



Nathan Price & Isis Clegg Vinell

Nathan and Isis are a duo that performed with some of the biggest circus groups in the world (including Cirque du Soleil). My crush on them started when I first met them in New York - they're crazy talented, sassy and true professionals. They're coming to this year's acro convention and will teach a pre-convention workshop.



Nathan Price

Age: 28. Acro experience: 14 years. Location: London

1. After so many years of acrobatics, what still gets you excited about it?

The feeling when everything just seems to work. Sometimes you go to a training, and all your tricks feel like clockwork, your body feels good, your body does what you want it to do. Those days are exciting. I kind of build my life around creating as many of those days as possible. Whether that be prioritizing sleep, working out, stretching, taking care of my body. Those days are exciting because you're able to creep closer and closer to the tricks you want to do, and that's incredibly validating.

2. You have performed with some of the biggest circus groups, what's your next dream?

I really don't know. I never sat down and said 'I'd really like to do this'. I'm bad at planning. I try and take advantage of the opportunities we find presented to us. And here's the thing, the harder you work and the longer you're around the more opportunities present themselves. Funny that...

3. If you couldn't perform anymore, what other career path will you take?

Lets not even talk about that! It's something that was on my mind when I was dealing with my wrist injury recently. 'What if I could never do this again?'. It's not a nice thing to think about! Honestly, I've been looking at learning to code / program as I'm quite interested in technology. I've really enjoyed running the business that is AcroGrip. From having the idea, to finding a manufacturer, to selling it, and everything else that comes with running a business. I have a lot of interest there, and through that have found I'm quite interested in video editing, marketing and business strategy. So maybe something there? But I don't think about it too much...

4. How was the transition from training and dating to only training?

Long. Rough. Difficult. Don't recommend it. We get on really well now and I consider Isis one of my closest friends. But there was a point where I really, really didn't like her. You have to like acrobatics more than you dislike doing acrobatics with your ex. Lucky for us, we're both in love with acrobatics.

5. What are the challenges of aging a nomadic lifestyle? How you manage to maintain consistency and stability in your relationships (friends, family, romantic)?

The biggest challenge? Figuring out the ideal temperature in whatever shower you find yourself in. You'd think that we as a civilization would have maybe tried to standardize this? Nope. Every single bathroom has a widely different shower nozzle and finding the temperature in-between 'Scolding' and 'Freezing' is a difficult dance.

Most of our friends also share that lifestyle, so they get it. You'll be gone for 1 month to 2 years, and you'll come back and it will be like nothing changed. Every in circus dips in and out and so you're constantly saying hello and goodbye to friends.

Isis Clegg Vinell

Age: 28. Acro experience: 17 years. Location: London



1. After so many years of acrobatics, what still gets you excited about it?

It excites me that for some reason, I'm still able to better myself as an acrobat. I never would have imagined that when I retired from competitive gymnastics, I'd be not only doing some of the same tricks I used to complete, but also learning new ones.

2. You have performed with some of the biggest circus groups, what's your next dream?

To keep going. For as long as possible.

When we were at circus school, I had goals, not really dreams. In my head, if you want something and you work hard enough, you're going to achieve it. The word dream sounds like a fairytale - something that's not a realistic achievement.

My two biggest goals were:

To work with Les 7 Doigts + To do a contract with Cirque du Soleil

I'm pretty damn thrilled to have achieved both of these so far in my career.

3. If you couldn't perform anymore, what other career path will you take?

Ergh, my least favourite question. I hate thinking about it to be honest. I have the best job in the world and the thought of not being able to do it anymore is deeply upsetting.

I'm a huge advocate for animal rights and so dedicating my time to making the vegan movement stronger would definitely be something I'd look at doing.

I'm a huge fan of architecture and interior design too, especially since buying my first property and renovating it. So maybe something along those lines?

4. How was the transition from training and dating to only training?

Horrid. Don't do it.

The trouble is, it's such a natural trap to fall in to. You both have this common passion of acro. You're both athletic and pleasing to look at. It happens.

Nath and I were really great friends before anything romantic happened. And I'm so incredibly pleased to say we are again now. But the road getting back to this place wasn't fun, and we went through a lot of shit along the way.

Love and respect your partner from a distance. And I swear it'll be a deeper love than getting involved romantically.

5. What are the challenges of managing a nomadic lifestyle? How you manage to maintain consistency and stability in your relationships (friends, family, romantic)?

The older I get, the harder this lifestyle gets.

I miss my parents more, I feel like I miss out more on events back home. Its hard to date on the road. And I know that if I settled down, I'd no doubt be able to enjoy these things and be happy and content.

The thing is, I love my life. I gain such a wealth of knowledge and experience from this nomadic lifestyle and get to see the most wonderful places and be treated amazingly all around the globe by people that hardly know me. And form friendships with the most wonderful people who I then get to call friends for the rest of my life. And I'm not ready to give any of that up.