

Friday, November 26, 2010, 2pm
Saturday, November 27, 2010, 2pm & 8pm
Sunday, November 28, 2010, 3pm
Zellerbach Hall

Mummenschanz



Pia Zavanetti

Artistic Directors

Floriana Frassetto & Bernie Schürch

Performers

Floriana Frassetto
Bernie Schürch
Raffaella Mattioli
Pietro Montandon

Technical Director & Lighting Designer Jan Maria Lukas

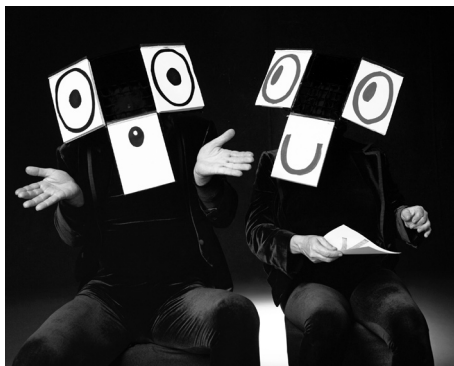
Tour Manager Diego Schürch

Publicity Dera, Roslan & Campion, Inc.

Exclusive Representation in North America Laura Colby, Elsie Management

Tour Sponsor Swiss International Air Lines

Cal Performances' 2010–2011 season is sponsored by Wells Fargo.



Gerry Born

CURRENTLY IN ITS FOURTH DECADE of performing, **Mummenschanz** remains one of the most successful theater groups in the world. Formed in 1972 by Swiss artists Bernie Schürch and Andres Bossard and Swiss-American artist Floriana Frassetto, the pioneering performance troupe created a nonverbal theatrical language that transcends the traditional barriers of nationality and culture. The group had its breakthrough during an extended Broadway run at the Bijou Theatre in New York City from 1977 to 1980. Neither before nor since has a show without words or music played on Broadway for three consecutive years. Since then, the group has toured continuously around the globe, performing at renowned festivals and theaters. Following the death in 1992 of founding member Andres Bossard, and with the help of long-time friend and supporter Hans Jörg Tobler, Ms. Frassetto and Mr. Schürch established the Mummenschanz Foundation in 1998. The Mummenschanz Foundation is a non-profit organization that aims to promote the art and expression of nonverbal theater.

Since 2000, Mummenschanz has grown to a company of five, with original cast members Mr. Schürch and Ms. Frassetto now joined by featured performers Pietro Montandon and Raffaella Mattioli from Italy and technical director Jan Maria Lukas from Austria. In 2010, Mummenschanz has toured to Hong Kong, Singapore, Thailand, Malaysia, Bangladesh, Turkey and Iran. For this return tour to the United States, they will tour to 18 cities in ten states across five regions, including a three-week run in New York City.

Bernie Schürch (*Mummenschanz Founder*), from Switzerland, trained as an actor in Berne before moving on to the Lecoq School in Paris. From 1969, he toured in various clown and theater shows with fellow student Andres Bossard. In 1972, they founded the Mummenschanz mask theater together with Floriana Frassetto. Mr. Schürch's sculptural artistry and creative passion have remained undiminished ever since.

For more information on Mummenschanz, visit the troupe's official website, available at www.mummenschanz.com.

Floriana Frassetto (*Mummenschanz Founder*), from Switzerland, studied in the late sixties acting at the Accademia of Alessandro Fersen and mime with Roy Bosier. In 1971 she met Andres Bossard and Bernie Schürch, and since then Mummenschanz has become a way of life in which she expresses her ideas with a sense of color, shape and effect.

Raffaella Mattioli studied classical dance in Rome and London with Yuriko, Pearl Lang, Mary Hinkson, Noemi Lapzon and others. She performed as a dancer and actor in various countries. In 1989, she went to Prague as a choreographer for *Laterna Magica*. She was responsible for several contemporary theater productions for festivals.

Pietro Montandon is an accomplished actor of the drama school of the Teatro Stabile di Catania. Since 1976, he has worked with renowned directors such as Lamberto Puggelli, Armando Pugliese, Giuseppe Patroni Griffi, Giancarlo Sepe and Marco Sciaccaluga. In television and cinema, he has appeared in dramas, comedies and sitcoms directed by Damiano Damiani, Giuseppe Tornatore, Alberto Sironi and Emidio Greco, among others.

In 1995, while working as a stagehand **Jan Maria Lukas** (*Technical Director & Lighting Designer*) decided to study lighting. He has since developed different lighting designs for spoken theater, opera, fashion shows, dance and art installations that have been taken place in Vienna, Berlin,

Bregenz, Prague, Zurich and Buenos Aires. He has toured with Mummenschanz since 2007.

Established in 1995, Elsie Management is an artist management company representing a global roster of dance, theater, world music, family programming and outdoor spectacle. Since forming Elsie, **Laura Colby** (*Director*) has represented more than 25 performing arts touring companies from five continents, coordinating tours to over two hundred global venues. She was the initiating facilitator between Dr. Edward Fishkin, Medical Director at Brooklyn's Woodhull Hospital and Medical Center, and the performing arts community in the creation of ArtistAccess, the groundbreaking healthcare program for New York City artists and arts workers that began in May 2005. Ms. Colby is the Immediate Past President of North American Performing Arts Managers and Agents (NAPAMA). For more information, visit www.elsieman.org.

Mummenschanz would like to thank its tour sponsor, Swiss International Air Lines, for its vital support in helping to bring the Company to the United States this season.