



PRESS KIT

MARCH 2021

2021

LET US ALL UNITE!

THE 80TH ANNIVERSARY OF "THE GREAT DICTATOR"

Chaplin's[®]

WORLD

BY GRÉVIN

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Michael Chaplin, son of Charlie Chaplin

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INTRODUCTION

For its 2021 season, Chaplin's World, the only museum in the world dedicated to Charlie Chaplin, will be supporting an extensive program of activities. #LetUsAllUnite! will celebrate both the 80th anniversary of "*The Great Dictator*" and my father's humanist values. In the Jewish barber's famous end speech in "*The Great Dictator*", Chaplin highlights the importance of hope, respect, democracy, and freedom if humanity is to triumph over hate, poverty, and dictatorship. Our goal in the new season is to promote this speech, which has inspired, and continues to inspire, many artists - proof of its ongoing relevance. The current geopolitical and socio-economic climate has prompted artists such as U2, Coldplay and Paolo Nutini to feature that speech in their concerts and statements. These socially engaged artists use Chaplin's words to convey their message, connecting past and present and strengthening the power and resonance of the speech. The #LetUsAllUnite! program featured at Chaplin's World in 2021 will include a temporary exhibition on "*The Great Dictator*". An event scheduled for the Summer 2021, which we hope will have a global impact, is intended to resonate with Chaplin's World's world-record-breaking first anniversary, and will celebrate the end speech from "*The Great Dictator*".

For this very special year, we will be partnering with two prominent NGOs that support our goal of showcasing and reviving Chaplin's humanist values: Amnesty International (Swiss chapter) and the Non-Violence Project Foundation.

The United Nations General Assembly has unanimously adopted a resolution declaring 2021 as 'the International Year of Peace and Trust.' We hope you will join us in promoting the values of "*The Great Dictator*" with all human beings, regardless of their origin, age or gender.

Yours sincerely,

Michael Chaplin

President, Charlie Chaplin Museum Foundation

A black and white photograph of Charlie Chaplin in his iconic role as the Dictator from the film 'The Great Dictator'. He is wearing a military-style uniform with a peaked cap and is captured in a dynamic, expressive pose with his arms raised and a wide, intense facial expression. A large, dark shadow of his figure is cast onto the wall behind him.

1.2021 - LET US ALL
UNITE!

CHAPLIN AND THE 80TH ANNIVERSARY OF “THE GREAT DICTATOR”

First picture in which the story is more important than the Little Tramp.

“Fate, in its irony, has made the black butterfly of identical moustache settle on the upper lip of two completely different men. One of them is an invention, a mask. The other is real flesh and blood. The former is one of the most popular men on the globe. The latter is positively the most hated.”

Serguei Eisenstein.



Chaplin's "Modern Times," his first film in five years, was released in 1936. It epitomized his reaction - cloaked in humor, as always - to contemporary circumstances, attacking capitalism from a socio-economic and, more importantly, human perspective: many Americans really had to steal bread and live in shacks like the "Paradise" home the gamine finds for the couple. Although the factory owner bears a striking physical resemblance to Henry Ford (an anti-Semitic supporter of Hitler), Chaplin had been quoted in February 1931 as saying, "I am always suspicious of a picture with a message. Don't say that I'm a propagandist ... The world at the moment is in such a turmoil of change that there are no signs of stability anywhere on which to speculate sensibly concerning the future, but I am sure it will be a good enough world to want to live in for a while."

Chaplin was one of the few filmmakers of the 1930s who dared challenge the power of Hitler and the Nazi Party and warn of the threat they represented to the world. The overall feeling in Hollywood was a reluctance to rock the boat or jeopardize the lucrative revenue from film distribution abroad. In addition, after the disillusionment of World War I, U.S. public opinion was overwhelmingly isolationist: America was in the throes of a deep economic crisis and people were more concerned with their own fate than with that of foreigners. Nonetheless, the idea for "The Great Dictator" was born.

Perhaps Chaplin was better informed of Hitler's doings than most people, given the constant comparisons in the press between these two world-famous figures, not only because of their similar moustaches but also because they were born in the same week, in April 1889.



On the eve of World War II, it took courage and resourcefulness to work on a satire of Nazism and the persecution of the Jews. Contrary to popular belief, Chaplin was not Jewish; he simply, as always, wished to defend the underdog. "I've been playing the little man who is stepped on for 25 years, and the little man can be an individual or he can be a minority made up of a lot of little men," he said. Paulette Goddard's character in the film was intended to represent "the whole Jewish race, their strength, their resentment, against senseless persecution, their hope for a better future."

The day after Kristallnacht, in November 1938, Chaplin registered the screenplay for *"The Dictator"* with the American Copyright Office as the "story of a little fish in a shark-infested ocean." Production began the week that Hitler invaded Poland, and Britain and France declared war on Germany, in September 1939.

The Chaplin Studios projection log book shows that, before shooting began, Chaplin and his production team spent months watching newsreels and press reports. Chaplin had also seen Leni Riefenstahl's *"Triumph of the Will"* - in the company of René Clair and Luis Buñuel no less. Hynkel's speeches and the characters of Napaloni, Garbitsch and Herring show how fully the team had gained an understanding of the originals they were imitating. Some scenes and settings are surprisingly similar to period images. Nonetheless, Chaplin maintained a distance from his subject that allowed him to denounce the absurdity of all forms of totalitarianism and conflict. He spent months writing the final speech for *"The Great Dictator"*, borrowing many of the themes from Albert Einstein's pre-war peace speeches, sometimes reproduced almost verbatim in early drafts of Chaplin's own speech, reflecting the discussions the two men must have had. A screenplay project

dated 13 December 1938 describes the final scene as follows: "Charlie (sic) steps forward. He begins - slowly - scared to death. But his words give him power. As he goes on, the clown turns into a prophet."

