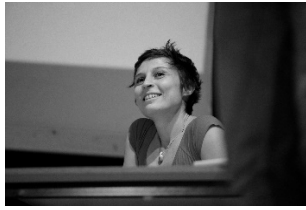


Ilaria Bessone



Address: Via Vigone 118, 10064 Pinerolo (TO) Italy
Tel. +39 3392022881
E-mail: ilaria.bessone@gmail.com
Nationality: Italian
Date of birth: 21-12-1983

Professional experience

Research and Project management

09/2021 – today

Associazione Pirlampo

General coordination, cultural projects development.

03/2014 – today

Associazione Giocolieri & Dintorni – AltroCirco, national program for the development of social circus in Italy

Development of International Relations and Research areas;

trainer for trainers in: Italian Training for Social Circus program; module The Intersectional

Approach to Social Circus; CTF, Caravan's training for trainers program;

researcher and coordination in the EU projects: Circus as Intercultural Encounter, Circus

Overseas, CTF Advanced;

co-organisation of the International Conference Circo Sociale un'Altra Risorsa.

12/2018 – today

Cordata FOR, contemporary circus company

Project development and fund raising

01/2019 – 12/2020

A.P.S. Jaqu  (Orbassano, TO) and Associazione Giocolieri e Dintorni (Civitavecchia, RM)

Coordination and evaluation of the Audience Engagement and community development project Quinta Parete > Circus Community

International cooperation

1/10/2008 – 30/9/2009

O.N.G. ProgettoMondo Mlal (Verona) - Ufficio Nazionale Servizio Civile

Support to planning, training and research in the human rights promotion project "La strada delle bambine", in Rio de Janeiro.

Tutor at University

02/2021 – 07/2021

Università degli Studi di Torino

Tutor for the course Methodology of Social Sciences, prof. Tiziana Nazio (Corso di Laurea in scienze politiche e sociali)

01/2017 – 04/2017

Università degli Studi di Milano

Tutor for the course Sociology of Cultural Processes, prof. Roberta Sassatelli (Corso di Laurea in mediazione linguistica e culturale).

02 – 09/2016

Università degli Studi di Milano

Tutor for the course Sociology of Cultural Processes, prof. Roberta Sassatelli (Corso di Laurea in mediazione linguistica e culturale).

Circus teacher and performer

09/2021 – today

Associazione Pirilampo (San Secondo di Pinerolo/Macello, TO)

Circus, social circus and aerial teacher in classes and workshops for children, youth and adults

09/2012 – 06/2021

A.S.D. Sportica (Pinerolo, TO)

Circus and aerial teacher to groups in classes and workshops for children, youth and adults

09/2017 – 06/2018

La Fucina del Circo (TO)

Handstand teacher (adults)

01/2012 – 06/2015

A.P.S. Jaqule (Orbassano, TO)

Circus, social circus and aerial teacher in classes and workshops for children, youth and adults.

02/2006 – 12/2014

A.S.D. Sportica (Pinerolo), A.P.S. Jaqule (Orbassano), A.S.D. Campacavallo (Milano), A.S.D.

Fumachenduma (Cuneo)

Circus teacher in primary and secondary schools, summer camps, workshops.

Dal 12/1998

Performer in street and theatre shows (acrobat, dancer, juggler)

Festival Sarmede il Paese delle Fiabe (Sarmede, 2016); Arti Sospese (Torre Pellice, TO, 2006-

2008); Brouhaha International Street Festival (Liverpool, GB, 2004); International Street Theatre

Festival (Torino, 2004); Theatropolis (Moncalieri, 2002).

Education

01/2014 – 07/2017

PhD in Sociology and Methodology of Social Research (SOMET)

Institutions: University of Milan, University of Turin. Visiting student at Concordia University, Montreal, Canada, summer 2016

Level: excellent

Key subjects: theories of art and work; embodiment; sociology of the emotions; sociology of risk and trust; subcultural studies; circus studies; qualitative methods.

Thesis: Italian 'Contemporary Circus' in a Neoliberal Scenario: artistic labour, embodied knowledge and responsible selfhood.

09/2010 – 05/2012

Joint European Master programme (Msc) in International Migration and Social Cohesion (MISOCO)

Institutions: University of Amsterdam, University of Deusto, University College Dublin

Level: First Class Honour (final GPA: 3.88/4)

Key subjects: sociological theory, migration and ethnic studies, research methods

Thesis: "Strange encounters" with 'victims of trafficking'. How Italian women employed in the civic sector meet migrant women in order to help them.

