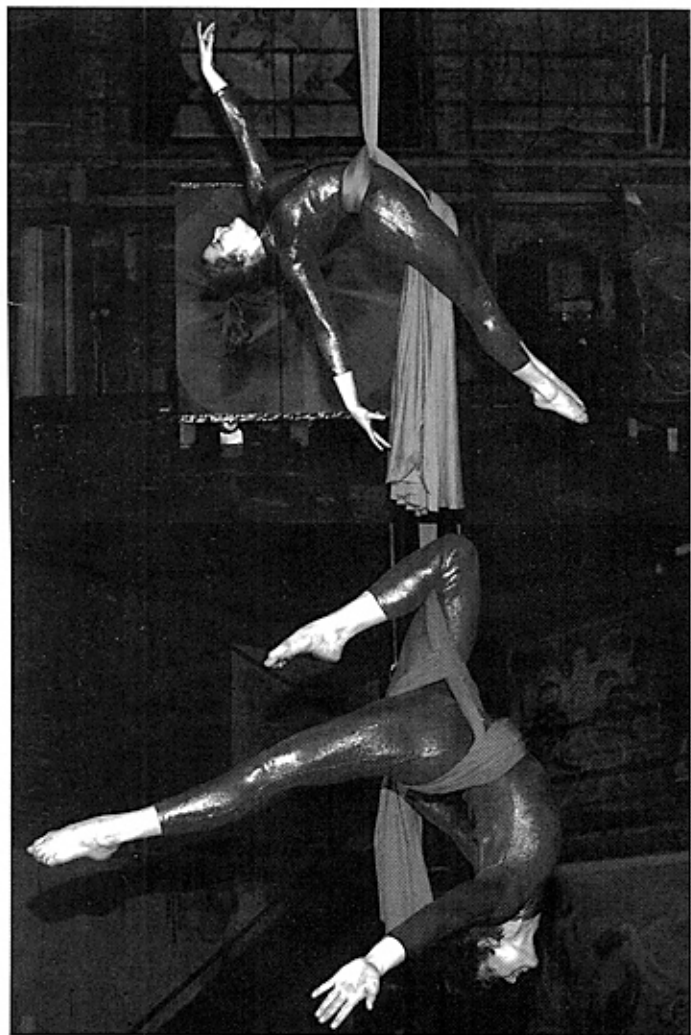


# SPECTACLE

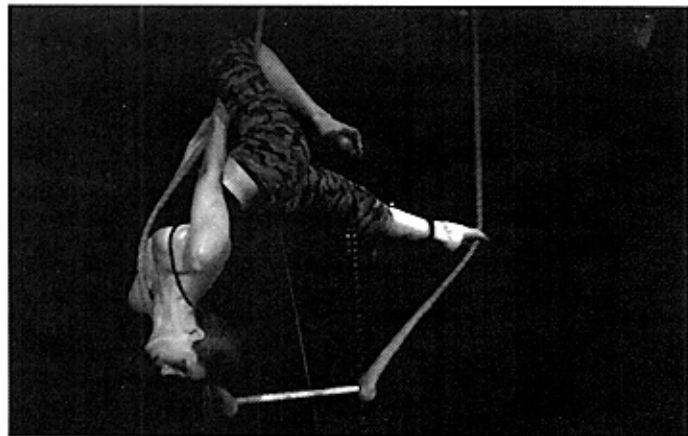
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Above: FIREFLY's Justine Heilner and Cindy Abramson.  
Below: AERIAL CABARET's Jen Charles.  
Right top: AERIAL CABARET's Matt DeCoster and below  
Heiler and Abramson. Photos by Lauren Silberman.



One subway stop from the STREB studios in Williamsburg, Tanya Gagné's students from the Trapeze Loft performed in an aerial cabaret at the Union Pool, a bar with a stage area outback that is trapeze rig friendly. As per usual with Trapeze Loft recitals, the uproarious comedian AKA "the hardest working middle-aged man in show business," Murray Hill was host, singing "When you're drinking, the show looks good to you" and bantering with the trapeze artists as they exited from the stage.

In the show's first piece, Angela Storkman and Kim Villanueva mirrored each other on two trapezes to Madonna's "I Love New York" while female impersonator Lola lip-synced and danced in the background. Carla Cantrelle sang her own political rendition of Cole Porter's "Anything Goes" in a roaring twenties style dress complete with fringes and headdress. Her ability to sing, hang upside down and do the Charleston without getting out of breath is impressive. Susan McDonough performed a charming solo to John Denver's "Annie's Song," while Matt DeCoster, an artist with a lot of character and quirky facial expressions carried off some difficult tricks in star-spangled lycra pants. Jen Charles performed to rap music while contorting her body into gorgeous and difficult shapes (e.g. touching her foot with her head in one knee) in a piece that was smooth and beautifully timed. Cindy Abramson (who usually combines hula-hooping and trapeze) and Justine Heilner partnered up in an exciting doubles routine.

Ms. Saturn entertained the crowd with a hula-hoop routine and later a ten-year-old comedian, Desmond Hawkins, Murray Hill's protégée, had his first taste of being on the stage joking with the crowd about Wisconsin and food. ●

