

Capturing Disney Parks presents **DISNEY ICON SPOTLIGHT**

Episode 54 | Sebastien from Family Magic Plus | October 16, 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.

Hello, I'm Sebastien, father of 2 adorable children named Timeo and Elena and married to the lovely, enterprising and crazy woman called Julie. We are both freelancers. I'm a Community Manager and working for the social networks of different enterprises and my wife is a creator for her brand called Les Petites Aiguilles de Julie. We are French and of course - as many French - proud! Proud to be independent and doing what we want.

I was born in Paris in 1978 and my wife in Tarbes in 1987. We moved away from Paris 7 years ago and now live in the countryside of Bordeaux, the capital of Bordeaux wine. Happy with this new life, the days are not the same. We live at 300%, have left the parasites behind us, dedicate ourselves to those who love us (our children), and be happy! A passion unites us; Disney. I got hooked when I was 7 years old and visited Walt Disney World. I have a wife who has the same passion and can help me to make our children just as much a fan of Disney as we are!



Pictures provided by Sebastien

Q 02 | THE PARKS

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

I was able, thanks to my father, to enter this universe and create this addiction that didn't exist in France. I was able to visit the parks of Disneyland Resort in Anaheim, Walt Disney World located in Orlando, and later of course Disneyland Paris. Since 1992, Disneyland Paris has been my second home, where we go to dream and have fun every once in a while!

Q 03 | THE PLATFORM(S)

Where can we find your Disney fan platforms?

The different platforms where we can share this magnificent universe are our website and blog: <https://sebastiengiorgetti.wixsite.com/familymagicplus>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/family.magic.plus>

Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/family.magic.plus>

Facebook group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/861787997534878>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/familymagicplu1>

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCOsITRcIWwl35B4AOPPF9xw>

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.

The different formats mainly communicate about the Disney universe but above all, keep the magic alive that Walt Disney was able to leave behind. Our main platform, where everything comes together, is of course our website. It's a gold mine, especially for our community. This site is affiliated to Disneyland Paris, so the banners that are integrated are part of a program that Disney provides us. The site is a perfect reflection of the Disney addicted child that I was, and now a dad myself. Let me explain: When you are young, your main activity in Disney Parks is to run and do as many attractions as possible in one day. Today, as young parents, we enjoy the parks differently. We notice the details and stories. My son Timéo, the oldest, wants to become a Cast Member!

Here is what you will find on the site: The history, the details, but also advice and tips for parents. Our top 10 and our history. We mainly talk about Disneyland Paris but also about Walt Disney World and give travel advice, how and where to book, rental cars and more ... Social networks are there to share our feelings, our emotions, our desires, our bad moods, but above all the positive energy that Disney gives all of us! Twitter is also about sharing info or history. Our Instagram feed turns out to be the most active, directly linked to the website, and then comes Facebook, especially our group which asks everyone to share their universe.

Why do all this? Because I'm in love with American-style entertainment! They are the only ones who know how to do it. Since I fell in love with Disney Parks at the age of 7 in Walt Disney World, I always remained in same state: WOW!

You can imagine my emotions when our French president at the time, Mr Mitterrand, welcomed the first Disney delegations to move forward with a European Disney Park project. I was so afraid that it would go to the Spain!

Why so much creativity? My children are the answer. I am a graphic designer myself, videographer and moderator for many other people. I had to have my own site, share my passion and I'm delighted that the whole family joins me. We are one in the end! Family Magic Plus is all of us: Elena, Timéo, Julie and me.

Q 05 | THE LOVE

How and when did your love for Disney Parks start?

In 1986. I was 8 years old. I didn't have a mum and dad together, making my dad take me to Miami. He didn't forget to take me to Orlando. At the time this city was not yet the capital of amusement parks. But in 3 days, my life and my passion for Walt Disney changed a lot. Magic Kingdom! I remember how you could access the park by boat, bus or monorail. The last one was yellow. I remember it very well and it passed through a gigantic hotel. I still remember that like it was yesterday. The music and the smell of hot dogs invaded my ears and nose. And I didn't expect to discover a world so magical and so perfect. I loved to see

the boats and this monorail that took passengers leaving their hotel rooms. What man could have done such a thing? I was more than amazed and especially blown away by so much perfection per square meter. Then Main Street; I thought I was in a movie. I was there, making my film.