01/2006 – 07/2008

Laurea Specialistica (master degree) in Cooperation, Development, Transnational Markets

Institution: Faculty of Political Sciences, University of Turin.

Level: 110/110 cum laude

Key subjects: development studies, gender and poverty.

Dissertation: The capability approach to development and possible empirical applications. The social circus experience in Rio de Janeiro.

09/2002 – 12/2005

Laurea di primo livello (bachelor degree) in Development and Cooperation

Institution: Faculty of Political Sciences, University of Turin. (Erasmus student at Universidade Tecnica de Lisboa, Portugal, 2004-2005).

Level: 110/110

Key subjects: political economics, contemporary history, development theories, international law, sociology of development, statistics, geography.

Other training

Qualitative research methods

4-8 agosto 2014

Qualitative Data Analysis: Methods and Procedures

ECPR Summer School in Methods and Techniques held at the University of Ljubljana

Project development

June 27 – 30, 2018

Training on European project development for culture

Institution: Fondazione Fitzcarraldo, Melting Pro Learning

Online course (4 classes), 2019

European Funding for Sport

Institution: Prodos Academy

Pedagogy, artistic, group management

14-15/10/2023

The field of the group – exploring the collective. First module of the annual course in facilitation.

Institution: La prossima cultura

14/01 – 15/02/2017

Acrobatic Gymnastics Instructor Diploma (Aerial Circus Disciplines) I level

Institution: A.S.C. Attività Sportive Confederate, recognised by CONI

14-18/08/2017

Clown, comical identity of the body, with Andrè Casaca

Institution: Teatro C'art Comic Education onlus

23 – 25/03/2007

Play as a didactic and pedagogical tool in circus projects, with Patrice Jorrey

Institution: Associazione Giocolieri & Dintorni

12- 14/05/2006

Acrobatics in motor abilities evolution and in circus for age 3-14, with Gioacchino Paci

Institution: Associazione Giocolieri & Dintorni

Since 1998

Courses, private lessons, seminars, workshops in floor and aerial acrobatics, hand to hand, juggling, handstands, tight wire, contemporary dance, theatre.

Institutions: A.S.D. Sportica (Pinerolo, TO), Scuola di Circo Flic (Torino), Fundação Progresso e Atua Bota (Rio de Janeiro), Fumbally Court Studio (Dublino), Kukutza (Bilbao), Stichting Stapel (Amsterdam), RA!art (Barcellona), A.P.S Jaquélé, Liberimpulso Danza (Pinerolo, TO), MCF Belfiore Danza (Torino), Scuola di Circo Vertigo (Torino), Progetto Slip (Torino), La Fucina del Circo (Torino), Synergika (Genova), Espace Catastrophe (Bruxelles), La Caserne (Montreal).

Scholarships

Financial support for research thesis abroad 2007, Faculty of Political Science, University of Turin: €1.500

Erasmus Mundus Scholarship (MISOCO Joint European Master programme 2010-2012): €22.000

NASP (Network for the Advancement of Social and Political Studies) PhD Scholarship 2014 – 2016: €40.500

Research projects

Field Research on the impact of social circus on community development in Rio de Janeiro (Crescer e Viver ONG), September - December 2007

Field research on the encounter between migrant women and Italian women employed in Italian organisations against human trafficking, January - April 2012.

Ethnography on the contemporary circus community of practice in Italy, January 2015 – March 2016

Research Coordination team of Circus as Intercultural Encounter (Italy, Belgium, Slovenia, Palestine, Finland), funded by the European Commission, coordinated by Caravan Circus Network

Research team of CTF Advanced – evaluation of Caravan International Circus Network's training for social circus trainers CTF, funded by the European Commission, coordinated by Sorin Sirkus (Finland)

Conferences

Social Circus and Development, a field research experience. La condizione dell'infanzia nei Paesi del Sud del mondo e il circo sociale come metodologia pedagogica di integrazione sociale, 5/01/2012, Siena, Italy

Analysing the effects of social circus. Reflections on the concept of "result". Culture has an impact! Celebration seminar, Effective Circus Project, Centre for Practice as Research in Theatre, University of Tampere, 12-15/12/2013, Tampere, Finland.

The transformative potential of embodiment in circus practice. American Youth Circus Organization (AYCO), Educators Conference, École Nationale de Cirque, 28/08 – 1/09/2014, Montreal, Canada.

Touching 'the other': circus practice and bodily encounters. International Research Seminar Methodologies within the field of cultural encounters, Roskilde University, 13-14/11/2014, Roskilde, Denmark

Circo Sociale e Ricerca: scenari internazionali. Circo Sociale un'Altra Risorsa, 24/03/2015, Firenze, Italy.

