

TOM GREDER / OSKAR

2008 / 2009

Theatre, circus & street performance

INDEX:	PAGE:
Performance Introduction	1
Performance Routines	2-3
Performance Awards	4
Press Quotes	4
Tom Greder Formation	4
Performance History	5-6
Performance Companies	7
Additional Information	7

Photo: C. Raguzzi



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Performance Introduction

Tom Greder is an itinerant artist focused on object manipulation and contextual physical comedy. Born in Switzerland, his style draws heavily on European street performing, circus and theatre traditions. Currently based in Europe, he returns regularly to Australia to perform, direct and teach.

Trained as a circus artist and contemporary clown at The Circus Space and Ecole Philippe Gaulier, London, he has independently produced solo circus, theatre, cabaret and street theatre performances as well as collaborated with national and international circus, theatre, dance and film companies.

He has also produced and toured five full-length award winning productions and numerous circus, cabaret and street theatre routines nationally and internationally since 1988.

As a solo performer or working together with others, Tom Greder writes for, contributes to and performs for contemporary circus, theatre and street productions, festivals, films, corporate events, workshops, team-building and promotional projects throughout the world.

As a director and teacher, he has established himself internationally for his innovative approach to creativity and physical comedy. He collaborates regularly with legendary performers and teachers Jango Edwards and Carlo Colombaioni and is a core teacher at the annual Cannes Festival of Actors in France.

Over the past 20 years he has spent half of his time in Europe, half in Australia...and half somewhere between the two. He performs in English, French, German, Swiss-German and non-language specific.

Performance Routines

"ALL ABOARD !"



"Everybody has the fantasy of being on that train which whistles in the night".

An interactive parable turning reality into fantasy and blurring the boundaries between observer and performer.

Transporting the public from passive viewer into dynamic accomplice, Oskar presents a voyage into the great unknown. Follow a toy locomotive as it travels through sublime worlds created on stage and finally journeys its way through the whole audience.

This skilled and delightfully profound parody of the human condition explores the whole wide circle of life and death, wisdom and ignorance, laughter and tears.

"Utterly hilarious, sweet and never failing to impress, Greder's show is as close to perfect as I've seen in quite some time" *Australian Stage 2007*

Best suited for theatre, street or cabaret.

Duration: 70 minute theatre production, 20 minutes or 45 minutes

Languages: Non specific language based

"A DAY AT THE THEATRE"



A totally interactive show redefining the notion of theatre. The audience is guided through a series of their own routines which are then orchestrated as a finale. A show that turns reality into fantasy and blows apart the wall between performer and observer.

"A poignant and hilarious parody of the human condition"
La Liberal de L'est, France

Best suited for stage, cabaret or circus

Duration: 20 to 45 minutes

Languages: English, French, German, Swiss-German

"STREET"



A multi-skilled, interactive and highly refined street comedy show where great skills are just an excuse to get to the comic heart of the matter. A classically styled, uniquely interpreted circle show combining juggling, improvisation, live music and audience interaction.

"His manipulation of the diabolo was breathtaking & his juggling to a jazz piece inspired" *Theatre Australiasia*

Best suited for street or festival performances

Duration: 20 to 45 minutes

Languages: English, French, German, Swiss-German, silent

"ADAM HAD'EM"



A highly skilled, profound and humorous comment on the human condition, set where it all began, in the garden of Eden. Adam's struggle with temptation, will against counter-will, despair and joy are brought to life...and a fascination with an apple becomes a one ball contact juggling routine of the highest quality.

"Physical control and poignant comedy" Theatre Australasia

Best suited for cabaret, circus or stage

Duration: 30 minutes, 45 minutes or full length theatre production

Languages: English, French, German, Swiss-German, silent

"A NIGHT AT THE CABARET"



Classic sketches developed over 17 years working in circus and on the cabaret circuits of Australia, Asia and Europe.

From high skills artistic or interactive comedy to poetic clown pieces, Oskar presents a range of routines suitable for any venue, anywhere.

"Mesmerising" Modern Movement, Australia

Best suited for cabaret, variety, circus or stage

Duration: 5 to 60 minutes

Languages: English, French, German, Swiss-German, silent

"OSKAR & STRUDEL"



The dexterity and sublime comedy of Oskar meets the musical virtuosity and irresistible charm of Strudel. Together, they entice their audience to a delightful and profound world rich with physical skills, live music, improvisation and humour laced with the paradoxes of the human condition. Developed over 15 years in 21 countries and in five languages, this prize winning comedy show has it all.

