

> Les Chiche Capon : some dates

Festivals...

- Avignon off (2001-2002-2003-2004)
- Aurillac off (2003-2004)
- Chalons sur Saône off (2004)
- Sotteville off (2004)
- Ljubljana, Emonska promenada (2004)
- Ramonville (2004)
- Tapis vert (2004)
- Emergences - Gennevilliers (April 2002)
- Clown du Samovar - Les Lilas (May 2002)
- 1^{ère} partie BP Zoom + 1^{ère} partie Wure-Wure
- Rencontres de l'APIAC avec André Riot-Sarcey (2003)

Cabarets...

- Nuit des Publivores Angers (2003)
- Cabaret Pir-Yapa théâtre de Fortune - Paris (2001)
- Quand Dieu s'emmerde... Olympia - Paris (2003-2004)
- Kabaret 1, 2 et 3 circus tent of the Noctambules - Nanterre (2003-2004)
- Cabaret Takagorie monthly show in Confluences (Paris) from november 2001 to July 2004



> Awards

Festiclown

international clown festival in Monaco, 2003

- Nez d'or
- Special award of Cirque du Soleil
- Frankie award (prix jeune public)

Festival de Montbéliard, 2003

- Prix du public

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les Chiche capon:





> The Argument

Tonight is the great night. Tonight Tino Valentino is going to jump. Yes, he is going to carry out this incredible feat : *The Death Plunge*. For this occasion Tino will be helped by his two assistants Firmin Crapette and Flèche. *The Death Plunge* is the great number that made the artists of the great depression famous in the USA. This number still thrills the crowds.

Is this a time of depression? Of course not, everything is just fine. Anyway they are only clowns and their only intention is to make us laugh.

Yet we soon realize that even if they are not terribly intellectual they speak to us about us, of our inaptitude to fit in our society, a society that defines us primarily by what we do. In the social hierarchy it is better to be first assistant than just assistant, each of us climbs his own ladder step by step towards fame, seeking personal fulfillment in order to outshine the others, «I'm the director, I had the idea, me me me!!». But we must not forget that the higher the position the harder the fall : because what everybody is interested in is only watching you breaking your neck, you jerk.

> The Characters

<Flèche>

is the most mysterious character of the trio ! What is behind his timidity and his unassuming nature? Is it his tremendous strength that makes him so reserved? His body is so difficult to control that he'd rather see his own reality instead of what really surrounds him. So he can go on living peacefully and forget how hard life really is. So instead of enduring the upheaval of life he hands it over to his two associates even if it means putting up with their company.

<Firmin>

difficult to grasp, always offbeat always pulling off silly pranks but also self effacing even if at times is more than willing to strike in order to derive benefits for himself.

He is the king of the mean trick, the all time champion of retort, his artificial intelligence exasperates. So why are you here after all? Why have you joined those two useless characters : Flèche and Tino? Who would want you anyway?

<Tino>

He is the man destined to greatness but he missed the boat ! He burns with one last immoderate desire, a wish never fulfilled that gets him back on his feet after all his failures and that makes him believe that maybe next time he will make it ! We feel like telling him « Come on Tino... It's ridiculous.. you can't... nobody.. » or simply «NO».

But then we would miss seeing someone else debasing himself. A rigour that hides great inner turmoil.



> The Actors

<Matthieu Pillard>

was born in Melun in 1979. After the baccalaureat he takes theatre classes in Paris with the Trampolino company in 1999. In the summer of 1999 he takes a class in the technics of buffoon with Dominique Grandmougin. He enrolls at the Samovar School in the clown class of Frank Dinot, in the theatre class of Philippe Dormoy and in the burlesque class of Ami Hattab. He has finished off his clown training with Patrick Haggiag, Lorie Leshin and Gabriel Chamé.

He has been in a comical cabaret (*the cabaret Takagolrie*) with Frédéric Blin, Patrick de Valette, Katia Charmeaux et Julie Ferrier.

<Frédéric Blin>

was born in Mans in 1977, he gets his baccalaureat and a BA in geography, but then decides to get into the circus. From 1999 to 2001 he takes classes at the National Circus school with Annie Fratellini where he specializes in physical theatre and clown. He continues his studies of clown, gestuel theatre, burlesque, puppets and buffoon at the Samovar. He also studies with Catherine Germain, Pina Blankevoort, Gabriel Chamé.

He belongs to the Takagolrie cabaret group. He has created the clown *A l'aube du papillon*, in the Emnbardé Company and has worked with the Mantois theatre where he put on a show for young audiences. In 2004 he participates at the clown festival of the Nada Theatre in Ullis.

<Patrick de Valette>

born in Avignon in 1968, goes to Montpellier University before enrolling in the drama Conservatory of Avignon where he studies with Gérard Gélas.

After seeing the Colombaioni act at the Avignon festival he decides to go up to the capital to try to become a clown. He studies with Jacques Hadjage, Philippe Hottier, then he meets Frank Dinot in the clown class of the Samovar where he also finds his current partners.

He then works with Julie Ferrier in the Takagolrie group writing and directing her one woman show before it is taken over by Isabelle Nanty. He teaches the clown class at the Samovar school with Lory Leshin.



> Collaborations

<Alain Gautré>

Student then teacher at the school Jacques Lecoq he has been clown, puppeteer, actor and director. He has been the artistic director of the company Tuuti Troppo since 2001. The foundation of his writings is the stage. He has written several short stories and a novel. His involvement in the study of the clown has contributed to the founding of several companies : Le chapeau rouge, the Théâtre du Mouvement, Diphtong company, the Agit theatre, the Rire médecin, etc. He continues to perfect his research at the CNAC, at the Conservatoire National d'Art Dramatique de Paris and at the school Lecoq. He occasionally directs clowns and script writers.

They collaborated to draw up and develop the dramatic plot of *the Death Plunge*.