# Capturing Disney Parks presents **DISNEY ICON SPOTLIGHT**

# Episode 21 | Chris from All Around Dreams | May 30, 2019

In this series of Q&A's, Capturing Disney Parks introduces you to some of the biggest and most iconic Disney Parks fans sharing the magic on their social media, video platform, blog, vlog, podcast, or website. Questions by Niels van Eijkelenburg.

# Q 01 | THE ICON

#### Please introduce yourself to our readers.

I am Chris, creator of the YouTube channel All Around Dreams, the channel I share with my wife and son. Being a huge fan of Walt Disney and his work, it's in my nature to discover Disney Parks and get to know more about them. I'm living in Paris and it's just 40 minutes to get to Disneyland Paris. I go there anytime I can.



Pictures provided by Chris

#### Q 02 | THE PARKS

Which Disney Parks have you experienced, and which one do you consider your 'home' Park?

I have only experienced Disneyland Paris for now and being so close to it, it became a second home. So, it obviously is my home park, but I know I will one day pay a visit to Walt Disney World and to Disneyland (Anaheim), which is the most appealing to me as it is the one where Walt actually walked and lived in.



#### Q 03 | THE PLATFORM(S)

#### Where can we find your Disney fan platforms?

On YouTube under: <u>All Around Dreams</u>, which is the main platform where I can be found. To cover more ground, I can also be found on <u>Instagram</u>, where I am very active, and on <u>Facebook</u> and <u>Twitter</u>, where I am a lot less active, under the same name All Around Dreams of course.

#### Q 04 | THE FORMAT

Tell us something about the format of your online platform(s), how it all started, which Disney Parks you cover, and why you love to put such a lot of effort in those activities.

On YouTube, me and my family put videos of the new seasons, shows, announcements and merchandising from the park. But also vlogs of us in the park, the people and what it's like to spend a day at Disneyland Paris. The original idea came to me 5 years ago, when I thought about filming my son. Unfortunately, he was very shy and the idea went nowhere. But it came back last year after being disappointed by some YouTubers, because I wanted something that could not be found, so I decided to do it myself. I remember when I told my wife and son that I was going to be a YouTuber and Instagrammer, that they looked at me and laughed. I didn't even have a Facebook account back then! A week later we were filming our first video. I think the most important part of our channel is the fact that we actually are in the park and not at home (except when we do hauls). I put so much effort into filming and taking care of the channel because I want to capture the spirit and atmosphere of Disneyland Paris every week, in the best way I can.

### Q 05 | THE LOVE

#### How and when did your love for Disney Parks start?

It all started 19 years ago, when my wife-to-be took me to the park. I instantly fell in love; the atmosphere, the characters, the attractions...it was a whole new world for me and since then I've always wanted to live there. After this magical visit I started collecting information and facts from books and other sources to learn more about how Disney Parks were created and how they stay so magical.

#### Q 06 | THE TRIPS

How many times/days a year do you visit Disney Parks (estimate)? And how many days are most of your trips?

I go to Disneyland Paris every week. I am very happy that Disneyland Paris has been multiplying its number of events and seasons over the last 2 years, which makes every week even more exciting because there's always something new to discover. Most of my trips are daily trips, even half-days sometimes, but on special occasions, like parties, we stay for a second day by sleeping in a nearby Disney hotel. It can go up to three days during the runDisney weekend. So that makes about 100 visits per year!



#### Q 07 | THE FAVORITS

#### Please name your favorite Disney attractions, parades, or shows.

In terms of attractions it's definitely "Big Thunder Mountain". With its wacky speed and astonishing thematization it's a perfect ride and a must-do attraction anytime you go to the park. For the parades, the recent and still ongoing "Stars in Parade" has blown me away ever since I first saw it (especially the dragon). My heart also lies with "Fantillusion", the nighttime parade which was a special and unique moment. My favorite part was when the floats stopped in front of us and a unique moment happened. "Mickey and the Magician" is my favorites show; the songs, the dance, the story... it's like seeing a Hollywood blockbuster live right in front of us.

#### Q 08 | THE MEMORY

#### What's your most memorable Disney Parks moment? Tell us all about it please!

The first "Pirates and Princesses" festival which came right on time for the beginning of our channel. The atmosphere was great and something we had never seen before in the park. The people were unique and amazing during this season. It was also one first videos of our channel to become really popular and it helped a lot boosting our popularity on YouTube and social media. It's not sure whether or not the season will return, but it will forever hold a special place in our hearts as the start of our crazy YouTube adventure.

## **Q 09 | THE TIP**

# Do you have a tip or advise - about anything Disney Parks related - to share with our readers?

First of all, blend into the atmosphere and pay attention to details. There are so many things to see and all you need is to really open your eyes and look all around to see all the wonders Disneyland Paris is made of. A good time to enjoy the park is of course the extra magic time, where you can go from one attraction to the other without waiting more than 10 minutes (except for "Crush's Coaster"). During the day, use FastPasses as much as you can. It's a great way to do as many attractions as you can without waiting too much. Talking about waiting, eat before lunch time, even if it means not taking a breakfast. When it's lunch time for everybody, the restaurants get really crowded and it becomes really hard to eat. So, keep in mind all of that and enjoy your time. There's so much to do! You'll never get bored!

#### Q 10 | THE CHOICES

Make your choice! You have to choose one			
Mickey	or	□ Donald	
Characters	or		
☐ Star Wars	or		
Parades	or		
On-site hotel ■	or	☐ Off-site hotel	
	or	☐ Ticket	



□ Animation	or	Live-action
□ Pins	or	☐ TsumTsums
☐ Early morning visits	or	□ Evening visits
☐ PhotoPass	or	☐ FastPass
	or	☐ Captain Hook

# Q 11 | THE QUESTION

#### Do you have a question for me?

When will we make a video together? It's your time now, time to appear on our channel, haha! ;)

Niels: Thanks for the invite! Maybe I can say hi one day in your videos. Unfortunately, I'm not there every week but I'm sure we meet one day!

#### THE END

I would like to thank Chris for participating in this Q&A series. Hope you've enjoyed this episode. Until next time and have a magical day!



Niels van Eijkelenburg owner of Capturing Disney Parks

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