"Deeply Funny" Time Off, Australia

Best suited for cabaret, circus, stage or corporate

Duration: 5 to 60 minutes

Languages: English, French, German, Swiss-German, silent

Performance Awards

- ▣ **1st Peoples Choice Prize: Gent Festival, Belgium**
- ▣ **1st Peoples Choice Prize (three times winner): Feldkirch Gaukler Festival, Austria.**
- ▣ **1st Prize & Peoples Choice Prize: Vevey Festival des Artistes de Rue, Switzerland**
- ▣ **1st Prize: Swiss Casino Comedy Awards Locarno, Switzerland**
- ▣ **1st Prize & Judges Commendation: Sierre Street Theatre Festival, Switzerland.**
- ▣ **1st Prize: Brisbane Biennial Festival, Australia**

Press Quotes

“Utterly hilarious, sweet and never failing to impress, Greder’s show is as close to perfect as I’ve seen in quite some time” Australian Stage, Australia

“All Aboard can not be described well enough to capture its genius. It is simply a play that must be seen to be believed”. Lauren Anderson, Arts Hub

“Surreal, baffling, childlike and utterly enchanting. Just as Tom Greder used no words to communicate this most joyous experience, so I have no words to convey the glory of it all”. Alison Cotes, Stagediary, Australia

“Deeply Funny” Time Off, Australia

“Mesmerising” Modern Movement, Australia

“Physical control and poignant comedy” Theatre Australasia

“Brave, toughing and thoroughly amusing” The Scene, Australia

“A poignant and hilarious parody of the human condition” La Liberal de L’est, France

“Sublimely comic. Strong images of a world beyond the merely visual”
South China Morning Post, Hong Kong

Tom Greder: Formation

- 1998** **Stephan Teuwissen, ‘Slapstick’, Switzerland**
- 1997** **Justus Neuman, four week private clown tuition, Australia**
- 1995** **Alex Pinder, ‘The Clown and Mask’, Australia**
Anna Yen, ‘Freeing The Body’, Australia
Russel Dykstra, ‘Movement for Actors’, Australia
- 1994** **Angela De Castro, ‘The Clown’, Australia**
Daniel Stein, ‘Movement for Actors and Corporeal Mimes’, Hong Kong
Tang Shu Wing, ‘The Clown’, Hong Kong
- 1993** **Philippe Gaulier, ‘The Clown’, Ecole Philippe Gaulier, London**
Sean Gandini, ‘Juggling and Movement’, London
The Circus Space, Four month circus skills intensive, London
Company Philippe Genty, ‘Movement and Complicity’, London
- 1988** **Bachelor of Human Movement Studies (Ed.), Uni. of Queensland, Australia**

AUSTRALIA



Metro Arts, Sue Benner Theatre Brisbane 2007, 1995
West Australian Circus Festival 2008
Australian National Circus Festival 1997 to 2002
Tasmanian Circus Festival 1994 to 2003
Adelaide Fringe Festival 2004, 2002, 1993
Melbourne and Brisbane Fringe Festivals
Brisbane Biennial Festival
Woodford Folk Festival 2007, 2005, 1998, 1997, 1995
Port Fairy Folk Festival 2000, 1999
Fremantle Buskers Festival 2005, 2000

AUSTRIA

Linz Street Theatre Festival 2004, 1996 to 2001
Feldkirch Gaukler Festival 2001 to 1996
Le Grande Spectacles theatre festival, Salzburg 2005
Villach Festival 2004, 2001 to 1996
Salzburg Festival 2005

BELGIUM

Gent Festival
Chassepierre Festival 2006, 2003
Fete Romanes, Brussels 2007
Fete de Fleur 2007
International Street Theatre Festival, Balen 2006
Humorology 2005, 2002
Rue du Bocage Herve 2004, 2002, 2001
Zommer Festival 2002
Z'Arts Up Festival
Espaces Speculoos Brussels 2006, 2005, 2004, 2003

CROATIA

Festival of New Circus, Zagreb 2006

CZECH REPUBLIC

International Theatre Festival Brno 2005, 2004

FINLAND

Jyväskylä Arts Festival 2005
Tampere International Theatre Festival 2003

FRANCE

Theatre de Clermont L'Herault 2008
Festival Mondial des Theatres de Marionnettes, Charleville-Mezieres 2006
Performance d'Acteur Festival, Cannes 2006
Grenoble Festival de Theatre European, 2003
Fest Arts Festival International des Arts de la Rue, Libourne 2003
Festival Rues et Cies Epinal
Lez'Arts Festival Marcoles 2005
Nezenbulles 2005

GERMANY

Kleines Fest im Grossen Garten, Hannover, Bad Pyrmont & Ludwigslust 2007
Schwerte Festival of World Theatre 2006 La Strada Bremen 2005, 2000
Schmits Tivoli Theatre 2000
La Strada Hamburg 2000
Koblenz Gaukler Festival 2005

