

CURRICULUM VITÆ

In **1978**, Olivier TAQUIN began his career as a teacher. Attracted by miming technique, he decided to widen his knowledge so as to be able to teach it to the children at school.

He attended several courses for clowns with P. RICHY (France), followed by a miming course given by Fudjo ISHIMARU (Japan) in **1981-1982**, as well as other courses given by different teachers in Belgium, one of whom was **Joseph COLLARD**.

From **1978 to 1984**, he performed as an amateur mime artist in night clubs, schools and small theatres. At the same time he taught miming at several dance and theatre training courses. It was during one of these courses that he met his partner **Eric JENICOT** (teacher).

They worked together from **1982 to 1984**, as a pair of clowns and mimes.

In **1984** Olivier specialised in automation, therefore working alone for some advertising campaigns and at night club shows. Managing several activities at once – teaching, miming and automation – he finally had to make a choice: **he chose show business and went professional**.

In **1985**, wishing to widen the scope of his automation performances, he joined forces with his brother, who at the time was doing some mime shows on his own. At the height of their association they put the finishing touches to their street show and made various appearances for advertising campaigns. They worked like this for about a year. At the end of 1985, they presented their show at the "**FESTIVAL DU MERVEILLEUX**" at BARVAUX and won the prize awarded by the public and judges.

In **1986**, they took part in the "**FESTIVAL DU RIRE**" at ROCHEFORT and won the **Press Award**.

In **1987**, Olivier decided to change partners and happened to meet up with his old friend **Eric JENICOT**. Together, they reworked the show by returning to the streets for six months in order to finalise and iron out any teething problems. At last it was running smoothly, so they prepared themselves for the "**FESTIVAL MONDIAL DU**

CIRQUE DE DEMAIN" where they won the **gold medal** in front of an enthusiastic and unanimous public and jury.

At last, after many years of hard work and dedication, their great talent was acknowledged.

At the end of the festival, numerous contracts poured in: galas - advertising campaigns - television shows in SPAIN, ITALY, UK - "Bal de la Rose"/MONACO, Festival "Juste pour Rire"/MONTREAL – a tour with the CIRCUS KNIE/ SWITZERLAND.

In **1990**, Eric JENICOT decided to go alone under the name of ELLIOT. Olivier, on the other hand, partnered with **Olivier DECHAVEAU**. During **1990-1991** they travelled together with the **BIG APPLE CIRCUS tour** in the United States.

From **1994 to 1997** they topped the bill in the **RONCALLI CIRCUS**, Germany and continued their career throughout Europe in variety shows, galas and festivals until **2002**.

Olivier joined forces with a new partner, **Ramon HOPMAN**, in October **2002**. He had met him at the Ostende Festival for Clowns. 12 years of a very rich and vivid partnership with Olivier DECHAVEAU comes to an end.

After several festivals, galas and two big circus tours in Switzerland and in Germany, Olivier and Ramon HOPMAN finish their collaboration at the "**FESTIVAL DE MONTE CARLO**" in **2007** by being awarded a **Bronze Clown**.

After a circus tour in the U.S. (BIG APPLE CIRCUS) in **2008**, Olivier works again with his former partner Olivier DECHAVEAU and directs his first show "DURCHGEDREHT" at the Krystallpalast in Leipzig (Germany) in **2009**.

In **2010**, Olivier joined forces with a second partner, **Boris ALESTCHENKOFF**, and performs for the first time as a clown at **GIFFORD'S Circus** in England.

Olivier didn't go on to any further circus tours, so as to be able to devote himself to directing, coaching and his new projects.

From **2011 to 2012**, Olivier was commissioned by the Institut National des Arts du Music-hall in Le Mans (France) as Artistic Consultant and Coach to create acts of Visual Comedy with the students.