INDOORS & OUTDOORS





2020

## Smashed2

The dark art of juggling revisited



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## **THE SHOW**

Introduction & artistic process





## **THE SHOW**

80 oranges, 7 watermelons, 9 performers. The Dark Art of juggling reinvented.

A witty look at the strained relations between men and women, *Smashed2* is juggling reinvented, using plenty of explosive fruit and slow-motion comedy.

Inspired by the work of the great choreographer, Pina Bausch, *Smashed2* is the follow up show to the company's worldwide hit, *Smashed* where Gandini Juggling combines gestural choreography, intricate patterns and cascades of solo and ensemble juggling.

The result is a new hybrid of juggling, in a dance theatre style, performed with meticulous unison and split-second timing.

A funny, inventive and characterful work showcasing Gandini Juggling's masterful stagecraft.

Smashed2 is farcical tale of revenge and redemption. Initially conceived as turning the tables on Smashed, the most successful juggling of the modern era it has become its own entity; a funny and cruel depiction of humanity.

Revisiting the idea of fruits as metaphors, the bloodiness of the watermelon and the sexual undertones of the orange, all choreographic into fruitful aerial ballets. With echoes of silent age comedy and buffoonery.

Sean Gandini, co-director of Smashed2

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## INFORMATION

Press, marketing, credits, technical information





## PRESS AND MARKETING

#### **Press**

#### **Dancing Times**

"The smiles keep coming as Smashed2 explores temptation, conflict, lost love and - juiciest of all - revenge with the men always on the receiving end."

#### **Recklinghäuser Zeitung**

"Smashed2 is brilliant, exciting and entertaining."

### Marketing

#### **Images:**

All images of the shows are available in HD here: <a href="https://www.dropbox.com/sh/tjzu01x9z0zp3i9/AACq9wbC-960S3xsBJWvSlula:2dl=0">https://www.dropbox.com/sh/tjzu01x9z0zp3i9/AACq9wbC-960S3xsBJWvSlula:2dl=0</a>

#### Trailer:

Indoor: https://vimeo.com/470301765

Outdoor: https://vimeo.com/454477618

#### **Duration:**

Indoor: 55 minutesOutdoor: 30 minutes

#### Age range:

Indoor: 8+ (because of the duration of the show)

Outdoor: All age groups

Full Marketing pack available on demand at info@gandinijuggling.com.

## PRACTICAL INFORMATION

#### **Smashed2 exists in different versions:**

- An indoor version 55 minutes
- An outdoor version 30 minutes

Both versions can be adapted indoors and outdoors.

#### **Technical:**

Ideal stage dimensions: 10m wide by 8m deep, with clear height above stage of 4m.

Technical rider available on demand: info@gandinijuggling.com.

#### **Touring Party:**

- Indoors: 9 performers, 1 technician
- Outdoor: 9 performers (+1 technician if performed at night)

### **Credits**

Directors: Sean Gandini & Kati Ylä-Hokkala

**Performers:** Kati Ylä-Hokkala, Sakari Männistö, Luke Hallgarten, Yu-Hsien Wu, Erin O'Toole, Francesca Poppi Mari, Valeria Jauregui, Frederike Gerstner, Lynn Scott

Outside eye: Ben Duke

Lighting design: Guy Dickens

## **EDUCATION**

One of the most joyous occasions in Gandini Juggling touring life is when we meet a good juggler who tells us that they did a workshop with us many moons before.

This seemingly obvious realisation pushed us to embark on an educational drive. We find that there is a shortage of performers with the specific skill sets they need as well as that there is a shortage of female jugglers.

So, to plant seeds for the future Gandini Juggling's aim is to inspire, educate and motivate acting as highly experienced facilitators, teaching in not only the world's best circus schools but providing workshops in community centres and cold church halls...

We have a range of workshops available, aimed at both professional jugglers/ performers and those that are new to the art form:

- Each workshop last 2 hours and will be led by 1 or 2 performers.
- Group size can range from 20-30 participants, depending on space.
- Workshops and lecture can take place in person or online
- All of the workshop titles below can be used as lecture topics.

For more information, contact info@gandinijuggling.com.

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# **ABOUT US**

Biography and contact





## THE COMPANY

Formed in 1992 by world-renowned jugglers Sean Gandini and Kati Ylä- Hokkala, Gandini Juggling continues to be at the vanguard of contemporary circus, reinventing and reinvigorating juggling for the 21st Century.

