

The Flying Frenchies Collective presents

THE FLYING FRENCHIES

Back to the fjords

DIRECTED BY SEBASTIEN MONTAZ-ROSSET

FROM AN ORIGINAL IDEA BY ANICET LEONE & TANCRÈDE MELET

ORIGINAL MUSIC & SOUND DESIGN BY ZIKALI, GRAPHICS BY ANTOINE HARDY, POST PRODUCTION BY KATIE MOORE & SIMON HUTCHINGS
FILMED BY THE FLYING FRENCHIES COLLECTIVE

Come and join us!

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THE FLYING FRENCHIES

Back to the Fjords

The Flying Frenchies are back, with more fantastical stunts and enthralling experiments in a whirlwind adventure to the fjords of Norway. Twenty or more of the most colourful characters you could ever imagine, each with a different skill or talent, working together to create an outdoor extravaganza the likes of which have never been seen before!

Acrobats, musicians, engineers, cooks, clowns, athletes, highliners... travelling for hours and days, through countries and over borders, over treacherous mountains and across savage waters. All to be part of a unique and special project, that is sure to make your hair stand on end!

After months of preparations, calculations, manipulations and consultations, the time for mobilisation has come! Kjerag in the Norwegian fjords provides the backdrop for a month long kaleidoscope of trials and tribulations, circus tricks and theatre, artistic expression and experimentation. With rope swings, see-saws, parallel bars, wingsuits and a giant catapult at their disposal, who will be the first to venture into the unknown and reach for the stars?

"The time had come to set out on the road, and on the most amazing of adventures!"

THE FLYING FRENCHIES

Collective

The Flying Frenchies Collective is a group of athletes and performers brought together by their passion for the outdoors and adventure sports. A bunch of friends sharing the same thinking & philosophy for living, their range of talents has taken them on numerous adventures across the globe. Skills in rock climbing, mountaineering, highlining, base jumping and wingsuit flying have resulted in some of the most spectacular adventure images and films of recent years.

Team spirit and a desire to share the experience come first - and a problem shared is a problem solved! Following their guidelines of craziness and freedom, their ideas have no limits. Impossible is nothing! The group gained widespread recognition with the award winning films 'I Believe I Can Fly (Flight of the Frenchies)' and 'Petit Bus Rouge' and have been solicited for various television and publicity ventures.

The collaboration between the Flying Frenchies and Sébastien Montaz-Rosset continues to give spectacular results. The films which are fruit of this partnership are self funded, allowing for complete creative freedom. Revenue from downloads and film sales contributes to production costs and funds further adventures. Anyone paying to view or download the films is taking part in the collective. Come and join us!



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TANCRÈDE MELET

Tancrède is a master of a multitude of sports from highlining to base jumping. Always searching for ways to turn crazy dreams into reality, his training as an engineer was put to the test with the creation of the catapult.



ANICET LEONE

Anicet has brought his circus skills and clown alter ego to the mountains with incredible results. A curiosity for flying and high places has led to a fully fledged passion, and not even the sky's the limit.



VIOLAINE GARROS

After developing an interest in circus through her studies in arts & dance, Violaine has taken her training to greater heights as an aerial dancing specialist.



Where did the idea for the catapult come from?

Who didn't dream of being catapulted off a cliff when they were a child? The idea came up in conversations about our craziest dreams... the more we talked about it, the more we thought it could be possible. We had to go through a lot of theory and calculations to work out how to build it - luckily some of us are engineers! And then we had to find somewhere to build it!

The catapult was the main focus of the project, but there were lots of other things happening too?

We wanted to try as many things as possible on the cliff - we had a see-saw, a tumbling mat, a horizontal bar and equipment for aerial dancing. Various circus arts that we wanted to combine with our mountain sports.

We put up a giant rope jump, for those who didn't basejump to be able to experience jumping off the cliff safely... and of course a highline, which was the start of things for many of us. We opened new wingsuit jumps, practised yoga, went paragliding, did acrobatics, played music...

Did you select people especially for the trip, and how do you all know each other?

There were around 50 people involved altogether - with such a lot of work involved, we needed plenty of hands. It all happened quite naturally, people got involved bit by bit, some for days, some for months. Some just wanted to perform over the fjord, some were more interested in the technical side of things. We had to carry the catapult to the cliff edge, so we needed a lot of manpower for that - we had to carry around 2 tons of gear to the cliff!

When did you realise that the dream could really become reality?

We started work on everything 6 months before the trip, and there were a lot of questions to answer. What should the catapult be made of?, how would we get it to the cliff? did we need a permit?.. so there was a huge amount of preparation to be done.

We had a place to work on everything in Toulouse, but the weather was awful and we were working knee deep in mud! We worked on the bus, started building the catapult pieces, and after a month we were a long way from being ready. So we got together again a month before the trip, and finally finished everything 2 days before we were due to leave!

How did you decide it was safe to try the catapult?

Everything was calculated, measured, tested! We tested it in a field before we left, and then again on the edge of Kjerag using 80kg of stones in potato sacks. Each time it worked perfectly, so we were ready to catapult the first human! The only unknown was whether we might fall unconscious from the G-force as we got fired out.

What is the next project?

That's top secret! All we can say is, it's along the lines of the catapult - using wide open spaces and height, with acrobatics and balancing, and all manner of flying machines!



Come and join us!
www.flying-frenchies.com

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