

TOM GREDER / OSKAR

2011

Theatre, circus & street performance

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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 Australasia*

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 Artists 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

Performance History *Highlights of booked work include:*

AUSTRALIA



Metro Arts, Sue Benner Theatre Brisbane
West Australian Circus Festival
Australian National Circus Festival
Tasmanian Circus Festival
Adelaide Fringe Festival
Melbourne and Brisbane Fringe Festivals
Brisbane Biennial Festival
Woodford Folk Festival
Port Fairy Folk Festival

AUSTRIA

Fremantle Buskers Festival
Linz Street Theatre Festival
Feldkirch Gaukler Festival
Le Grande Spectacles theatre festival, Salzburg
Villach Festival

BELGIUM

Gent Festival
Chassepierre Festival
Fete Romanes, Brussels
Fete de Fleur
International Street Theatre Festival, Balen
Humorology
Rue du Bocage Herve
Zommer Festival
Z'Arts Up Festival

CROATIA

Espaces Speculoos Brussels
Festival of New Circus, Zagreb

CZECH REPUBLIC

International Theatre Festival Brno

FINLAND

Jyväskylä Arts Festival
Tampere International Theatre Festival

FRANCE

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

GERMANY

Kleines Fest im Grossen Garten
Schwerte Festival of World Theatre
La Strada Bremen
Schmits Tivoli Theatre
La Strada Hamburg

HOLLAND



Koblenz Gaukler Festival
Oerol Festival Terschelling
Boulevard Theatre Festival
Overijssel Op Straat
Karavaan Festival
Artimond Festival
Lowlands Festival
Breda Festival
Straatfestival uit Vlissingen
Amersfoorts Theatre Terras
Reuringsfestival Purmerend
Festpiet Udenhout

HONG KONG

Hong Kong Fringe Festival
Hong Kong International Arts Festival

ITALY

Pennabilli Artisti In Piazza

JAPAN	Iida Puppetry Festival
SOUTH KOREA	Chuncheon Puppet Festival
	Suwon Hwaseong Fortress Theatre Festival
LUXEMBURG	Esch International Theatre Festival
NEW ZEALAND	World Buskers Festival, Christchurch
NORWAY	Porsgrunn International Theatre Festival
	50th Vinterstuka Narvick
POLAND	Buskerbus Festival
	International Theatre Festival, Katowicze
	Miedzynarodowy Theatre Festival
PORTUGAL	Lisbon International Comedy Festival
	Frestas Festival, Porto
	Festival Internacional de Teatro Cómico da Maia, Teatrosfera, Queluz
	Festival Internacional de Teatro ACERT
ROMANIA	Sibiu International Theatre Festival
RUSSIA	Arkhangelsk Theatre Festival
SCOTLAND	Edinburgh Fringe Festival
SLOVENIA	Festival Ana Desetnica
	Festival Lent
SPAIN	International Puppetry Festival of Lleida
	International Puppetry Festival of Sevilla
	Festival Internacional de Teatre de Teresetes
	Titirimundi Puppetry Festival, Segovia
	International Festival of Puppetry & Marionettes, Zamora
	Festival Internacional de Clown, La Sala el Montacargas, Madrid
	Festival Arts Escèniques Poblenou, Barcelona
	Festival de Tardor, Escena Poblenou, Barcelona
	La Nave de Cambaleo, Aranjuez
	Festiclown, Santiago de Compostela
	Fira Tarrega Festival
	Aste Nagusia Bilbao
	Festiclown Santiago De Compostella
SWEDEN	Stockholm Water Festival
	Malmo Festival
SWITZERLAND	Schlachthaus Theater
	Buskers Bern
	Vevey Festival des Artists de Rue
	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
	La Plage des Six Pompes Festival
	Lausanne Festival de la Cite
	Fete du Peuple Jurassien
	Buskers Bern
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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