Gandini Juggling celebrates juggling in all its facets, exploring not just what juggling is, but what juggling can be. Currently an ever-evolving ensemble made up of a virtuosic core group of jugglers, they regularly expand to include up to 20 performers for specially commissioned events and performances. Ferociously prolific, they are constantly creating new works, which range from radical art/juggling fusions to accessible theatrical performances, from choreographic studies to commercially commissioned routines.

Since their inception the Gandinis have performed over 6,000 shows in 50 countries. They continue to perform at many of the most prestigious festivals and venues throughout the world. These venues range from Contemporary art museums in France to Opera houses in Germany, from theatres in Lebanon to tents in Argentina. Closer to home the Gandinis can be seen performing at the UK's major outdoor festivals and theatre houses including London's Royal Opera House, English National Opera, The Royal National Theatre and Sadler's Wells.

In creating their work Gandini Juggling collaborated with a wide range of cultural leaders, initially teaming up with the pioneering and influential dance artist and choreographer Gill Clarke. The Gandini's continue to be influenced by a range of disciplines, which include amongst others, composers, ballet choreographers, fashion designers, computer programmers, sound designers, set makers and mathematicians. They have spent several seasons working with orchestras, choreographing juggling patterns to a wide range of classical compositions and have had music specially composed for them by leading composers Tom Johnson, Nimrod Borenstein and Gabriel Prokofiev.

## THE COMPANY

In addition to performing, Gandini Juggling is very much in demand at leading circus schools. Teaching workshops, creating performances and supporting the next generation of circus artists. Alongside this, Gandini publishes books and delivers virtual classes to support the wider understanding of the beautiful possibilities of juggling, for jugglers and non-jugglers alike. The Gandini's have an insatiable thirst for juggling pieces and a fiery desire to collaborate, communicate and provoke. They aim to reposition juggling as a versatile, engaging and malleable art form for our times.

#### **SEAN GANDINI**

Sean Gandini is one of the pioneers of contemporary juggling. Working as a performer, choreographer and director he has, for over 25 years, pushed the boundaries of juggling as a discipline and as an art form.

Growing-up in Havana, Cuba, Sean was fascinated by Magic and Mathematics, but shortly after he began juggling, prompting a life-long fascination with all aspects of the art form. Sean's professional career began in the 1980s, regularly performing in London's famous Covent Garden and touring with various theatre companies – including the pioneering Ra-Ra Zoo. In 1991, with Kati Ylä-Hokkala, he co-founded Gandini Juggling and together they have been at the forefront of experiments into what juggling is and what juggling can be.

Sean is a prolific creator. Whether working with the technicality of 'pure' juggling, crafting spectacular street art shows, or exploring the ways juggling might blend with other art forms, Sean is guided by a natural curiosity and delight in the myriad possibilities of throwing objects into the air.

This has led to the creation to a diverse array of shows, including the playful Sweet Life; the fiendishly complex celebration of the London Olympics Twenty/Twenty; and their smash hit, the darkly humorous and theatrical homage to Pina Bausch Smashed.

## THE COMPANY

#### KATY YLÄ-HOKKALA

Kati Ylä-Hokkala is one of her generation's iconic jugglers. As a co-founder of Gandini Juggling she has built a reputation not only as a highly-skilled technical juggler but is also renowned as one of the leading innovators in dance-juggling.

Kati's professional career began in the 1980s, performing with the influential Ra-Ra Zoo. In 1991, with Sean, she co-founded Gandini Juggling. Since then she has been instrumental in the company's experiments into the possibilities of juggling, including working to create unique 'two-person sharing' juggling patterns.

A former rhythmic gymnast, Kati's distinctive ability to combine movement with extremely complex coordination is second-to-none. In this she has crafted an intimate and extensive knowledge of the relationship between dance and juggling. Knowledge that has ensured that Gandini Juggling's work is always of the highest technical standard. Kati's own performances are always accompanied by a unique calm precision, a precision that comes from decades of throwing whilst standing on one leg. Kati has used this same calm precision to steer Gandini Juggling for the past 25 years.

Kati has performed in all of Gandini Juggling's works since 1991, performing in over 2,500 shows throughout the world – in art galleries and palaces, in town squares and in stadiums, in intimate theatres and on the stages of some of the world's most iconic venues. In recent years Kati has co-directed many of the company's pieces.

## CONTACT



#### Do you have any questions?

For further information please contact our office: <a href="mailto:info@gandinijuggling.com">info@gandinijuggling.com</a>

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