The release of *"The Great Dictator"* was eagerly anticipated. When the première was held, on 15 October 1940, the United States was not yet at war. The film was a box-office hit, though some critics deplored Chaplin's "overly political" bias, and the final speech in particular. Chaplin answered:

"The picture is two hours and seven minutes in length. If two hours and three

minutes of it is comedy, may I not be excused for ending my comedy on a note that reflects, honestly and realistically, the world in which we live, and may I not be excused for pleading for a better world? Mind you, it is addressed to the soldiers, the very victims of a dictatorship. It was a difficult thing to do. It would have been much easier to have the barber and Hannah disappear over the horizon, off to the promised land against the glowing sunset. But there is no promised land for the oppressed people of the world. There is no place over the horizon to which they can go for sanctuary. They must stand, and we must stand."

"The Great Dictator", Chaplin's first talking film, was a milestone in his career but also in the decline of his popularity in the McCarthyist America of the postwar years. In 1952, after the revocation of his U.S. re-entry permit, Chaplin decided to spend the rest of his life in Europe. He wrote: "He who robs me of my self-respect, my right to speak and my right as a free man, steals and tramples to death the spark of every motivating breath of life that is within me."

Chaplin took a bold and unusual stance.

His visionary satire was shaped by, and has shaped, History.

Béatrice de Reyniès

General Manager, Chaplin's World

Kate Guyonvarch

Managing Director, Chaplin Office

1.1 CHAPLIN'S WORLD CELEBRATES THE 80TH ANNIVERSARY OF "THE GREAT DICTATOR"

«The way of life can be free
and beautiful, but we have
lost the way»

2021 will be a very special year, as it marks the eightieth anniversary of "The Great Dictator" and the fifth anniversary of Chaplin's World, the only museum in the world dedicated to Charlie Chaplin.

Chaplin's World has garnered many awards, including the European Museum Academy's "Best Museum in Europe" award in 2018. With almost a million visitors since its launch, on 16 April 2016, it has already become a prime tourist attraction on the Swiss Riviera.

On this special year devoted to Chaplin's 1940 masterpiece *"The Great Dictator"*, Chaplin's World will be organizing a series of events based on the film and its iconic and ever-relevant final speech, including a temporary exhibition; a world-record-breaking human fresco recreating part of the speech; and a global digital campaign.

Our collaboration with Amnesty International (Swiss chapter) and the Non-Violence Project Foundation will highlight the timeless intergenerational message conveyed by the final speech, masterfully delivered by Chaplin in his visionary film.



2. STRONG PARTNERS

On this anniversary year, Chaplin's World is joining forces with three organizations to put Charlie Chaplin's humanist values back into the spotlight.



2.1 CHARLIE CHAPLIN MUSEUM FOUNDATION

The Charlie Chaplin Museum Foundation is a non-profit organization founded in April 2001 in order to create a museum tracing the artist's life and work on the premises of his last home, Manoir de Ban, in Corsier-sur-Vevey (Switzerland).

Since the opening of Chaplin's World - the only museum in the world dedicated to Charlie Chaplin - in April 2016, the Foundation's mission has been to boost the museum's present and future development through its program of cultural activities, and to ensure they are in keeping with the museum's values.

charliechaplinmuseumfoundation.com



2.2 AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL (SWISS CHAPTER)

Launched in 1961, Amnesty International is a global movement of more than 7 million people. It is committed to upholding the Universal Declaration of Human Rights of 1948 and other international human rights regulations.

amnesty.ch



2.3 NON-VIOLENCE PROJECT FOUNDATION

The Non-Violence Project Foundation (NVPF) is a non-profit organization active on four continents. Its mission is to inspire, engage and move people to understand how to resolve conflicts without resorting to violence.

nonviolence.com

3.THE 2021 “LET US ALL UNITE!” PROGRAM



TEMPORARY EXHIBITION FROM 12 MARCH TO 29 AUGUST 2021

CHAPLIN AND THE DICTATOR: THE STORY OF A SMALL FISH IN A SHARK-INFESTED OCEAN

This exhibition will feature excerpts from the film and original photographic prints taken during the shooting. Hynkel's terrifying speech will be shown on a loop on a big screen. Production stills by Chaplin's assistant Dan James, most of them unpublished, show Chaplin directing his actors, special effects used in the film, and scenes that were edited out or never filmed. Other period documents will show the surprising resemblance between the film's characters and sets and the Third Reich originals on which they were based.

CHAPLIN'S WORLD CELEBRATES ITS FIFTH ANNIVERSARY 2-18 APRIL 2021

CHAPLIN'S WORLD WILL SOON CELEBRATE ITS FIFTH ANNIVERSARY!

Egg hunts will be held on the museum's grounds during the Easter vacation, with plenty of surprises to be won! We will be hosting special events for visitors of all ages on the anniversary of our museum and Charlie Chaplin's birthday, Friday 16 April.