Circus practice, alternative or mainstream? An Italian case study. Circus and Its Others International Conference, Concordia University, 15 – 17/07/2016, Montreal, Canada

Circus bodies and cultural spaces. UpSideDown—Circus and Space | Conference, June 28–30 2017, Münster, Germany

Social circus trainings in Italy. Engaging with gender, sexuality and 'cultural encounters'. Circus and Its Others II Conference, 27-29 August 2018, Prague

Italian contemporary circus: risk and creativity in the neoliberal scenario. Seminar at Dipartimento Culture, Politica e Società, Università degli Studi di Torino, 22/02/2018, Torino

Social circus and intercultural society, potentials and challenges of the circus arts for social change. Alliances and Commonalities Conference, 25-27 October 2018, Uniarts, Stockholm

The Quinta Parete Circus Community project. Fresh Circus, international seminar for the development of circus arts, 22-24 October 2019, Auch, France

Circus as an intercultural encounter. Journée d'études Lieux, espaces, territoires, 23 October 2019, Auch, France

Creating and analysing a dossier of artistic and social research on intercultural circus practice. Alliances and Commonalities Conference, 22-24 October 2020, Uniarts, Stockholm

El Circo, un encuentro intercultural mediado por cuerpos y afectos. III Encuentro Nacional De Investigación Sobre El Cuerpo: El Giro Corporal, 21 - 23 April 2021, Universidad de Antioquia (online)

Social Circus Around the World. Circus Pedagogy- The Future of Creative Education, June 15-16, 2022, Tampere University, Finland

Circus pedagogy as a "pedagogy of solidarity"? CTF Advanced: Evaluating Social Circus Training for Trainers. Circus and Its Others IV Conference, 28 February – 3 March 2024, Bogotá, Colombia

Peer reviewer

Journal of Intercultural Studies

Antropologia Pubblica

Publications

Bessone, I. (edited by) (2013). *Circo Verso*. Outlooks in Social Circus for the development of Active Citizenship. Associazione Giocolieri & Dintorni, Quaderni di Juggling Magazine supplemento al n. 59.

Fiorini, T. & Bessone, I. (2014). *Effectiveness Evaluation in Social Circus Projects: A Methodological Proposal*. In Kekäläinen, K. (Ed.) (2014). *Studying Social Circus – Openings and Perspectives*. Conference Proceedings *Culture Has an Impact! Seminar in Tampere, University of Tampere, December 12th – 15th 2013*. Tampere.

Bessone, I. (2017). Social Circus as an Organised Cultural Encounter. Embodied Knowledge, Trust and Creativity at Play. *Journal of Intercultural Studies*, 38(6): 651-664.

Bessone, I. (2018). Contemporary circus careers: labour relations and normative selfhood in the neoliberal scenario. *Performance Matters* 4(1-2): 99-103.

Bessone, I. (2018). La reinvenzione del circo in Italia. Prese di posizione nel campo del «circo contemporaneo». *Rassegna Italiana di Sociologia*, 3: 537-553.

Bessone, I. (edited by) (2018). *Circus in Discomfort Zones. Social circus with refugees and asylum seekers as a tool for social change*. Report of the International Meeting organised by AltroCirco in Siena, April 24-26, 2018.

Bessone, I., Rossomando, A. (2019). Circo sociale e circo ludico-educativo. In: Campo, V., Serena, A. *Conoscere, creare e organizzare circo. Storia, linguaggio, discipline, creazione, diffusione, normativa*. Milano: FrancoAngeli (153-158).

Bessone, I., Bolognesi, G., Rossomando, A. (2021). *Quinta Parete > Circus Community. Fare rete con il circo, percorsi e riflessioni 2019>2020*. Bollettino informativo dell'Ass. Giocolieri e Dintorni, Pubblicazione trimestrale, supplemento al n. 89 Anno XXIII, n. 89, dicembre 2020

Bessone, I. (2021). Circus Training in the Time of Coronavirus. *Performance Research*, 25(8) Training Utopias

Bessone, I. & Mercier, O. (2021). Circus as Intercultural Encounter. *Carnet Hypothèses*

Bessone, I., Mulari, H., Walsh, I.R. (2023) European Youth and Social Circus Pedagogy and the Promotion of Social Well-being. *Welfare e Ergonomia* 1, 2023

Language skills

Italian	Mother tongue
English	Advanced, written and oral (C2)
Portuguese	Advanced, written and oral (C2)
Spanish	Advanced, written and oral (C2)
French	Intermediate, written and oral (B2)