



GANDINI



8 Songs, photo by Alan Flechter

8 SONGS

A Gandini Juggling production

Commissioned by: Without Walls, Ageas Salisbury International Arts Festival and Greenwich + Docklands International Festival.

The Show

8 Songs is a series of choreographed juggling vignettes set to 8 classic rock and roll songs. A tribute to the mythical landscape of popular music.

From Dylan's stream of consciousness realms to the Velvet Underground troubling landscapes, from David Bowie's soulful escapades to the rocking Rolling Stone's anthemic joy de vivre.

The show is suitable to all audiences but like *Smashed*, Gandini previous street theatre success – will layer meanings, which can be read in different ways.

In *8 Songs* the Gandinis return to their outdoor roots. Each song has its own atmosphere, its own micro universe. The piece builds crescendo style from solos and duets to a full cast finale. Meanings will be alluded to, with semi-literal references to the songs themselves.

From a performance point of view the company wanted to explore the juggler as Rock and Roll performer, what is that trance-like place the rock star goes to? Is she pretending to be there or does she believe she is there?

The company creates a sense of ritual and celebration, a primal tribal energy, something which builds gradually and which will be enhanced by the outdoor context itself.

Complex patterns are related to the orbits of the coloured objects juggled but the real *raison d'être* is the music: the raw and elating power of rock and roll.

The show features 6 performers, male and female, and will revisit some of the themes developed in *Sweet Life* and *Smashed*: romantic duets, power plays and incantations.

The piece continues Gandini tradition of integrating strong female performers.





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The Songs

1. Sympathy for the Devil - The Rolling Stones
2. Sunday Morning - Velvet Underground
3. Good Vibrations - The Beach Boys
4. Summertime - Janis Joplin
5. I Want You - Bob Dylan
6. Subterranean Homesick Blues - Bob Dylan
7. Scary Monsters (And Super Creeps) - David Bowie
8. Litanei auf das Fest Allerseelen, D. 343 - Franz Schubert (by Bryn Terfel & Malcolm Martineau)

Gandini Juggling - The Company

Formed in 1992 by world-renowned juggler Sean Gandini and Kati Ylä-Hokkala, Gandini Juggling continues to be at the vanguard of contemporary circus, reinventing and reinvigorating juggling for the 21st Century.

Their previous outdoor theatre show *Smashed* was originally commissioned in 2010 for the National Theatre's Watch This Space Festival and as part of the Greenwich and Docklands International Festival. Since developing the piece into a 60 minute theatrical show, *Smashed* has gone on to be performed globally over 200 times, reaching audiences of over 90,000.

8 Songs is a fantastic opportunity for Gandini to do what they do best; creating a brand new show combining skill with spectacle and inviting audiences of all ages into their playful world of movement, mathematics and music.

Gandini Juggling celebrates juggling in all its facets, exploring not just what juggling is, but what juggling can be. Currently an ever-evolving ensemble made up of a virtuosic core group of jugglers, they regularly expand to include up to 20 performers for specially commissioned events and performances. Ferociously prolific, they are constantly creating new works, which range from radical art & juggling fusions to accessible theatrical performances, from choreographic studies to commercially commissioned routines.

Since their inception the Gandinis have performed over 5,000 shows in 50 countries and they continue to perform at many of the world's most prestigious festivals and venues throughout the world. These venues range from Contemporary art museums in France to Opera houses in Germany, from theatres in Lebanon to tents in Argentina. Closer to home the Gandinis can be seen performing at the UK's major outdoor festivals and theatre houses including London's Royal Opera House and The Royal National Theatre, and in 2016 a collaboration with the English National Opera and Los Angeles Opera on Philip Glass "Akhnaten", awarded with the prestigious Olivier Awards in 2017.

The Gandini's have an insatiable thirst for making juggling pieces and a fiery desire to collaborate, communicate and provoke. They aim to reposition juggling as a versatile, engaging and malleable art form for our times and throughout their artistic process the audience is complicit to development of their work. The Gandini's thus aim to engage a complex dialogue with audiences, assuming a mutual maturity and imbuing the viewer with a questioning intelligence, transcending cultural barriers and stimulating imaginations.

Gandini Juggling also collaborate with a wide range of cultural leaders, initially teaming up with the pioneering and influential dance artist and choreographer Gill Clarke. The Gandini's continue to be influenced by a range of disciplines, which include amongst others, composers, ballet choreographers, fashion designers, computer programmers, sound designers, set makers and mathematicians. They have spent several seasons

working with orchestras, choreographing juggling patterns to a wide range of classical compositions and have had music especially composed for them by renowned composers Tom Johnson, Nimrod Borenstein and Gabriel Prokofiev for coming large scale production *Spring* (2018).

