



MONICA CULEN

Founder and CEO, RED NOSES Clowndoctors International

Monica Culen was one of the pioneers in introducing Healthcare Clowning programmes in Europe. As the CEO of the RED NOSES Group, she has supported the build-up of more than ten RED NOSES organizations worldwide. Previously, she has worked at the INSEAD Europe Business School and at the OPEC Fund. She currently chairs the European Federation of Healthcare Clown Organisations and the Austrian Fundraising Association.



GIORA SEELIGER

Founder and Artistic Director, RED NOSES Clowndoctors International

Giora Seeliger is the Artistic Director of RED NOSES Clowndoctors International and an acclaimed actor and director. He received his artistic training from the Fratellini's National Circus School, Jacques Lecoq, Étienne Decroux and Yves Lebreton. He founded the Théâtre des Falaises and toured across Europe, and appeared in more than 20 national and international films. Together with Monica, Giora founded the RED NOSES Group more than 20 years ago.



EDITH HELLER

Managing Director, ROTE NASEN Clowndoctors

Edith Heller has worked for ROTE NASEN Clowndoctors in Austria since 1999. Among others, she was responsible for the launching of the geriatric programme in Austria in 2000. In 2012, she became Managing Director and has since actively supported the development of a large portfolio of Healthcare Clowning programmes. She is an avid advocate for the importance of professional exchanges among Healthcare Clowning organisations.



MARTIN KOTAL

Artistic Director, ROTE NASEN Clowndoctors

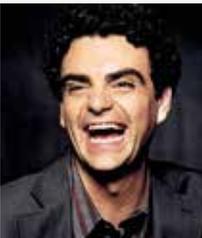
Martin Kotal has worked as a clown for ROTE NASEN Clowndoctors since 1998, before becoming Artistic Director in 2012. He has received his artistic training at Accademia Teatro Dimitri, and in theatre and acting schools in Hamburg and Stuttgart. He is a founding member of the “Theater Olé”, a clown theatre in Vienna. He has been engaged in promoting the professionalization of Healthcare Clowning and its recognition as a profession.



UNIV. PROF. DR. MICHAEL MEYER

Professor of Nonprofit-Management, WU Vienna

Michael Meyer is the Head of the Institute for Nonprofit-Management and the Competence Center for NPOs and Social Entrepreneurship, and a Professor for Nonprofit-Management at the Vienna University of Economics and Business (WU Vienna). He has authored several books and published in various journals, including Nonprofit and Voluntary Sector Quarterly, Voluntas, Journal of Managerial Psychology, and Human Resource Management Journal.



ROLANDO VILLAZÓN

Tenor and RED NOSES International Humour Ambassador

Rolando Villazón is one of the most acclaimed tenors of our time. He has performed with leading orchestras and conductors on concert stages all over the world and also maintains successful careers as a stage director and author. A passionate clown himself, Rolando is a Humour Ambassador for RED NOSES Clowndoctors International. As “Dr. Rollo”, he has visited hospitalised children on numerous occasions.



SUE MORRISON

Artistic Director, Theatre Resource Centre

Sue Morrison is a world-renowned teacher of performance-oriented Clowning and Bouffon. As protégé of Richard Pochinko, she has expanded this work to forge a unique and powerful combination of Native American and European Clowning. Sue has co-created and directed numerous award-winning productions at Fringe and theatre festivals. She co-authored the book "*Clown through Mask: The Work of Richard Pochinko as Practiced by Sue Morrison*".



MICHAEL CHRISTENSEN

Founder, The Big Apple Circus

Michael Christensen is a performing artist, lecturer and pioneer in integrating humour into healthcare, most notably in paediatric hospitals worldwide. In 1986, he founded the Big Apple Circus Clown Care Unit. He is a designated New York Living Landmark, recipient of the Raoul Wallenberg Humanitarian Award, and Ambassador David M. Waters International Paediatric Hall of Fame's inductee.



RUUD HENDRICKS

Assistant Professor, Maastricht University

Ruud Hendricks' current research focuses on dementia care with an emphasis on artefacts that involve various forms of make-believe. His scholarly interests cover cultural perspectives on neuro-cognitive conditions, Autism Spectrum Disorder, Parkinson's disease, and Dementia in particular. Ruud has done ethnographic research on clowning in dementia care, for which purpose he was trained as a 'miMakkus' clown. Previously, Ruud has worked as a care worker in mental healthcare.



MAGDALENA SCHAMBERGER

Independent Creative Collaborator

Magdalena Schamberger has over 25 years of experience performing, directing and teaching physical theatre and clowning. She is co-founder and former Artistic Director of Hearts & Minds, Scotland, and developed the unique Elderflowers programme. Recently, she has created “*Curious Shoes*”, bespoke theatre performances for people with dementia, and Artful Minds, an experiential training initiative for artists working with this audience group.



JOS HOUBEN

Theatre artist

Jos Houben is an internationally acclaimed artist in the field of Comedy and Physical Theatre. Performing, writing, teaching, and directing worldwide for the past 20 years, he has worked with leading international organisations and artists, and taught master classes in movement and comedy. Since 2000, Jos has worked as a professor at L'École Internationale Jaques Lecoq in Paris, where he teaches clowning, movement and comedy.



NICOLA BEDLINGTON

Director-General, European Patients' Forum

Nicola Bedlington is the Secretary General of the European Patients' Forum, an umbrella organisation that works with patients' groups in public health and health advocacy across Europe. She has worked as an external expert for the European Commission, and was the first Director of the European Disability Forum. She also led the ENSI Secretariat, an OECD initiated governmental network on education and sustainable development.

