

# THE MARVELOUS ESCAPE

## THE HOMMES PAPILLONS COMPANY

Since 1997 the heart of the Hommes Papillons has been beating for the contemporary creation (theatre, mime, musical shows) and original theatre plays.

### Argument

A little convict escapes out of his prison entering an unconventional world where the objects awake to life and where he gets completely transformed despite himself.

Interdisciplinary show mixing **mime, burlesque, acrobatics, dance, magic** et winks to the great figure of **Charlot** underlined by the captivating music of Aube L., *La Merveilleuse Évasion* is a tribute to the power of imagination.

### Genesis

The show has been created within an image education project dedicated to the burlesque films and to Charlie initiated by the Maison des jeunes et de la culture de Nogent-sur-Marne (France).

From January to April 2011 nearly thousand 3 to 12 year old children have been attending the first indoor performances of *La Merveilleuse Évasion/The Marvellous Escape*.

The show has then been adapted in order to be played outdoor for a public without age limit in the course of festivals: Vive l'Art Rue ! 2011 and 2012 (Nogent-sur-Marne, Créteil, Limeil-Brévannes), Cour et jardin in Champigny-sur-Marne and Autour du court as well as Pierrelatte during a fair.

## **Intention**

In a row of poetic and burlesque metamorphosis a little convict escapes from his prison thank to a groundless bed that allows him to let appear costumes and accessories.

His imagination transforms him in turn as a beach attendant 1920, a boxer, a monkey, a tightrope walker, a caterpillar or even a ballerina !

*La Merveilleuse Évasion/The Marvellous Escape* has been built like a burlesque short film with its intrinsic logic. In his reference work « Le Burlesque ou la morale de la tarte à la crème », Petr Kràl shows how the burlesque replaces the story with a "free row of jokes". This way, the little convict comes in reaction with the world and the objects that surround him. His clumsiness and his roughly treated pride bring him always elsewhere in an unexpected way.

His metamorphosis et his clumsiness are choregraphic and remind of mute film stars with regard to their agility et their dynamics : Chaplin at the top, but also Buster Keaton or Harold Llyod.

Between dream and realty, between sadness and joy, the little convict and his public are induced to understand that it is not the realty that counts but it turns out to be through the imagination according to Charlie Chaplin's own words.

## **PRESS**

A remarkably interpreted mute show by Stéphane Botti.  
Le Dauphiné Libéré

Stéphane Botti has set up a performance worthy of Charlie Chaplin's mute films.

## Stéphane Botti

Stéphane Botti studies performing arts at Paris-VIII University (Maîtrises des arts du spectacle, with honours) as well as in Florent school, the C.N.A.C (workshop « Magie Nouvelle »), and at the international mime school of Belleville.

Since 1997, he regularly collaborates régulièrement with the « Compagnie des Hommes Papillons » for which he directs a dozen plays, written by his brother, sometimes cowriting : « Couples », « Lit et autres possibilités », « Un coeur sauvage », « Doubles ou l'incroyable histoire de Robert et Louis les frères siamois ». Since 2011, he plays his mime show : « La Merveilleuse Évasion » (« The Marvellous Escape ») for the same company.

He collaborates as well to the creation of Melle Piccolo's clown performances.

For his theatrical activities, he received the Foundation Charles Oulmont Price in 2002 under the authority of the Fondation de France and, in 2009, his play « Distorsions » obtains the Prix de l'Office Franco-Québécois de la Jeunesse as part of the "Grand Prix du théâtre".

In 2003, he received the best actor price in Belo Horizonte festival for his work in « The Man Without a Head » from Juan Solanas (best short at Cannes festival).

Stéphane trained in parallel to screenwriting and directing for the screen

In 2004, he directs his first short film, « Plutôt d'accord » (Special Jury prize and public's choice prize at the Turin Festival, public's choice prize at Bruxelles, in 'Vues-sur-courts' in Grenoble and in Verzauber, Germany) Two short films followed : « Un peu de soleil dans les yeux » and « Mon prince charmant est un peu con ! »

You can discover his universe here : [www.stephanebotti.com](http://www.stephanebotti.com)

## AUBE L

when she was a child., she has learnt the violin during some years in the C.N.R.R of Nice (France). When she stopped playing it (13 years old), she quit everything. And she is more particularly interested in the writing. She begins studies in Art Communication Language in Nice and she learns the video creation and the sound design. Some years after, when she buy a guitar, it is like a revelation.

At the same time, she learns about the M.A.O and begins very fast to develop a film universe in which get involved the electronics, the guitar and the bass. A universe which drives her almost naturally to get closer to the cinema and to the theater.

She collaborates with artists of the image, directors and documentary makers, as well

as with actors of the live performance, quite particularly Christophe and Stéphane Botti. They ask her composing the music of their Rock opera, " G, our differences move closer to us ". She works with singers for this Rock opera and she approach another way of composing, more scenic. And as nothing arrives accidentally, this collaboration brings her to discover her instinct for the singing.

Her voice will carry her universe in the sensitive and the closer way... As far as her texts, mainly in English, evoke life, death, hope, pain... Always between the faith and the despair.

Of album in album (*Winters 06/07, Faith, Life and Souls to the wind, Earth of Exile, I am and Stars in your scars*), she will develop a universe marked by her humanity... " It is good question of journey here. But also of emotion in the pure state. Something which seizes you, who pierces you the heart throughout and who would make you take out the soul of the body. " (My car is full of plums)

And with her " moving, intense and disturbing voice, she evokes various groups as Radiohead, Sigur ros or still Bjork. " (Nouvelle Vague)

From scene to scene, she try several types of formation but at the end, she prefers to play alone. In acoustic show or transformed into "Woman-orchestra", to see her on stage is an intimate, powerful and surprising experience.

You can discover her universe here : <http://www.deezer.com/fr/music/aube-l>

## **TECHNICAL FILE**

The show is played indoor or outdoor, in front or in half circle.  
For the performances as street theatre a scenic background is necessary.

**Public** : Anybody, starting from 3 years old onwards, for street performance or in a theatre.

**Staf** : a mime and a player-singer woman

**Duration** : 40 min/set – For 2 sets, we need one hour between the sets.

**Jauge** : until 500 people.

**Minimum scenic space** : 6 meters opening and 3 meters depth on flat space.

**Public dispatching** : half circle or in front.

Set (bed) against a wall in the back scene.

**IF THERE IS NO WALL IN THE BACK**, two screens in the back scene.

Technical file and estimate on request.