3.1 A HUMANIST-CENTERED PROGRAM

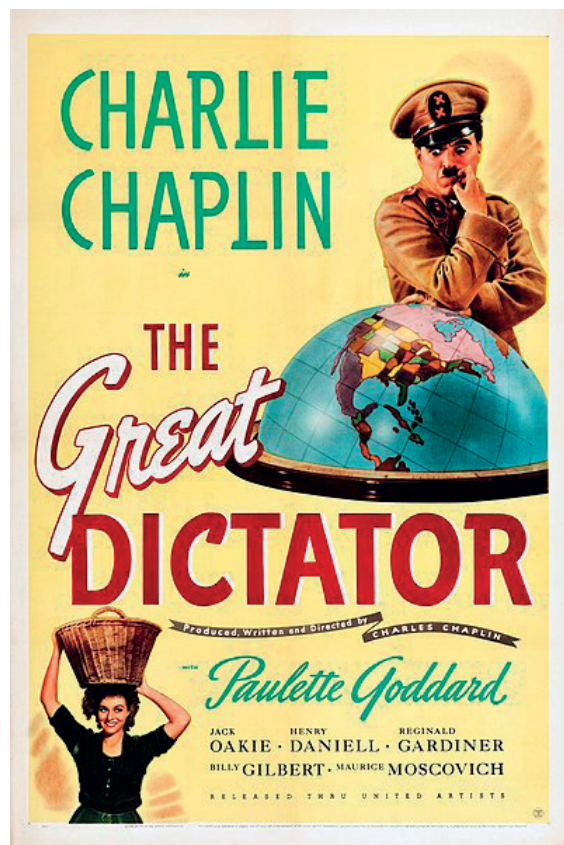
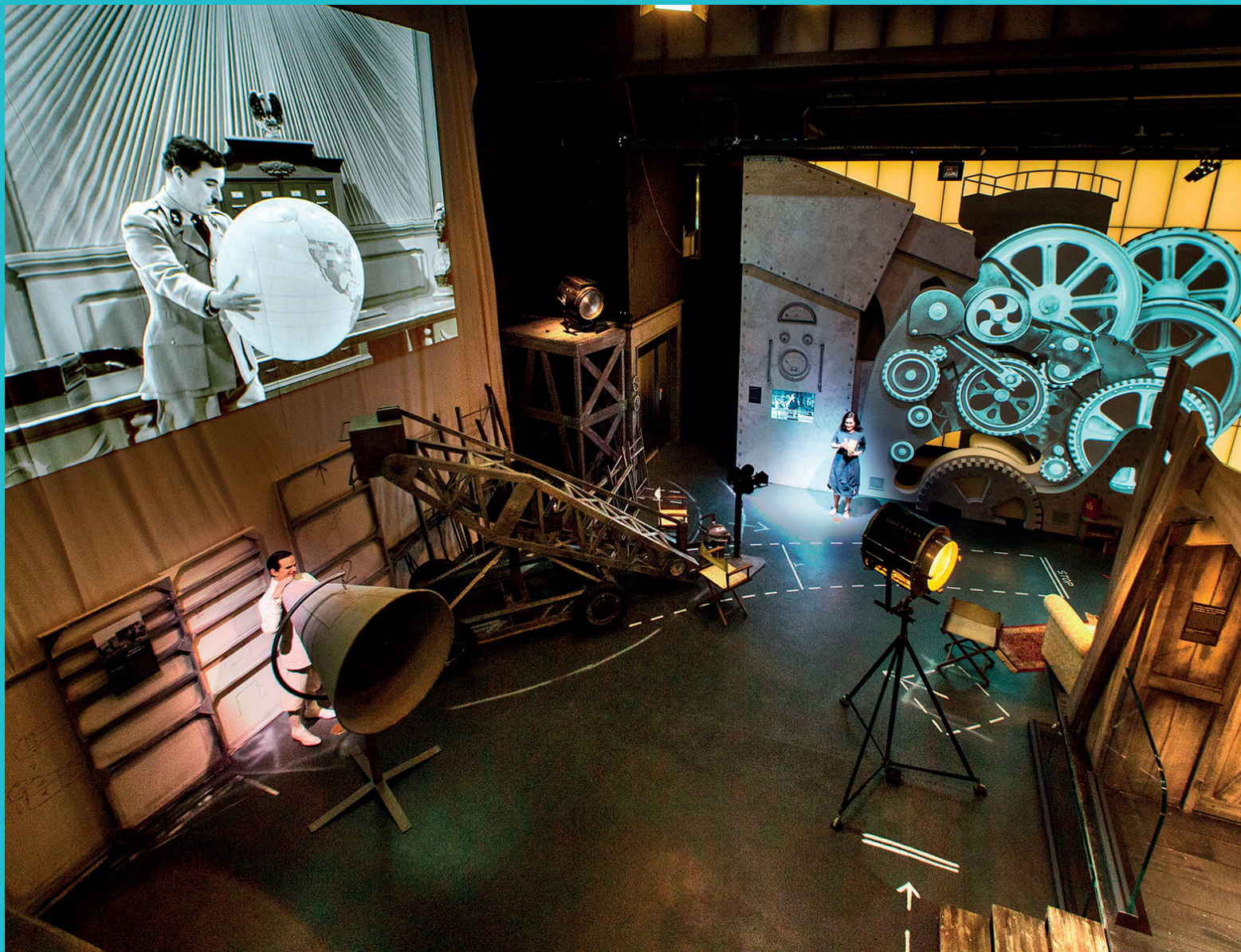
The 2020-21 season at Chaplin's World will pay tribute to "The Great Dictator," a socially engaged and enduringly relevant film, allowing the public to rediscover Charlie Chaplin's work from a humanist perspective.

It includes several flagship events:




- Film screenings;
- "Chaplin and 'The Great Dictator'", a unique exhibition created by Sam Stourd , Director of the Villa Medici in Rome, Mathilde Thibault-Starzyk, an expert in the history of cinema, fashion and costume, and Kate Guyonvarch, Managing Director of the Chaplin Office in Paris;
- Our global digital campaign will invite people to become virtual Little Tramps! Groups of Tramps will be joined together to form letters of the alphabet, which in turn will be used to recreate the final speech from "The Great Dictator"! The speech will be presented in photo form on a huge banner at Chaplin's World during the Summer 2021.

