

Capturing Disney Parks presents **DISNEY ICON SPOTLIGHT**

Episode 74 | Emma from @emmaspixiedust | March 06, 2023

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.

Hey there. My name is Emma from @emmaspixiedust used to be known as @polkadotspixiedust. I am a London based Disney fan. I am also a big cat / animal lover and used to be a trainee veterinary nurse. I am now a disabled person, and I see Disney through a new perspective. I actually have a degree in Performing Arts. I was an extra in "Harry Potter" and I also volunteer to teach people with all kinds of abilities ways to sing and dance. I love musical theatre and "Phantom of the Opera" is my favourite show. I have also been invited and been lucky enough to become a Disneyland Paris Insider.



Pictures provided by Emma

Q 02 | THE PARKS

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

I have been very lucky to be able to visit Disneyland Paris and Walt Disney World. People always ask me which park I prefer and why, and my answer is always I can't decide. Both Parks have different pros and cons to them. I actually prefer the castle at Disneyland Paris than Walt Disney World, and images of the other Disney Parks, it's just such a unique castle and pretty colours. The fact there is maleficent dragon there as well just amazes me. I do feel that Walt Disney World have better rides though, and both give guests the magic and pixie dust in many different ways in comparison. Even though people who also live in the U.K say that Walt Disney World is their home park, Disneyland Paris will always be my home park, both for magic and location.

Q 03 | THE PLATFORM(S)

Where can we find your Disney fan platforms?

I am on both Instagram and YouTube.

Instagram: [@emmaspixiedust](#)

YouTube: [@emmaspixiedust](#)

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.

So, I actually started my Instagram account to share photos of just my life, and then it slowly became Disney based. I originally started my account as I felt so lonely and isolated after my accident that led me to be less abled. After a year I decided to start to vlog as well. On YouTube I originally only posted my collection of Minnie Ears, or my Loungefly collections. Soon after it developed into unboxings. One day my friend asked me to show my trip in the parks and that's how I have progressed in my channel. Both platforms have helped me to become social and feel like I am part of a community again. It has also allowed me to meet many great friends in person including you.

Q 05 | THE LOVE

How and when did your love for Disney Parks start?

Ever since I was little, I saw adverts on TV showing Disneyland Paris and sometimes Walt Disney World. I had always dreamt of going to Disneyland Paris, and when I discovered my Nan had visited, it attached me to the 'Disney Bug'. When I met my boyfriend, he knew how eager I was to go to visit any Disney Park, so that for me was Disneyland Paris. My first trip was in 2016 and that's it, I was immediately hooked and in love with everything Disney. I've never looked back.

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?

When I go to a Disney Park, the days can vary. For me having gone to Walt Disney World for two weeks it made me realise to fully enjoy everything three-four weeks would be best. Due to funds unfortunately we wouldn't be able to go every year, however with Disneyland Paris, I try to go at least three-four times a year and always for five days. I have now also started to attend with friends; this is usually for events such as the Annual Pass Party. If I could live in Disney though, I definitely would.

Q 07 | THE FAVORITS

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

My favourite parade was "Disney Magic on Parade" at Disneyland Paris. My favourite show is a tie up on "Dream and Shine Brighter" and "Disney D-Light". With regards to any Disney attraction, I will always love "Pirates of the Caribbean". I also really love "Dumbo" and "Mad Hatters Tea Cups".

Q 08 | THE MEMORY

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

For me my most memorable Disney Park moment was whilst I was at Disneyland Paris. It was my first experience of being at Disney being a Wheelchair User and I went to meet Donald. I was quite nervous, however when Donald saw me, he held my wheelchair spun me around and danced with me. My heart filled with happiness so much and I was in love more and more. Another favourite moment is when I first visited and skipped down Main Street, and seeing my boyfriend's face light up.

Q 09 | THE TIP

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

When at Disneyland Paris, pay that little extra to use the Disney Express Luggage Service. This allows you to collect your tickets to the park, whilst dropping the luggage to cast members who deliver the luggage to the hotel, and you can head straight to the magic. Also, the purple tea cup is always slightly faster than the others.

Q 10 | THE CHOICES

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

- | | | |
|--|----|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mickey | or | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Donald |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Characters | or | <input type="checkbox"/> Attractions |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Star Wars | or | <input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> Pins | or | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nuimo's |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Early morning visits | or | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Evening visits |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PhotoPass | or | <input type="checkbox"/> Paid direct attraction or show access |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jack Sparrow | or | <input type="checkbox"/> Captain Hook |

Q 11 | THE QUESTION

Do you have a question for me?

What inspires you most about Disney, whether Parks, Films, Music, Shops, and why?

Niels: *That's a difficult question! But I guess it all started with the comics, shorts and movies being so magical, unique and/or innovative. And now I'm especially appreciating the way that Disney brings stories to life in the parks. Whereas comics and movies are storytelling, the parks really are storyliving. And that's something quite unique to Disney.*

THE END

I would like to thank Emma 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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Instagram

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