



THE BIG UNDERWEAR SOCIAL TOUR

Howdy Folks,

It's late in april and we are excited to get the newsletter out. Irmi and I flew to Europe in the beginning of april. We started our tour with a tree job for our friend Bas, who is a text writer, near Amsterdam. He paid us good good 'ol cash, which is very very nice. Money is great to have, but it shouldn't be the greatest thing to have- if you know what I mean. After the tree job we headed to Frizlar, where Jutta and Martin have their Skala Variety Theater. Jutta organized some work for us and this time we were performing our Fartos and fire act at a birthday party for a 60 year old doctor. The donation went right into the Big Underwear coffer. We left Fritslar in the big yellow van and headed to Bonn where we met with Stefan Heckle and the city manager to view a place where we will perform 2 benefit shows- right in the middle of Bonn, the birthplace of Beethoven!!

We agreed on the stage size and position, then left for Darmstadt a few days early so we could prepare for the benefit show there. Rainer and Iris organized with the Kanabenschule for the benefit show.



One day before the benefit show in Darmstadt, two cultural helpers built the podium for the audience, prepared the sound and got the bar ready with all kinds of drinks.

On the 16th the artists arrived between 2pm and 3pm, and we ordered Big Pizzas, made coffees and lattes, and offered handmade chocolate cookies so everyone could go to work without feeling hungry, thirsty, or sugarless.

Our non payed light technician, Mathias, arrived and turned on the right light for everybody.

We ran through the show, and all of a sudden, the audience started to arrive.

Bernd, the chef of the Kultuhof Knabenschule, too place at the door and let people in for 10 or 15 Euro. Iris was standing behind the bar and selling drinks. Dado started 15 minutes early to entertain the waiting audience and he did a very good job making the people laugh. The rest of us were getting ready, putting on makeup, and finding costumes.

The show started at 8:45 pm, meanwhile around 90 people arrived and watched the show from beginning to end. Brady started to talk about his dream until all the other performers had to come on stage and stop him so they could perform!! In the pause, Brady and Irmi dressed in their Fartsos Costumes and joined the public while they wandered around between the bar and info stand.

The Fartsos had some nice conversations with some very interesting people who were inspired by the idea and the first half of the show. The second half started with an auction, in which we raised 16 Euro for a Big Underwear T-Shirt.

The Finale came at 11:51pm.

The audience was happy and we were as well.

We made 895 Euro + 16 Euro for the T-Shirt + Irmi sold two hand made crochet bags for 25 Euro.

For a midnight snack, the Bessunger Knabenschule made a nice hot chili con carne and green salad.



Here comes the moment where we say a big "THANK YOU" to Bernd the chef from Bessunger Knabenschule, without him we would have not had a roof over the Benefit Show.

To the workers who prepared the stage and the food

To Rainer and IRIS who believe in, support, help organize, and advertise the B.U.S. Tour benefit show

To Dado who put his hunchback on and pushed his specialized Kinderwagen through the night.

To Rob Torres who finally broke his entertaining silence after midnight, until 5:30 in the morning.

To Dine Lampa and his fast, impressive, Italian, classic style of juggling and acrobatics.

To Mika and Annouk who were wonderful and full of magic and mind reading.

To Rainer (again) for his official, buerocratic, back to seriously being funny and alles muss seine Ordnung haben show.

To Der Appenzeller, the chef-cook who knew how to cook eggs without making a mess.

To Verena who hung upside down for us and made the evening round with her female artistic powers and cute self.

We have attached a very nice article from the Darmstadter Newspaper.

We also want to thank Brady and Irmi who still want to go to Panama and so push forward in trying to organize more benefit shows.

We have another benefit show in Bonn on July 10th. This benefit show is being organized by Stefan Heckle, Music and Arts, and City Management.

Meanwhile, Heinz Siemering, the Mercedes under the Magician, gave us the idea to do the next big show in his home town of Schuttorf, on May 22nd, in the Jugendzentrum Komplex.

If any of you faithful newsletter readers are around any of these towns for any of these shows, you are welcome to perform..



When we are not touring around in the big yellow van, we park at Plendelhof, which is located outside Bassum, near Bremen, in the North of Germany.

Irmis has a beautiful restored Circus wagon that we base out of with the big yellow submarine parked right next to it.

Its the farming life for us at Plendelhof: horses, chickens, cows, a tree house with a 200 meter zip line, a sauna, and lots of land to scoot around.

Generally we are on the road and gathering up a bit of a tour for the summer that will take us to Belgium, Austria, Switzerland, and Germany- with some possibilities of Holland.

One of our themes lately has become, "we are not looking for donations to help and heal the world, no, we are are looking for donations to help and heal ourselves."

One way we are trying to emphasis this is by slowing down and living a more simple life. Its ok not to produce so much, we live in an overly productive society and it's possible to maintain a feeling of self importance without relying on overproduction, which bears a huge wight upon the world.

Thanks for reading the newsletter. It's hard to believe that in only 6 months, we'll be on our way to Mexico for the big Tour kick-off. Now is the time to start thinking ahead: James will be sending out a letter talking about Visas and Vaccinations, the German filmmers have purchased their tickets to Mexico, and as always, we continue to collect and save \$\$ for the tour. Which is why it is still important to donate.

Are you ready?

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