Special Events• Cyr Wheel

2021

Cirque Eloize- Artist • De Mille Feux, Celeste• Cyr Wheel

2018-2019

Montreal Complettement Cirque- Artist/Co-Creator • Phenix, Fireside• Cyr Wheel, Group Acrobatics

Coaching Experience

2023-2024

Ecole Nationale de Cirque- Programme de Mentorat • Cyr Wheel

2022-2024

Ecole Nationale de Cirque- Replacement Coaching • Cyr Wheel

2020-2026

Personal Coaching• Cyr Wheel, Juggling, Aerial Rope

2015-2019

Akrosphere• Cyr Wheel, Acrobatics/Acrobatic Research, Aerial Straps, Artistic Counseling

2013-2015

Cirque Freaks• Cyr Wheel

Responsibilities:

Engineering:

- Perform managerial communication as project coordinator
- Work collaboratively with architects and engineers (plumbing, electrical, structural and acoustical) to develop building system design packages
- Coordinate mechanical designs concepts directly with clients for artistic performance needs.
- Coordinate design edits with drafter remotely and electrical engineering team for electronics integration in mechanical systems.
- Supervise manufacturing and production of custom circus apparatus designs.
- Development of technical documents for user instruction.
- Perform construction administration throughout contracting process to ensure design implementation.
- Perform administration/calculation tasks to support research projects in a variety of fields/industries.
- Use AutoCAD, Trane Trace-700, Revit and EnergyGauge Summit to design building systems and subsystems
- Design model prototypes of custom circus apparatus and scenic design elements.

Artistic Creation/Direction:

- Manage show budgets ranging from \$5000 to \$75,000
- Direct a team of 2-26 collaborators/artists
- Coordinate lighting design, choreography, scenography design and sound design
- Develop Production Schedules and Rehearsal Schedules
- Write grants to seek funding for artistic propositions
- Develop Choreography
- Coordinate technical requirements with Venues and performance spaces to adapt show
- Coordinate international touring of a 4-person collective
- Oversee team dynamics and facilitate conflict resolution where necessary.
- Coordinating with other companies to develop collaborative works
- Overseeing social media marketing and marketing roll-out for new shows
- Ensure quality of the artistic works being presented
- Lead rehearsals and provide directorial guidance for artists
- Coordinate with production director to maintain project with total budget of \$150,000

Disciplines Performed:

- Cyr Wheel (Normal, Ice, LED)
- Juggling (Clubs, Balls, Cigar Boxes, Sticks)
- Ground Acrobatics (Acro-danse, Hoop Diving- low level, Acrobatics)
- Group Acrobatics (Swings, Columns (Base/Middle), Banquine, Hand to hand, Cheerleading, Adagio)
- Aerial Rope- medium level
- Aerial Silks- low level
- Aerial Square- low level
- Aerial Strap- low level