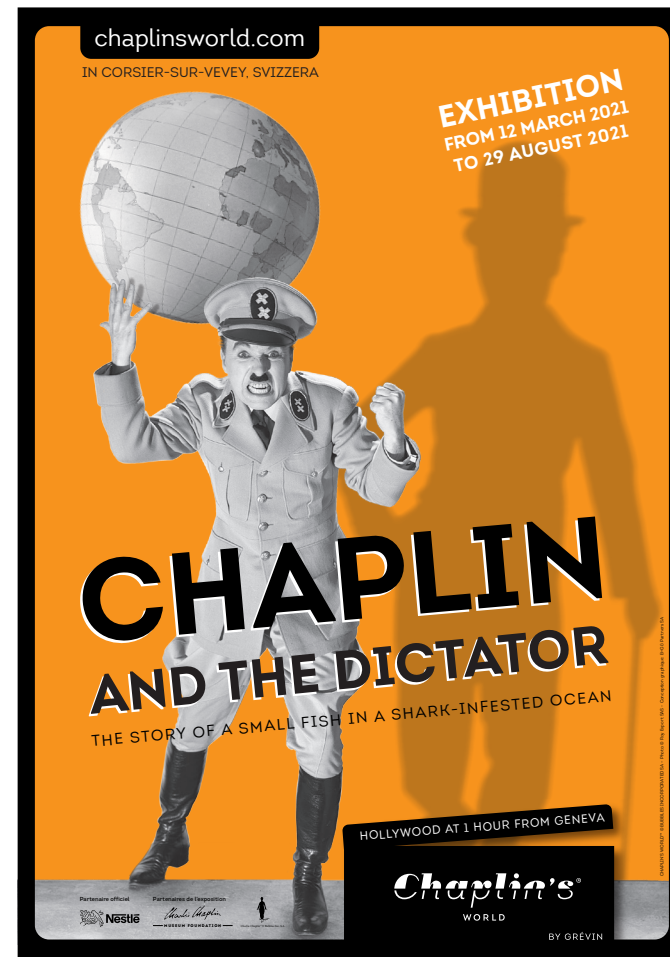
www.letusallunite.world

Let us fight for a world of reason, a world where science and progress will lead to all men's happiness.



IN THE ATTIC OF THE BAN MANOR HOUSE

-  Guided tours
-  Tailor-made events during exhibitions
-  VIP meetings



3.2 CHAPLIN AND "THE GREAT DICTATOR": AN EXCLUSIVE TEMPORARY EXHIBITION

The exhibition "Chaplin and 'The Great Dictator' - Story of a Little Fish in a Shark-Infested Ocean" is a co-production by the Rencontres d'Arles, Roy Export S.A.S. and the Lille Photography Institute. Designed by Kate Guyonvarch, Sam Stourd   and Mathilde Thibault-Starzyk, it will be held in the attic of Manoir de Ban, from 12 March to 29 August 2021.

The tri-lingual exhibition, in French, English and German, begins with an introduction presenting the socio-political context of the period, the historical background and the events that were occurring in Chaplin's life between 1918 and 1945 (when the film was eventually released in France). It features clips from the film and original photographic prints taken during the shooting. Production stills by Chaplin's assistant Dan James, most of them unpublished, show Chaplin directing his actors, and reveal hitherto unknown secrets of special effects used in the

film, and scenes that were edited out or never filmed.

The exhibition also includes press cuttings and other period documents attesting to the in-depth research carried out by Chaplin's team. These were used to reconstruct, for instance, the Reichstag sets and the characters of Hynkel, Napaloni, Garbitsch and Herring, mirroring Hitler, Mussolini, Goebbels and Goering.

Part of the exhibition focuses on Hollywood's response to the rise of Nazism, and the pressure Chaplin came under from the American and British authorities, who urged him not to make the film. The final speech from "The Great Dictator" obviously features in the exhibition and will be shown on a loop on a big screen.

Access to the exhibition is included in the Chaplin's World admission ticket.

« The hate of men will pass, and dictators die, and the power they took from the people will return to the people. »

3.2.1 EXHIBITION CURATORS

Sam Stourdzé

Sam Stourdzé is the Director of the Villa Medici in Rome and the former director of photography for the Rencontres d'Arles festival (which he headed from 2014 to 2020). He was also director of the Musée de l'Elysée in Lausanne. He is the author of several books and the curator of many exhibitions, including *"Fellini – The Great Parade"* and *"Chaplin in Pictures"*.

Mathilde Thibault-Starzyk

Mathilde Thibault-Starzyk graduated in art history and museology from École du Louvre. She is an expert in the history of cinema, fashion and costume. Since 2015, alongside her activity as a freelance collection manager, she has worked as a production manager for several exhibitions at the Philharmonie de Paris, including *"Barbara."*

