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

# Episode 51 | Andrea from @disneyearsclub & @dlp.clubhouse.podcast | August 30, 2020

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.

Hi guys, my name is Andréa, a British Latina expat living in Paris! I run a Disney Insta page. I have been living here for a little over a year (still trying to learn the lingo but it's kicking my butt haha) and when I am not on Insta, I am a freelance community and content manager. I speak Spanish and English, I also have a BA hons in theatre and dramatics. I basically, from the age of 7, have grown up in the arts, and I would like to think it makes me super creative (how arrogant of me hehe). I like to sing, read and write poetry on my time off. I am a big fan of art and food. Sooo..., if anyone has any suggestions on great art exhibitions or great eats please hit me up, cause I need to add more to my list.

A defo dream of mine would be to work for Disney somehow... not sure for what aha just putting it out there in the universe! My favourite Disney movie is "Sleeping Beauty", not just because I am a big Tchaikovsky fan but because I really love the animation concept style, with the angular lines and colours.



Pictures provided by Andréa

# Q 02 | THE PARKS

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

So, most of my life I was going to Disneyland Anaheim as my grandmother lives in Los Angeles so we would spend most holidays there. I see Anaheim as my family's park. Really 2018 is when I first stepped into Disneyland Paris (DLP) and then a year later is when I moved. So, I consider DLP to be my adopted home park. It's the one I have found a lot of community with.

But I definitely have Tokyo first on my to go list! Then all the others of course.



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

I run a Disneyland Paris Instagram page called @disneyearsclub (<u>https://www.instagram.com/disneyearsclub</u>) it's where I post all kinds of DLP content.

I also co-host a wonderful podcast called DLP Clubhouse with my lovely friend Liesje Brockley. It's available on platforms such as Spotify, Apple podcasts, deezer and Buzzsprout. We talk a lot about our Disney experiences and have a good chat about the best ways to make the most out of trips. Like our intro we are 'your compass to the wonderful world of Disneyland Paris'.

# 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.

@disneyearsclub is all about Disneyland Paris, as it's the closest park to me. As my platform is Instagram it's all about visual creativity. So, I post a lot of edited images from my DLP trips. But my most liked aspect of my page is my stories. I do games, trivia quizzes, daily news, and other fun Disney related interactive content.

I started this page in March last year (2019). It all started because of my friend Georgia. She suggested I should start a Disney page to share my Disney park photos with friends and family. Back then I posted some Anaheim pictures and my first pictures at Disneyland Paris. However, the moment I moved my page became a place for me to make friends here in France. I have been able to find other expats with the same Disney obsession and they have become my second family. I am super grateful for that.

I put in a lot of effort and resources on my page because it has been so instrumental in me finding a community here in Paris. It's where I have found amazing friendships and has become another life of its own. I love it, the Disney community is the best.

As for the podcast, I met Liesje back in January after talking for about a week before meeting. We realised we had similar passions and aspirations for the DLP community. We realised at the time (January 2020), there were hardly any DLP podcasts available on the same level as the other parks. Eventually we decided to create the space that we wanted to see in our community. I couldn't have asked a better partner than Liesje, she literally is an amazing talented human with a good eye for detail. We currently spend a lot of hours writing scripts, having episode concept meetings, recording, editing and of course creating graphics and content for our Instagram page.

# Q 05 | THE LOVE

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

Well since my love of Disney began, which was probably in the womb haha. Really, my mother loves Disney and was really into going to Disney a lot especially after my aunts and my Grandmother moved to Los Angeles in the early 90's, so I have been going since I was one. Disneyland has a lot of family nostalgia for me. Plus, now living close to a park, the obsession is even more real! It inspired me to pursue a career in entertainment so for me I have always loved the Disney park experience.



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

Oh dang that's hard. Mostly every other week, sometimes every weekend or multiple times a week depending on the season. Not sure haha. That doesn't even cover my non DLP trips lol.

# Q 07 | THE FAVORITS

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

DLP Rides: Phantom Manor, Big Thunder Mountain, Star Tours

DLR Rides: Haunted Mansion, Indiana Jones, The Matterhorn

Parades: I don't think I have any DLP ones... maybe the Christmas one? But of all time "The Disneyland Electrical Parade".

Shows: Jungle Jive, Mickey's Christmas Big Band, Rhythms Of The Pride Lands

# Q 08 | THE MEMORY

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

For me a good memory is when me and my family went to Disneyland. It was when the parade was about to start but we decided to hang out in Fantasyland. I was 8 at the time, but I remember that the entire area was empty, not a soul was there (rare now I know haha). Me and my cousins were just doing ride after ride three, four, times and just having a good laugh! It's not a crazy story but I just remember being a happy child just enjoying these rides all to ourselves.

# Q 09 | THE TIP

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

In general I would say be prepared for a lot of walking and the climate. Never underestimate the parks no matter how small some might be. Also enjoy your time more. I know we all want to make the most of the trip but be realistic and enjoy the overall experience.

Respect our cast members in our parks and don't take off your masks when walking around! Keep it safe and magical. (*Published in Covid-19 times*)

# Q 10 | THE CHOICES

 ☐ Mickey
 or
 ⊠ Donald

 ☐ Characters
 or
 ⊠ Attractions

Make your choice! You have to choose one...



🛛 Star Wars	or	🛛 Marvel
Parades	or	⊠ Nighttime spectaculars
On-site hotel	or	Off-site hotel
🛛 Annual Pass	or	Ticket
Animation	or	Live-action
🛛 Pins	or	TsumTsums
Early morning visits	or	Evening visits
PhotoPass	or	⊠ FastPass
⊠ Jack Sparrow	or	Captain Hook

# Q 11 | THE QUESTION

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

What made you start interviewing Disney peeps?

Niels: Ha, that's a good one! Well, I was exploring the Disney community and tried to learn something about the people behind the sites, socials and podcasts. Like their name, country, and what drives them to put such a lot of effort in their channels. Some provided information, some not at all. But as I'm interested in people and would like to get to in touch with Disney Parks fans, I decided to start this Disney Icon Spotlight. A relatively easy way to create interesting content (I think, or at least I love to read everyone's stories) and to meet new people! I'm a co-host of the Air Magique podcast nowadays and I have my own little monthly segment in the Diz Hiz podcast. All because I met these wonderful people by reaching out to them with my Spotlight format. How cool is that?

# THE END

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



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