GABY & HENRY CAMUS DIRECTING DUO

Gaby and Henry have been creating original artistic productions since 1991. Their latest is "Downtown Monti", a contemporary theatrical circus performance for the Swiss Circus Monti. Gaby and Henry developed the complete concept, casted the show and artistic team, and directed the 20-member ensemble during the four-month creation period. They also collaborate often as directors and producers with the Swiss touring venue "Das Zelt" in the programs "Comedy Club" and "Family Circus". They founded, developed and presented over 50 different editions of "Open Stage Eclettico", a creative meeting point for all genres of performing arts in Switzerland. As performers, they have conceived numerous pieces for their own theatrical company "Duo Full House", and have been well received all



over the world in TV shows, festivals and theaters. They are regular satirical performers on Swiss National Radio and Television (SRF) as well.

Their style is an original mix of verbal and visual comedy combined with circus techniques and high-level musicianship. Gaby and Henry live with their two children in the beautiful Italian southern region of Switzerland.

HERE ARE SOME REASONS WHY
GABY AND HENRY CAMUS ARE
THE RIGHT PEOPLE TO DIRECT YOUR
NEW PRODUCTION.

TIME



Time is of the essence – we determine what can be achieved depending on how much time is at our disposal. Henry is a typical New Yorker, and for those who are familiar with the city that never sleeps, New Yorkers are not known for their laid-back and relaxed tempo. Gaby is Swiss and for those who are familiar with that alpine country, the Swiss are born with an innate sense of timing that has made the term "Swiss Precision" world-renowned. Based on whether the show has its premiere tonight or on the 1st of August next year, we plan our creation to get the timing just right.

THE BOSS



We have a great deal of experience working for both performing arts organizations and corporate events. In the arts world, there is typically more creative freedom than in the private corporate "Gala" world, where the client's artistic wishes need to be respected above all. Most projects will have a creative freedom/constraint balance somewhere on the continuum between "blissful solipsism" and "workin' for the man". We feel that with proper discussion and planning, cooperative collaboration between directors and producers is assured.

As much as the Renaissance Man is an archetype to aspire towards, a successful production can only be developed with a well-functioning creative team. An experienced mediator specialized in smoothing out theatrical productions once told us that 99% of team conflicts come from "big egos". We are truly not bragging when we say that we have the absolutely smallest egos in Show Business! We are handson, accessible, disciplined, well-travelled, familiar with diverse cultures and aim for a smooth, creative collaboration among all team members.

GO TEAM!



PLANNING

Our experience has shown that about 70% of the original ideas we had during the planning and visualization stage of a project end up being the right choice. During the creative phase, due to whatever reason - the idea not coming across as well as it should, the trick too hard, the prop not looking as good as we thought it would - another possibility might present itself. Most often it is worth exploring the idea, taking a winding "shortcut" and leaving the chosen path just in case. However, when the project has been well prepared, most often we find ourselves going back to the original idea. Hence the need for thorough in-depth initial planning.

EXACTLY 71.3%

OF ALL STATISTICS

ARE MADE UP ON THE SPOT.

- Steven Wright



THEATRICAL CIRCUS – TRADITIONAL OR CONTEMPORARY?

One definition of contemporary art is plain and simple - art that is produced in the present period of time - obviously a very broad definition. Observing the circus world over many years, it seems that there is a decline in the popularity of traditional circus coinciding with the public's desire for innovation in the genre. Traditional circus structures have been struggling due to ever-stringent laws restricting the use of animals, and an inflexibility and resistance to change. Thankfully there are exciting new trends rejuvenating the scene.

However, it does seem that some contemporary productions include an underlying current of "if the public doesn't understand it, it must be art". We believe that art and entertainment are not mutually exclusive and prefer an accessible and comprehensible style. Our goal is to elate, thrill, provoke thought and inflection, and above all to entertain the public. We have been influenced by diverse theatrical styles such as commedia dell'arte, vaudeville, stand-up comedy, busking and street performances, carnivals, the opera, ballet, indigenous dance, gran guignol, music-halls, Punch and Judy, slapstick, Broadway style musical theater, improv theater sports, and sketch comedy. Our eclectic list of inspirations and appreciated styles is long and ever extending.



WE UNDERSTAND BUDGETS, COSTS AND PRODUCTION ASPECTS.



BUDGET -THE BUCK STOPS WHERE?

We have successfully run our own theater company for many years and understand what it means to develop and follow a budget. We have created projects on a shoestring as well as been involved in well-endowed productions where we could splurge on those little details that give the show that extra "Je ne sais quoi".

GIFT OF THE GAB



"WITHOUT CULTURE, AND THE RELATIVE FREEDOM IT IMPLIES, SOCIETY, EVEN WHEN PERFECT, IS BUT A JUNGLE. THIS IS WHY ANY AUTHENTIC CREATION IS A GIFT TO THE FUTURE."

- Albert Camus

We completely agree with Irving Berlin when he said "There's no business like show business." So, on that note, we wish you Break a Leg, Toi Toi Toi, Hals- und Beinbruch, Merde, In Boca Lupo, and the best of luck with all future productions!

CONTACT

A director's main role is to explain ideas and concepts using action, speech, sound, and visual aids. With today's global economic workforce coming from just about everywhere, linguistic flexibility is a must. We are great communicators and are used to a multilingual society (our home base Switzerland has four official languages and English is also widely spoken). We are fluent in four languages and speak another two and a half passably. Our children have been growing up tri-lingual, and we are comfortable and used to making ourselves understood in whatever language necessary.

CONCLUSION – THAT'S ALL FOLKS!

"THAT'S WHAT SHOW BUSINESS IS, SINCERE INSINCERITY."

- Benny Hill



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