BIOGRAPHIES



DR. PETER AHLBURG

Medical Doctor, Aarhus University Hospital

Peter Ahlburg is the Chief Physician at the Department of Anaesthesiology of Aarhus University Hospital's Day Surgical Centre. The Centre focuses on pain treatment and reduction for children in preparation for surgery. For the past 25 years, Peter has cared for children in their perioperative period. Working with healthcare clowns for the past 12 years, he has researched the impact of healthcare clowns during the induction.



PROF. RIMANTĖ ČERKAUSKIENĖ

Head of the Coordinating Centre for Children's Rare Diseases, Children's Hospital, Affiliate of Vilnius University Hospital Santaros

Rimantė Čerkauskienė is a Professor of Paediatric Nephrology at the Vilnius University Clinic and Head of the Coordinating Centre for Children's Rare Diseases at the Vilnius Children Hospital. She is actively involved in educational and research activities, and has authored or contributed to more than 50 scientific and peer-reviewed publications.



SIGITA BUROKIENĖ, MD, MPH, PHD.

Vice-Director, Children's Hospital, Affiliate of Vilnius University Hospital Santaros

Sigita Burokiene is the Vice-Director of the Vilnius Children's Hospital, where she works at the Paediatric emergency department. She is also Assistant Professor at the Vilnius University Faculty of Medicine, and a national delegate to the scientific paediatric committee at the European Medicines Agency. She is involved in paediatric research studies and published widely within this field.



DR. PETER KRAJMER

**Clinical Psychologist, Clinic of Paediatric Haematology-
Oncology, Bratislava Children's Hospital**

Peter Krajmer has been working as a Clinical Psychologist in the Clinic of Paediatric Haematology and Oncology in Bratislava Children's Hospital since 2008. His work and research focus developmental psychology and psychopathology - in particular on the continuity of the healthy development of the child and the whole family that has a life marked by cancer.



LUKÁŠ HOUDEK

Deputy Artistic Director, ZDRAVOTNÍ KLAUN, o.p.s.

Lukáš Houdek is a clown, coach and teacher at ZDRAVOTNÍ KLAUN, where he has worked since 2001. He is also the deputy Artistic Director of the organisation and responsible for research. Lukáš is a member of the clown troupe Squadra Sua and teaches clowning at CIRQUEON - Centre for New Circus, as well as at Prague HAMU university. He also teaches communication seminars for medical students at the Prague Faculty of Medicine.



ALE DUARTE

Somatic educator

Ale Duarte is a somatic experiencing practitioner and educator, with professional practice since 1995. He trains professionals from various fields worldwide. He is specialised in child trauma, and the inherent ability of a child's body to recover from trauma impact. Ale works directly with victims and survivors in areas of natural disasters and conflicts, such as the tsunami in Asia in 2005, hurricane Katrina in 2006, the tsunami in Japan in 2011, and the conflicts in Sri Lanka and Syria.



PAVEL MIHAĽÁK

Artistic Director, ČERVENÝ NOS Clowndoctors

Pavel Mihaľák is an actor and musician, and the Artistic Director of ČERVENÝ NOS Clowndoctors in Slovakia. He is a member of the RED NOSES Internationals' Emergency Smile team and has been part of missions to Cameroon, Ukraine and the response to the migration influx in Europe in the summer of 2016, in Greece. He is also an expert trainer in humour workshops. Previously, he was the Artistic Director of the puppet theatre "Babadlo", in Prešov.



REINHARD HORSTKOTTE

Artistic Director, ROTE NASEN e.V.

Reinhard Horstkotte is a clown, street performer, acrobat and percussionist. He attended the Étage school for artistry and performing arts and the Accademia Teatro Dimitri. His passion for the mythological and archetypal background of the clown took him to South Africa, working with Bushmen descendants from rural townships. Since 2014, as Artistic Director of ROTE NASEN, he has designed and implemented projects in refugee centres in Berlin.



DR. DAVRON MUKHAMADIEV

Regional Health and Care Coordinator, International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Davron Mukhamadiev has been working with the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement for more than 25 years. Among others, he was Head of disaster relief operations in Tajikistan, and Health Delegate in Sudan, Russia, and Ukraine. He authored several scientific articles in the field of mental health and psychosocial aspects of rehabilitation of the most vulnerable people in emergencies.



CLAIRE WEISS, MTh BA

Head of the Diakonie Refugee Home “Paul Weiland Haus”

Claire Weiß is head of the refugee home “Paul Weiland Haus” in Vienna; this home houses 160 refugees from 15 countries, with a focus on people with serious diseases. Having studied educational sciences and protestant theology, Claire has a vast experience working with disabled people, homebased care, and refugees. She did voluntary service in Austria and abroad, including in South Africa where she worked with young people in townships.



LAURA KOPPENBERG

**Organizational manager, CliniClowns
Foundation, The Netherlands**

Laura Koppenberg is the locations and organization manager at CliniClowns, The Netherlands. Laura has experience in senior management in creative companies for over 15 years, and a background in radio and television journalism, as well as the museum world. Next to her professional job, she is a moderator and host of festivals and panel discussions. She is also the high soprano in the a cappella vocal band Juice.

ARTISTIC INTERVENTIONS

Christian Hölbling, ROTE NASEN Clowndoctors, Austria

Christina Matuella, ROTE NASEN Clowndoctors, Austria

Daniele Guaragna, Soccorso Clown, Italy

Helga Jud, ROTE NASEN Clowndoctors, Austria

Tanja Rainalter, ROTE NASEN Clowndoctors, Austria