Kate Guyonvarch

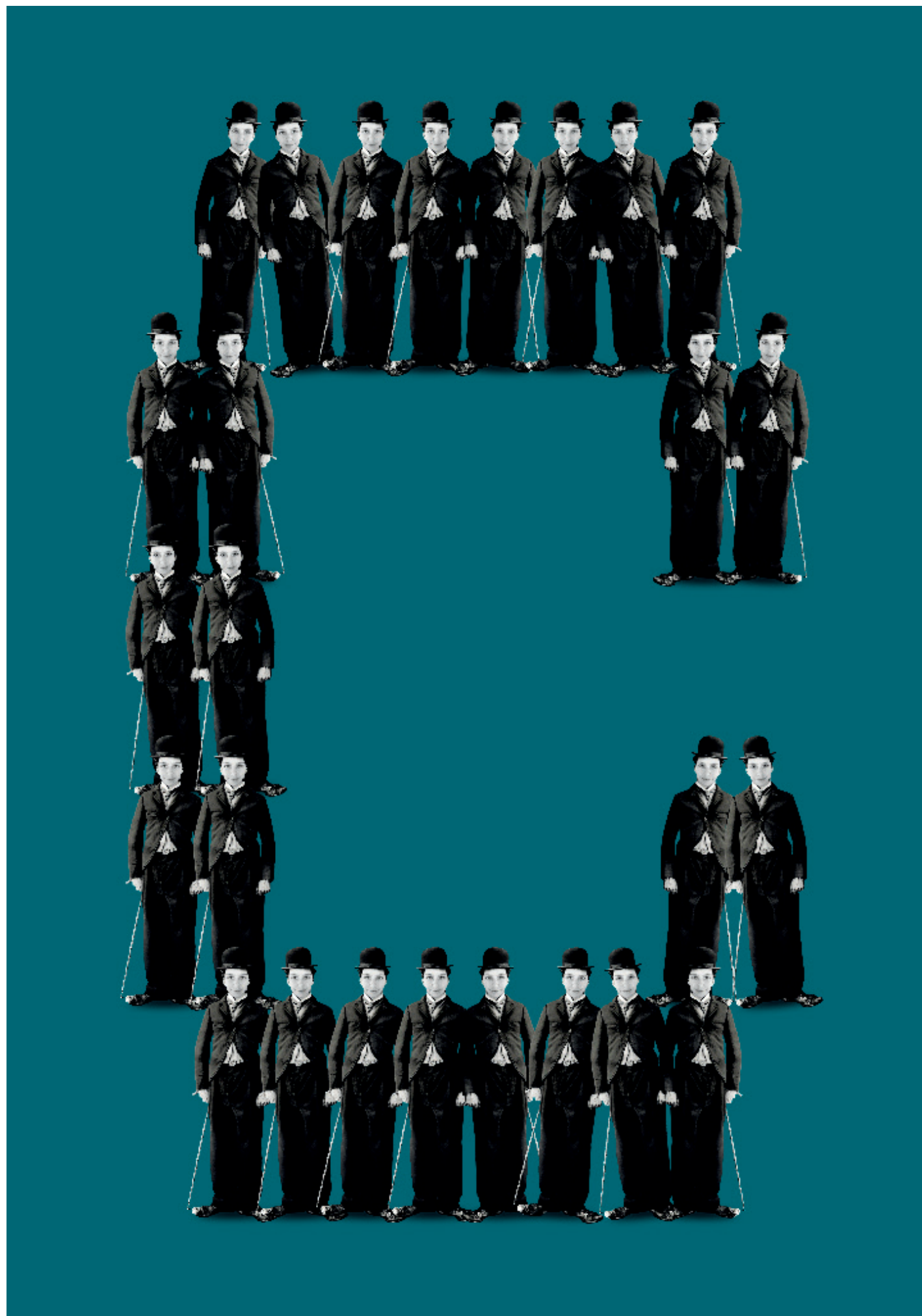
Kate Guyonvarch is the Managing Director of Roy Export, which owns the copyright to all of Chaplin's films produced after 1917. Under the supervision of the Chaplin family, she oversees the international use of Chaplin's image and copyrights, and the preservation and exploitation of his paper, photographic and film archives. She was scientific advisor for the exhibition *"The Sound of Charlie Chaplin"* at the Philharmonie de Paris in 2019.





3.3 CHAPLIN'S WORLD CELEBRATES ITS FIFTH ANNIVERSARY 2-18 APRIL 2021

It's been five years already since Chaplin's World, the only museum in the world dedicated to Charlie Chaplin, first opened its doors. Since 16 April 2016, the museum has attracted almost a million visitors from more than 185 countries. Chaplin's World is launching a global digital campaign to bring Chaplin fans together in a celebration of his humanist values (see p. 13). From 2 to 18 April 2021, Chaplin's World will celebrate its fifth anniversary! Egg hunts will be held on the museum's grounds during the Easter vacation, with plenty of surprises to be won! On the anniversary of our museum and Charlie Chaplin's birthday, Friday 16 April, we will be hosting special events for visitors of all ages. For more information, please visit the Chaplin's World website.



3.3 #LETUSALLUNITE – CITIZENS OF THE WORLD REPRODUCE THE FINAL SPEECH FROM “THE GREAT DICTATOR”

CAMPAIGN AND WEBSITE LAUNCH ON MARCH 12TH 2021

“*The Great Dictator*” and the values expressed in the film’s final speech still resonate and inspire us today, across borders and generations; world-famous bands such as U2 and Coldplay have been moved to pass on its universal message by playing it before their concerts. In the current socio-economic and geopolitical climate, the speech is as relevant as ever.

In keeping with the speech sequence from “*The Great Dictator*”, a touch screen kiosk in the exhibition will invite visitors to conjure virtual images of themselves as the Tramp. These images will be used to form letters of the alphabet; in turn, these will be arranged to reproduce the film’s final speech. Citizens of the world will be able to take part in this experiment by logging on to www.letusallunite.world.

The letters will be put together by the artist NOTsoNOISY Guillaume Reymond (who created this project exclusively for Chaplin’s World) in order to spell out the final speech of “*The Great Dictator*”.

During the Summer 2021, this work will be unveiled on Instagram and printed on a huge banner, to be displayed on the outer wall of Chaplin’s World.

To take part in this campaign is to adhere to the ideal of peace, and to join with others in supporting the humanist values expressed by Chaplin. Each individual is a link in a chain of hope; joined together, they can spread a message of peace, tolerance and unity.

