

Capturing Disney Parks presents

DISNEY ICON SPOTLIGHT

Episode 56 | Will from @generation_eurodisney | November 21, 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.



Picture provided by Will

Guy in his late 30s. Hence: kid of the 80s/90s. Passionate about the original vision of Euro Disneyland because, to me, it is the epitome of that special time when the 80s merged into the 90s and so many things were about to evolve, change, and happen. "Home Alone vibes"... pre-internet and pre 9/11. To me, the original Euro Disneyland portrays a specific vision and self-perception of the United States at the end of the Cold War. I have always found the fabrication of American identity and reassurance fascinating. That's why I studied American Studies and eventually wrote a dissertation somewhat inspired by Disneyland.

Q 02 | THE PARKS

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

I have only visited Disneyland Paris. My 'home' park is Disneyland Park.

Q 03 | THE PLATFORM(S)

Where can we find your Disney fan platforms?

I only do Instagram: @generation_eurodisney, https://instagram.com/generation_eurodisney

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.

It all started during the first lockdown of 2020. As many did, I organized stuff. Eventually I rediscovered my 'vault' of Disney memorabilia and photographs. I started taking pictures of items and then decided to do Instagram. I was curious to see if anyone would take notice. I love anything graphic design and unusual photographs.

I love postmodern architecture and the original resorts are a poster child for postmodernism. At some point, people started sending me their memories. I want this account to be a collaborative archive. Sharing memories sent in by followers is such an honor.

Q 05 | THE LOVE

How and when did your love for Disney Parks start?

1990, when I learned in Mickey Mouse Magazine that Disneyland would come to Europe. Finally.

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?

One day every couple of years. Last time was 2018. I like to stay in Val d'Europe (easy access to Paris) or at Villages Nature.

Q 07 | THE FAVORITS

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

Phantom Manor, Big Thunder Mountain, Pirates of the Caribbean. I don't do shows.

Q 08 | THE MEMORY

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

That must be my first visit. The first attraction we did was no ride, but the Diorama of the Statue of Liberty in Liberty Arcade. I remember that I was fascinated by the light effects. We had sandwiches on a bench outside the diorama. I love those ornately carved benches there... and the beautiful mosaic floor, the signage... This space really set the tone for my first visit.

Q 09 | THE TIP

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

Have a drink at Cafe Fantasia (Disneyland Hotel) after lunch. A great way to take a break.

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 type="checkbox"/> On-site hotel | or | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Off-site hotel |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Annual Pass | or | <input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Early morning visits | or | <input type="checkbox"/> Evening visits |
| <input type="checkbox"/> PhotoPass | or | <input checked="" 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?

What do you like about my account?

Niels: I asked you for this Disney Icon Spotlight because I think your account is quite unique within the Disneyland Paris Instagram community. A pure focus on the resort's history. A lot of nostalgia. I love it!

THE END

I would like to thank Will 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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