

Friday, November 23, 2012, 2pm
 Saturday, November 24, 2012, 2pm
 Sunday, November 25, 2012, 3pm
 Zellerbach Hall

Mummenschanz



40 Years of Mummenschanz

Mummenschanz would like to thank Matias Tarnopolsky and the crew of Cal Performances for making this performance possible.

Cal Performances' 2012–2013 season is sponsored by Wells Fargo.

40 Years of Mummenschanz

Artistic Directors
 Floriana Frassetto
 Bernie Schürch

with
 Floriana Frassetto
 Philipp Egli
 Raffaella Mattioli
 Pietro Montandon

Technical Director & Lighting Designer
 Jan Maria Lukas

Tour Manager
 Nadja Taylor

Exclusive Representation in North America
 Elsie Management
 Laura Colby, *Director*



(Left to right) Pietro Montandon, Raffaella Mattioli, Floriana Frassetto, Philippe Egli

THE CELEBRATED, Switzerland-based theater company **Mummenschanz** returns to North America with its 40th anniversary show. In this show, the ordinary becomes extraordinary as common materials and everyday objects—wires, tubes, boxes, and fabric—spring to life as fantastical characters. The program consists of nearly 30 sketches, featuring playful colorful creatures that have rarely been performed in the United States and Canada, as well as many of their most popular fantastical characters and perennial fan favorites.

For 40 years, Mummenschanz has captivated audiences worldwide with its groundbreaking and transformative visual theater. Formed in 1972 by Swiss artists Bernie Schürch and Andres Bossard with artist Floriana Frassetto, the pioneering performance company created a nonverbal theatrical language that transcended the traditional. The company had its breakthrough during an extended Broadway run at the Bijou Theatre in New York City from 1977 to 1980. Never before or since has a show without words or music succeeded on Broadway for three consecutive years. Since then, the company has toured continuously around the globe, performing in renowned festivals and theaters worldwide.

Following the death in 1992 of founding member Andres Bossard, original artists Floriana Frassetto and Bernie Schürch, with the help of long-time friend and supporter Hans Jörg Tobler, established the Mummenschanz Foundation in 1998, a nonprofit organization that aims to promote the art and expression of nonverbal theater. In June 2012, founding artist Bernie Schürch gave his farewell performance, and the company introduced Philipp Egli to join original cast member Floriana Frassetto as a featured performer, alongside performers Pietro Montandon and Raffaella Mattioli, and technical director Jan Maria Lukas.

For more information on Mummenschanz, visit the troupe's official website at www.mummenschanz.com. To become a Facebook fan, join at facebook.com/mummenschanz. Click on youtube.com/mummenschanztour to watch video links to several live performance sequences. For personal information and tour updates, follow the troupe's featured artists on twitter.com/mummenschanzUS.

In the late 1960s, **Floriana Frassetto** (*Mummenschanz* Founder), from Switzerland, studied 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 colors, shapes, and effects.

Philipp Egli has been on and worked for the stage for the past 25 years, performing different duties besides shaping all sorts of cultural projects into pieces of work that gained widespread recognition. He has thus earned himself a solid reputation in the fields of culture and of contemporary dance as a project leader, choreographer, dancer, and teacher.

Raffaella Mattioli, from Italy, started with classical dance education 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 to *Laterna Magica*, and was responsible for several contemporary theater productions for festivals.

Pietro Montandon, from Italy, is an accomplished actor of the Drama School of the Teatro Stabile di Canania. Since 1976, he has worked with such renowned directors as Lamberto Puggelli, Armando Pugliese, Giuseppe Patroni Griffi, Giancarlo Sepe, and Marco Sciaccaluga. In television and cinema, he has appeared in dramas, comedies, and sit-coms, under such directors as Damiano Damiani, Giuseppe Tornatore, Alberto Sironi, and Emidio Greco.

Jan Maria Lukas (*Technical Director & Lighting Designer*) is from Austria. In 1995, he worked as a stagehand and decided at that time to study lighting. He has since developed lighting designs for spoken theater, opera, fashion shows, dance, and art installations that have been performed 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, including Australia's *Strange Fruit*. Since forming Elsie, **Laura Colby** (*Director*) has represented over 25 performing arts touring companies from five continents, coordinating tours to over 200 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 artists and arts workers begun in 2005. Ms. Colby presently serves on the board of the Association of Performing Arts Presenters. Visit www.elsiemanager.org and www.facebook.com/ElsieManagement.