Together, Chaplin’s World, the Chaplin Office in Paris, the Charlie Chaplin Museum Foundation, the Non-Violence Project Foundation and Amnesty International (Swiss chapter) will shine a spotlight on our programme with a worldwide creative campaign.

« Hynkel: I wish I knew what the public was thinking.

Garbitsch: What do you want them to think? Tell me and I’ll arrange it.

Hynkel: No, no! I want to know what they really think.

Garbitsch: That’s impossible, we’ve abolished free speech.

Hynkel: Yes, it is a nuisance. There is something to be said for democracy after all. »



4. CHAPLIN'S WORLD

4.1 FIFTH ANNIVERSARY COMING UP

A visit to Chaplin's World – the only museum dedicated to Charlie Chaplin – is a perfect opportunity to rediscover the most famous scenes from his films with exclusive video montages; experience the film-set atmosphere through reconstructions; discover his editing secrets; and enjoy emotional encounters with wax figures of the legendary stars of his films and, of course, with The Tramp himself, who appears at several places along the way.

Visitors of all ages will enjoy this fascinating journey through the unique world of Charlie Chaplin, which is as meaningful today as it has ever been.

Visitors to the Manoir are welcomed like guests in Chaplin's haven of peace.

Since its inauguration, in 2016, Chaplin's World by Grévin has attracted visitors of over 185 different nationalities. The museum is a resounding hit with the public and the international press.

4.2 INTERNATIONAL OUTREACH

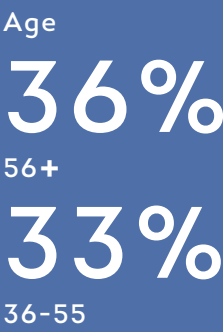
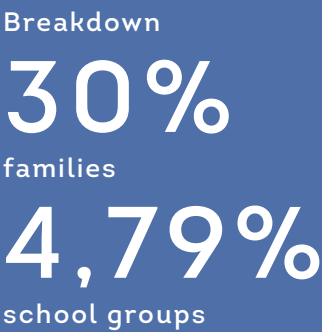
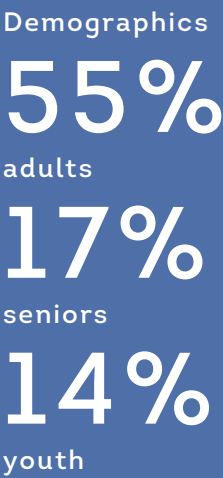
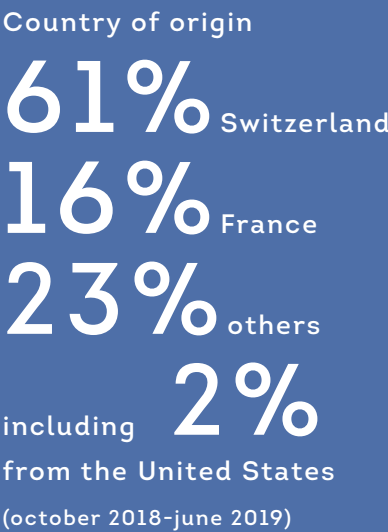
The international press has shown a keen interest in Chaplin's World, reflecting Chaplin's ongoing popularity. Two thousand journalists from over thirty countries have already reported on their visit. Such unprecedented media coverage has brought significant attention to the region. Just a few months after its opening, Chaplin's World by Grévin was awarded the Swiss Tourism Certificate of Excellence, in Bern, and honoured by the British Guild of Travel Writers, in London. It was also nominated for a Swiss MICE Award in Zurich in the "Most Unusual Location for Events" category.

Visitor satisfaction is very high and the museum received no less than four Trip Advisor awards (Traveler's Choice and Certificate of Excellence) in 2017 and 2018.

Chaplin's World's crowning achievement for 2018 was winning the prize for Best European Museum, awarded by the European Museum Academy.



4.3 OVERVIEW IN FIGURES



4.4 AWARDS AND DISTINCTIONS



Certificate of Excellence in
2017 - 2018 - 2019



4.5 A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE CREATION OF CHAPLIN'S WORLD

In 2000, architect Philippe Meylan and museographer Yves Durand came up with the idea of a museum dedicated to the life and work of Charlie Chaplin at Manoir de Ban. It took over ten years to turn their concept into reality. In 2008, Genii Capital joined the project, and DMDB SA, which owns the site, was founded. In 2011, the creators approached the Compagnie des Alpes (owner of By Grévin) with a view to a partnership featuring museum design and operation. Ten Vaud municipalities approved

4.6 CHAPLIN'S WORLD IN A FEW DATES

One hundred and twenty seven years, to the day, after the birth of Charlie Chaplin, Chaplin's World opened its doors on 16 April 2016, in front of an audience of over one hundred and forty journalists from across the world.

In November 2016, the museum won third place at the Milestone Excellence in Tourism awards, a prize honouring the most innovative projects in Swiss tourism.

In March 2017, Chaplin's World welcomed its 300,000th visitor.

On 16 April 2017, 662 people dressed up as The Tramp to celebrate the first anniversary of Chaplin's World.

In July 2017, the museum won its first Trip Advisor Excellence Certificate.

In December 2017, the museum unveiled its Christmas lighting celebrations to commemorate the 40th anniversary of Chaplin's death. For the occasion, Chaplin's World acquired a CornèrCard hot air balloon, so that visitors could take ten-minute static flights over Manoir de Ban during special events.

grants for the project. It took two years to renovate the site and build the Studio. Chaplin's World opened on 16 April 2016. The companies managed by Charlie and Oona's children are Chaplin's right holders and brand owners; they also own the rights to the films he made from 1918 onwards, and all his archives. Chaplin's World is a private museum under licence to those companies.

