



Stefan Haves - Bio

DIRECTOR
cirque comique

Stefan Haves is an acclaimed director, creator and producer of Circus, theater and film whose creations have appeared on stages, festivals, and screens across the globe.

His work has been a favorite at Cirque du Soleil since 2006 where he has collaborated on creative teams as a Comic Act Designer, Casting Partner, and Master Teacher on nine shows, including O, Love and Ka.

Known as a “pied piper of talent” Haves has assembled his network of world-class performers, clowns, acrobats, jugglers, sword swallows, musicians and designers to numerous internationally celebrated projects. Of note was his six year tenure as primary writer/director at Dinner/Cirque Teatro Zinzanni in San Francisco and Seattle.

Haves credits include directing and collaborating with performers like Joan Baez, Val Kilmer and Tim Robbins, and creating original work in Los Angeles at the Getty Center, El Portal Theatre, Largo at the Coronet, Actors Gang and Paramount Studios. Haves is also an award winning choreographer, one of the four awards received for his adaptation of Jack London's *The Call of The Wild*. In 2013, he was commissioned to produce *Mdsmmr Nites Txt* :) his hit adaptation of the Shakespeare classic at the prestigious Tisch School of the Arts in New York. That same year he created groundbreaking work for the Chinese National Circus in the city of Nanjing in the Jiangsu Province.

Haves also directs films, including *Punch Drunk* starring Academy award nominee Sally Kellerman.

As a performer, Stefan’s work has also garnered global recognition, most notably as his celebrated character “Backman” appearing on stage, at festivals and on television screens worldwide after claiming \$10,000 on *America's Funniest People* in 1991.

Summer 2013, Haves was invited to curate his popular *Cirque-A-Palooza* Festival in conjunction with the Pasadena Playhouse, showcasing physical theatre troupes and performers from across the United States. The centerpiece of the festival was Haves’ acclaimed musical, cirque, extravaganza *'Road To Palooza.'* Haves was dubbed “LA’s Eccentric Impressario” by the *LA Weekly*.

Stefan is rounding out year 2014 with a ten week residency as a visiting scholar at the India Institute of Technology, co-directing the Palazzo dinner/cirque show in Nuremberg, Germany. He is collaborating in pre-production on the 2015 Milano Expo with Cirque du Soleil.

His work has been summed up this way: “Stefan Haves’ has brought the audience back to life... In that charming, slapstick brilliance, he has rather poignantly asked you to open your mind, let go of everything, and enjoy the awe of artists, performers, and those around you.”