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?

We try to go to Disneyland Paris every season, but we go more often in Spring and Summer. We go there 6 to 10 times a year and stay 2 to 4 days in the fabulous Disney hotels or partner hotels. We went to Walt Disney World for the first time with the family 34 years later to celebrate my 42nd birthday in February 2020. We stayed onsite for 10 days and were very lucky to go just before our (COVID-19) lockdown. Magical! We are due to travel to Disneyland Resort Anaheim in February 2021 and cross our fingers that we can travel again.

Q 07 | THE FAVORITS

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

Very hard question because there are attractions for singles and families... because the little ones can't do everything... yet! But the most magical moments that really brought together many emotions with the presence of the children, are the shows in front of the different Disney castles. "Happily Ever After" at Disney's Magic Kingdom, "Fantasmic" at Disney's Hollywood Studios, and of course "Illuminations" at Disneyland Paris are those unique magical moments. Especially when you have the little hands of your children holding you tight. The favorite attraction of papa and Timéo is "Star Tours", as we are real Star Wars fans. "Phantom Manor" and "Pirates of the Caribbean" are next, which we can do all together. Of course, Elena's favorite remains "It's A Small World". For mom it will be the shops! But when I was 15 years old and I was going to EuroDisney, my favorite attraction was Space Mountain.

Q 08 | THE MEMORY

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

The most memorable moments are - shut your ears children! - when I was at Disneyland Paris with my wife only. We enjoyed it in a different way and took time to meet and talk to cast members and Disney fans! The most memorable moment was when we were invited by a cast member into a small room in the Star Tours attraction to see a Starspeeder 3000 in action! We were able to see the back of the set and how technically remarkable this attraction is. Very impressive!

Q 09 | THE TIP

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

Just go to our website to explore lots of info and tips! 😊 More seriously, I would like to share a detail that I particularly like. I would like to respond to all those who say that it's too expensive to eat at Disneyland Paris. The general public - and especially the French - think there are only snacks. WRONG! Plaza Gardens and Agrabah Café are buffet restaurants that you must try. It's remarkably good and diverse. During this COVID-19 times they're both

table service. I also want to respond to all those who are afraid to come in these COVID-19 times and want to reassure them. Disneyland Paris placed barriers and social distancing instructions to be respected. They can't make mistakes, otherwise the whole park will close again. On the other hand, Cast Members do an amazing job and are the first to get you comfortable with the new measurements. They will say when things go wrong. So, let's go! I am hypochondrial and I do not worry about anything when I'm at Disneyland Paris.

Q 10 | THE CHOICES

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

- | | | |
|---|----|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mickey | or | <input type="checkbox"/> Donald |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Characters | or | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Attractions |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Star Wars | or | <input type="checkbox"/> Marvel |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Parades | or | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nighttime spectaculars |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On-site hotel | or | <input type="checkbox"/> Off-site hotel |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Annual Pass | or | <input type="checkbox"/> Ticket |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Animation | or | <input type="checkbox"/> Live-action |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pins | or | <input type="checkbox"/> TsumTsums |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Early morning visits | or | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Evening visits |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PhotoPass | or | <input type="checkbox"/> FastPass |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jack Sparrow | or | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Captain Hook |

Q 11 | THE QUESTION

Do you have a question for me?

Why and since when did you create this Disney Icon Spotlight?

Niels:

I started this in December 2018 and really enjoy initiative since then. I felt a need to get to know the people behind websites, podcasts, vlogs, blogs, and social media accounts that I enjoy or that have a unique offering. I wanted to give the Disney Parks community a face and share them with the world through my site and socials.

THE END

I would like to thank Sebastien 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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owner of Capturing Disney Parks

Instagram <https://www.instagram.com/capturingdisneyparks>
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