Around the same time, British sculptor John Doubleday, creator of the bronze statues of Chaplin in London's Leicester Square (a copy of which stands in Vevey), sculpted an ice statue of the filmmaker at the top of the Jungfrau, one of the highest peaks in Europe, at 13,642 ft or 4,158 m. This work was inspired by a photograph from The Kid where the Tramp and the kid sit side by side.

In April 2018, 600,000 bees made their home at the edge of the Manoir de Ban's forest. Housed in 20 beehives, they can produce an average of 350 kg (770 pounds) of honey per year. 250-gram (8.8 oz) pots can be purchased from the Chaplin's World boutique.

In 2019, Chaplin's World launched a series of cultural events for the general public, including a temporary exhibition called Chaplin Personal and a circus, with a big top erected for the first time in the park. The museum also organised a two-week 'Halloween Special' with numerous activities and shows.





5.A BRIEF BIOGRAPHY

Charlie Chaplin's life story is the very embodiment of the American dream—from a child of the streets of London's dreary East Lane to one of the best known, loved and wealthiest artists on earth in his time. His was a full life. He performed on stage from an early age, inspired by a mother who taught him the art of body language and facial expression. Having travelled Europe with the Karno troupe, Chaplin ended up in America, a land of dreams that welcomed him as heartily as it would later scorn him. Just like in his movies, however, Chaplin got his happy ending, living with the love of his life and his family at Manoir de Ban, in Switzerland.

A CHILDHOOD ON THE STREETS

Chaplin's father, Charles, was born on 18 March 1863, in London's Marylebone. Nothing is known of his youth except that, at age 22, he met Hannah Hill, the woman who would become Charlie's mother. Hannah's family was of more modest origins. Both Charles and Hannah were singers. Their first son, Charles "Charlie" Spencer, was born on 16 April 1889. Alcohol was part of the daily lives of music hall artists, who were urged to join patrons to encourage drinking. When Charles Sr. went on tour in the United States, the couple grew distant, and then fell apart in the early 1890s. Hannah found a new companion, Leo Dryden, a gifted artist and singer. With him, she bore a third son, Georges Wheeler Dryden, who would later work at Chaplin Studios. Hannah's union with Leo lasted less than two years, at the end of which he took their six-month old son from her. Family life became a nightmare. Alone and destitute, Hannah tried as best she could to provide for her two children, who always described their special relationship with their mother in very

affectionate terms. As she became incoherent and increasingly agitated, experiencing visions, she was declared insane and committed to an asylum. For the two young brothers Charlie and Sydney, who would eventually find a respected place in the world of music hall, this led to a difficult, complex childhood of vagrancy and panhandling.

‘I am a mixture of several nationalities, but I am most proud of being part gypsy. My grandmother was a gypsy and I like to believe that my talent comes from her.’

Charlie Chaplin in Collier's in 1940

HOLLYWOOD

On an extended tour of United States vaudeville theatres with Fred Karno's troupe, Chaplin was recruited by producer Mack Sennett from the Keystone Film Company. He made his first onscreen appearance in February 1914, and *The Tramp*, his iconic, likable, irreverent character eventually won him international fame. He quickly rose from actor to actor-producer, asserting his own acting style and innovative cinematography, tailored to his extraordinary, characteristic pantomime performance. He moved from Keystone (1914) to Essanay (1915) to Mutual (1916), where he earned enough to build his own studios at the end of 1917, and became fully independent from 1918 onwards. With Douglas Fairbanks, Mary Pickford and David W. Griffith, he created United Artists (1919), gaining unprecedented independence in both production and distribution.

Banking on his reputation, popularity and international recognition, Chaplin began to produce feature films, cinematic masterpieces that would help elevate film to the rank of a true art form. He stood out in his time by resisting the arrival of the "talkies", going against the tide with *City Lights* and *Modern Times*, two sound films (featuring music, background sounds, and sound effects) devoid of dialogue. The latter featured the voice of the Tramp (as a kind of farewell to the character) singing gobbledygook, once again demonstrating that the language of gesture – his essential trademark – transcends words.





© Roy Export Co Ltd

THE EMBODIMENT OF THE AMERICAN DREAM

Chaplin became the world's darling, embodying the loftiest promises of the New World with his fame and wealth. As a screenwriter and filmmaker, he used his freedom to produce works marked by social consciousness and humanism, which didn't always go down well with certain elements of the American establishment. With his rebellious, fearless Tramp, he took on all forms of authority with humour, fully aware of the general public's fondness for making fun of those in power. With his films, he dared to tackle issues such as war, immigration, homelessness, mechanization, the exploitation of workers, and the powerful rise of authoritarianism, the precursor to the worst cataclysm of the 20th century.

THE PRICE OF AUDACITY

His personal life was also fraught, winning him the hate and scorn of the dominant class, which never forgave him for taking sides with the little man. Accusations of a dissolute life, propagated by puritan America, and links to communist personalities and organizations, made him, in the eyes of certain powerful people, the ultimate symbol of un-Americanism.

In 1952, he left New York with his family for a short holiday, aboard the Queen Elizabeth. During the trip, he was informed by telegram that the Attorney General of the United States had revoked his American visa, effective immediately. Upon his return, he would be required to submit to an investigation into his morals and political opinions. Caught up in the wave of McCarthyism that would result in his expulsion from the very country that had opened up every door for him, Chaplin refused.

