

English CV - DANIEL LUDWIG

Daniel Ludwig. Born in Berne, Switzerland 26. November 1956. Grew up bilingual German & French. High School, 1 year Berne University (veterinarian medicine), cancelled. Travels to Latin America, Israel, the Sahara etc... A lot of different jobs in hospital, butchery, news agency, farm, restaurant etc.

Pantomime-studies and later performances in the Berne Mime Ensemble. From 1980 four years actor school till 1984. Beginners contract at City Theatre of Berne for two years, then two years contract at Lübeck City Theatre (Northern Germany). Moved to Hamburg for free lance working. Performing in Hamburg and Aachen. Back to Switzerland to perform "Mephisto" in "Urfaust" from J.W. Goethe. Later at Berne City Theatre again (with new director Eike Gramss) 1991-1995.

Writing & performing there the first Monodrama "**Afro Blue**", the journey of a young Swiss farmer into Black Africa, conceived as a early morning dream in hospital bed before brain-cancer-surgery. Prize for best actor in Potsdam/Berlin 1993 at "Tage für Neuere Dramatik. Invited to the Internationales Theaterspektakel Zurich. Produced by Berne City Theatre.

Second play (as writer only) was "**The Boxer**", a half documentary play about a former Swiss boxing champion. Produced and performed by Bern City Theatre.

Scholarship from City of Berne and Arts Council of Switzerland (Pro Helvetia) in order to write a play. Reaized 1996 in Arles (France) for six months.

Second Monodrama written & performed "**Gorom-Gorom**", a comic tragedy about a man from Burkina Faso pretending to be a Touareg nomad and visiting a female ethnologist in Switzerland. His envovem,ent in Swiss Socitey behaviour and the odysee about his extradition to Burundi, accompagnied by two Swiss Policemen in an MD-11 of former Swissair. The Monodrama was Invited to Comedy Festival Cologne (Germany) & International Theatre Festival in Ouagadougou (Burkina Faso).

Second play (as writer only) "**Abkhazia**", an erotic comedy about a taxidermist falling in love with an amateur callgirl. Produced at City Theatre of St.Gallen (Switzerland).

Third play 1998, fairy tale for children "**Zabaadi**" for Pro Helvetia Switzerland in cooperation with professional actors in Ramallah/Palestine. Lots of performances the refugee camps and schools of Palestine/Westbank, except Gaza. Same play with young egyptian actors and performances all over Egypt from Alexandria to Aswan. Back to Palestine for another Pro Helvetia project: Teaching theatre basics for four months in Popular Art Centre in Ramallah.

Afterwards freelance-activities in Switzerland as actor and director. Summers 2002/2003 participation as actor in open air plays in the Swiss Alps. Career interruption due to increasing Diving activites until certificate as PADI Open Water Instructor. Paragliding solo license in Switzerland. Writing of cultural/travel reports for magazines & newspapers.

Accomplishing the Tour d'Afrique 2004 (Cairo to Cape Town on Mountainbike, 120 days, 11 500 km crossing 10 countries. Arrival 15th of may 2004 in Cape Town. Final ranking: 13th. Followed by three months Pro Helvetia & City of Berne scholarship as writer in residency in Cape Town till August 2004.

Performing "Prometheus" in expo.02 Swiss National Exhibition bended on a rock in the middle of the Lake of Biene. Audience: 5000 people. And a real F/A 18 jet participating...

Third Monodrama of my African Trilogy (written & performed) is "**Mohammed is biking**", the story of an Sudanese ex-fighter pilot -being now a political refugee-searching for a way to reach the Mediterranean Sea and encountering Western tourists on mountainbikes on the way from Cairo to Capetown.

Performing (in french) "Oedipus" in Sophocles' Drama at Theatre de Carouge Geneva and the "cavaliere" in The Kléber-Méleau Theatre in Lausanne and the Comédie in Geneva.

Languages: German, Swiss German & French perfectly. English very good. Good basics in Spanish & Arabic. Basic Italian.

Abilities: Driving license cars & heavy motorbikes. Diving instructor PADI OWSI. Paragliding solo license. PPL/A student on Cessna 152.

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