In addition to performing, Gandini Juggling are very much in demand at leading circus schools. Teaching workshops, creating performances and supporting the next generation of circus artists. Alongside this, Gandini publish their own books and DVDs, continuing to support the wider understanding of the beautiful possibilities of juggling, for jugglers and non-jugglers alike.

The Gandini's journeys have always been counter current, an individual voice in the global circus scene, with quotidian risk-taking and fearless upturns. 30 productions and 25 years later, Gandini Juggling are creating some of the most vibrant and challenging performance pieces in the world.

Gandini Juggling have been awarded with the Herald Archangel Award (2017) at the Edinburgh Festival.

[Shows on tour:](#) *Smashed*, *4 x 4 Ephemeral Architectures*, *8 Songs*, *Sigma* (Total Theatre Award 2017), *Spring* (premier 2018).

For further information about the company, visit www.gandinijuggling.com

ARTISTIC TEAM

Director: Sean Gandini

Assistant director: Kati Ylä-Hokkala

Performers: Christopher Patfield,
Francesca Mari, Frederike Gerstner, Iñaki
Sastre, Jose Triguero, Lynn Scott.

Management: Gandini Juggling

Image credits: Alan Flechter & SO Festival
Linconshire

CO-PRODUCERS

Without Walls Consortium
Ageas Salisbury International Arts Festival
Greenwich & Docklands International
Festival

8 Songs has been commissioned by
Without Walls, a consortium of leading UK
outdoor arts festivals, collaborating to
break new ground in the creation of
extraordinary outdoor work in the UK.

VIDEOS

Gandini Juggling on Vimeo

Click [here](#) for 8 Songs video

IMAGES & FURTHER MATERIALS

Click [here](#) for 8 Songs external dropbox file



TECHNICAL RIDER

SPACE REQUIREMENTS

Width: 10 m

Depth: 8 m

Minimum height clearance: 4m

Floor: The floor should be hard and flat. No pavers, no grass please.

Dressing rooms: Big enough to comfortably fit 6 performers, provided with chairs, tables and with access to drinking water, power and small catering with bananas, mineral water, coffee.

TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS (to be provided by the festival)

Floor: Dance linoleum. Please note that we could manage without dance floor if given notice and if the floor is hard and flat enough.

Rehearsals & set up 2 hours on site with sound operator

Technical crew: 1 sound operator

Sound: professional sound system adapted to the size of the audience complete with Auto-Cue and 1 microphone.

CD player and monitors will be needed, if the main speakers are in front of the performing area.

Set: 4 chairs

Neither the chairs nor the microphone need to be anything special.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Weather: the producer should be aware that 8 Songs could be performed in a drizzle but not in heavy rain.

For two shows on the same date, two hours are needed in between.

Company on Tour	6 performers, 1 company manager* * Please note that the company manager is not always needed.
Genre	Dance / Circus / Physical Theatre
Suitability	All ages with parental guidance
Running Time	30 minutes

PAST & FUTURE TOURING

2015

3 - 4 May, Brighton Festival, UK
16-17 May, Norfolk and Norwich Festival, UK
24 - 25 May, Salisbury International Arts Festival, UK
25 - 26 June, Imagine Watford Festival, UK
27 - 28 June - Greenwich + Docklands International Festival, UK
4th July - Hat Fair, UK
18th July - Turin, Italy
1st - 2 August - Stockton International Riverside Festival, UK
23 August, National Theatre River Stage, London, UK

2016

24 - 25 June, Château d'Hardelot, Calais, FR
2 - 3 July, SO Festival, Lincolnshire, UK
8 - 9 July, Festival Hop Hop, Metz, FR
13 - 14 August, Theater op de Markt, Hasselt, BE
4 September, Doncaster, UK
16 September, Enclave de Calle, Burgos, ES
24 September, Derby Feste, UK

2017

17 April, Preston, UK
24 June, Newcastle-under-Lyme, UK
13 - 14 July, Aveiro, PT
23 July, Lublin, PL
12 August, Doncaster, UK
19 - 20 August, Chassepierre, BE



For further touring of the company, visit: <http://www.gandinijuggling.com/en/tour-booking/>

Commissioned by:



CONTACT:

For further details about the company including availability, programming and financial conditions please contact us:

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