CHAPLIN AND OONA

Chaplin was married four times. The first two marriages were particularly stressful, marred by public scandals, lawsuits and alimony claims that drew more than their share of close media attention. Charlie Chaplin's fourth and last spouse was Oona O'Neill (1925–1991), the daughter of playwright and Nobel Prize in Literature winner Eugene O'Neill. Oona and Charlie were married on 16 June 1943. She would remain at his side until his death, on Christmas night, 1977. They had eight children.

PEACE AT LAST

In Corsier-sur-Vevey, where he claimed to have found the peace 'of a man like any other,' Chaplin wrote and produced his last two films, *A King in New York* and *A Countess from Hong Kong*. He also composed the scores for the re-releases of many of his silent films, and published his autobiography. He continued to write, compose and script until the end of his life. In 1972, America made amends, awarding him an Oscar for his life's work, a few years before he was knighted by the Queen of England. Chaplin died at Manoir de Ban on Christmas night 1977, with his loved ones at his side.



6. CHAPLIN IN SWITZERLAND

‘With such happiness, I sometimes sit out on our terrace at sunset and look over a vast green lawn to the lake in the distance, and beyond the lake to the reassuring mountains, and in this mood I think of nothing but enjoy their magnificent serenity.’

Charles Chaplin, My Autobiography

When Chaplin arrived in Switzerland at the end of 1952, Oona was pregnant with their fifth child. A few days later, they took a tour of the region. On the advice of their driver, the couple stopped at

Manoir de Ban, in the town of Corsier-sur-Vevey. The Chaplins happened upon the owner, toured the property and fell in love with the house, the trees and the surrounding gardens, as well as the incredible view of lake Geneva and the mountains. The purchase was settled in less than a month.

They renovated the property, extending the kitchen, building bedrooms in the attic, adding a pool and tennis court, living quarters for the staff and, in the cellar of the Manoir, an air-conditioned room to store Chaplin's films.

The upkeep of such a vast domain required a dozen employees. The cosmopolitan mix of domestic staff included a butler, a driver, a secretary, two nurses, several maids, a cook and her assistant, and gardeners. The Chaplin family and their staff had immense mutual loyalty.

CHILDREN AND FAMILY LIFE

‘Mommy liked to have children, and Daddy liked to see her pregnant.’

Géraldine Chaplin

Life at Manoir de Ban resembled that of just about any other family. Chaplin knew how to make Oona laugh, and she, how to charm him with her sense of humour. He played tricks on the children and often clowned about in the shade of the fruit trees in the beautiful garden, miming comic scenes. As he spoke no French, he would try to communicate in pantomime alone when guests did not speak English.

The family had its routines, like the Saturday barbecue cooked by Chaplin. The children played on the swings or swam in the pool with their friends. They remember ball games, the many birthdays and anniversaries, Easter egg hunts and American-Style Halloweens, and watching their father's old movies on Sunday afternoons, with Oona operating the projector.

‘Working is living and I enjoy living!’

Charlie Chaplin

Despite a busy family life – to say the least – Chaplin continued to devote himself to work. Even at an advanced age, it remained his priority. The Chaplins viewed themselves as part of the community, running errands in town and attending local festivities from time to time. One might often see Chaplin strolling along the pedestrian streets of old Vevey, dressed in a grey flannel suit, with elegantly styled trousers, and a jacket with a breast pocket over his white shirt. He frequently wore a silk scarf and a felt hat pulled down low. With Oona, he liked to wander about the market and along the lakeside walkways, and often went to the Rex cinema in Vevey.

Chaplin loved the region and toured it regularly. He liked to travel incognito and occasionally listened to the tour guides. He took pains to discover all aspects of the countryside and the lives of people around his home, from the vines of Lavaux to the shores of lake Geneva, from Montreux to Lausanne, from L'Auberge de l'Onde in Saint-Saphorin to the Chalet Suisse in Gruyères.

CHAPLIN AND THE WINEGROWERS' FESTIVAL

‘This is a new experience for me. I never expected to see a show of this quality. And, believe me, during my career I have seen quite a few!’

Charlie Chaplin about Vevey's Fête des vignerons (winegrowers festival), in the village official gazette, in 1955

That year, and again in 1977, he attended Vevey's famed Fête des vignerons, a grandiose celebration that takes place every quarter of a century. Each time, thousands of people come together to celebrate man's hallowed relationship with wine, through dance, song and festivities. The Chaplin children took part in the celebration in 1977, inviting the performers to parties at Manoir de Ban afterwards.

7. CHAPLIN IN NUMBERS

2021 OPENING HOURS

Chaplin's World is open 7 days a week, public holidays included.

PRICES

Adult (16 and over)	CHF 27.-
Tweens and teens (6 to 15)	CHF 18.-
Children (Under 6)	Free
Senior* (60 and over) *upon presentation of a valid ID	CHF 25.-
Student* *upon presentation of their student ID	CHF 24.-
Family Pass (4 people) 2 adults and 2 children or 1 adult and 3 children	CHF 73.-
Adults with disabilities	CHF 24.-
Children with disabilities	CHF 16.-

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16 APRIL 1889

Birth of Charlie Chaplin.

132 years ago

26

The number of awards
he received throughout
his career, including:

1 Golden Lion at the
1972

Venice Film Festival,

3 Academy Awards

1

International Peace Prize

1

star on the Hollywood Walk of
Fame

12

MINUTES

The longest standing ovation in
Academy Awards history

81

The number of films written,
produced and, for the most part,
scored by Chaplin. His most famous
works include *The Kid*, *The Gold Rush*,
City Lights, *Modern Times*, *The Great
Dictator* and *Limelight*.

1.5

MILLION

The number of followers on his
official Facebook page, "Chaplin
Official", in 2019

1,100

The number of screenings of Chaplin
films with a live orchestra throughout
the world in the last ten years



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partner



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