HOLLAND



Oerol Festival Terschelling 2001, 2000, 1996
Boulevard Theatre Festival 2004, 2002, 2001
Overijssel Op Straat 2004, 2002
Karavaan Festival 2005, 2003, 2002
Artimond Festival
Lowlands Festival
Breda Festival
Straatfestival uit Vlissingen 2005, 2003
Amersfoorts Theatre Terras
Reuringsfestival Purmerend
Festpiet Udenhout

HONG KONG	Hong Kong Fringe Festival Hong Kong International Arts Festival
ITALY	Pennabilli Artisti In Piazza 2005
LUXEMBURG	Esch International Theatre Festival 2005, 2002
NEW ZEALAND	World Buskers Festival, Christchurch
NORWAY	50th Vinterstuka Narvick 2006
POLAND	Buskerbus Festival 1999 to 2001 International Theatre Festival, Katowicze Miedzynarodowy Theatre Festival, Szczecin 2003, 2002
PORTUGAL	Lisbon International Comedy Festival 2003 Frestas Festival, Porto 2000, 2001 Festival Internacional de Teatro Cómico da Maia, Porto 2006 Teatroesfera, Queluz 2005 Festival Internacional de Teatro ACERT 2002
ROMANIA	Sibiu International Theatre Festival 2005
SCOTLAND	Edinburgh Fringe Festival 2004
SLOVENIA	Festival Ana Desetnica 2001, 2000 Festival Lent 2001, 2000
SPAIN	International Puppetry Festival of Lleida 2007 International Puppetry Festival of Sevilla 2007 Titirimundi Puppetry Festival, Segovia 2006, 2002 International Festival of Puppetry & Marionettes, Zamora 2006, 2002 Festival Internacional de Clown, La Sala el Montacargas, Madrid 2006 Festival Arts Escèniques Poblenou, Barcelona 2006 Festival de Tardor, Escena Poblenou, Barcelona 2006 La Nave de Cambaleo, Aranjuez 2006 Festiclown, Santiago de Compostela 2005 Fira Tarrega Festival 2003 Aste Nagusia Bilbao 2003 Festiclown Santiago De Compostella 2005
SWEDEN	Stockholm Water Festival 2000, 1999 Malmo Festival
SWITZERLAND	Schlachthaus Theater 'Das Kleine Nacht Variete' 2007 Buskers Bern 2006 Vevey Festival des Artists de Rue 1999 to 2001 Swiss Expo.02 Swiss Comedy Awards Locarno Sierre Grand Prix de Spektacle de Rue Montreux Comedy Festival Montreux Jazz Festival Zurich Theatre Spektakel Neuchatel Buskers Festival 2005, 1999 to 2001 La Plage des Six Pompes Festival 2004, 2000 to 2002 Lausanne Festival de la Cite Fete du Peuple Jurassien 2007, 2005, 2001 to 2003 Buskers Bern 2006
ENGLAND & UK	Edinburgh Fringe Festival Manchester Commonwealth Games Festival Glastonbury Festival Cardiff Festival Jersey Festival of the Arts



Performance Companies

- **“Oskar & Strudel”**: Internationally acclaimed comedy duo that have toured the world for 8 years with their prize-winning performances.
- **“Tony’s Imaginary Circus”, Australia**: founding member, co-writer, co-director, performer and musician.
- **“The Tiny Top”**: Cabaret tent. Performances of “All Aboard” for the 2002 & 2004 Adelaide Fringe Festival, 2004 Edinburgh Fringe Festival, the 2003 Tasmanian Circus Festival and the 2002 Australian National Circus Festival.
- **“The Miscellaneous Gentlemen’s Marching Band”, Australia**: Roving clown band.
- **“Tasdance Contemporary Dance Company”**: **‘TEASE’ production**: Circus & contemporary dance with ‘Tony’s Imaginary Circus’ and ‘Tasdance’: Co-writer, director, performer and musician.
- **“Queensland Performing Arts Trust”, Australia ‘Dragon Dreams’** production: Actor and musician in this touring production for intellectually and physically challenged children.
- **“Queensland Theatre Company”, Australia**: Support actor in ‘Peter Pan’ production.
- **“Theatre Resolu”, Hong Kong**: Support actor in ‘Days of the Commune’ by Bertold Brecht.

Additional Information

For additional information and resources on Tom Greder’s work as performing artist, workshop facilitator, dramaturg and director, including the following PDF files, please visit his website:

- PDF: T. Greder WORKSHOPS
- PDF: T. Greder CORPORATE
- PDF: T. Greder SCHOOLS
- PDF: T. Greder TOTAL



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