

SHIVEN CLOWN



What is less generally recognized is that SHIVEN is an enormously popular entertainer abroad as well.

This from the 'TAGESANZEIGER', Zurich: 'The hearts of children fly towards him. A clown to reach out to!' and the 'STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG' stated: 'SHIVEN the fifty year old clown is a wonderful friend of the children, a joker who takes them seriously. SHIVEN feels his way gently towards everything, sensitive and upset as easily as a child, but just as curious!'

**SHIVEN IS STARRING
IN JAPAN 1989**

SHIVEN ABOUT HIS WORK

'I love my work. It's not like acting or performing. It uses every skill I've learnt on stage but it's more. The secret of being a clown is to live its existence, to be it totally, to change with the moods of the people there.

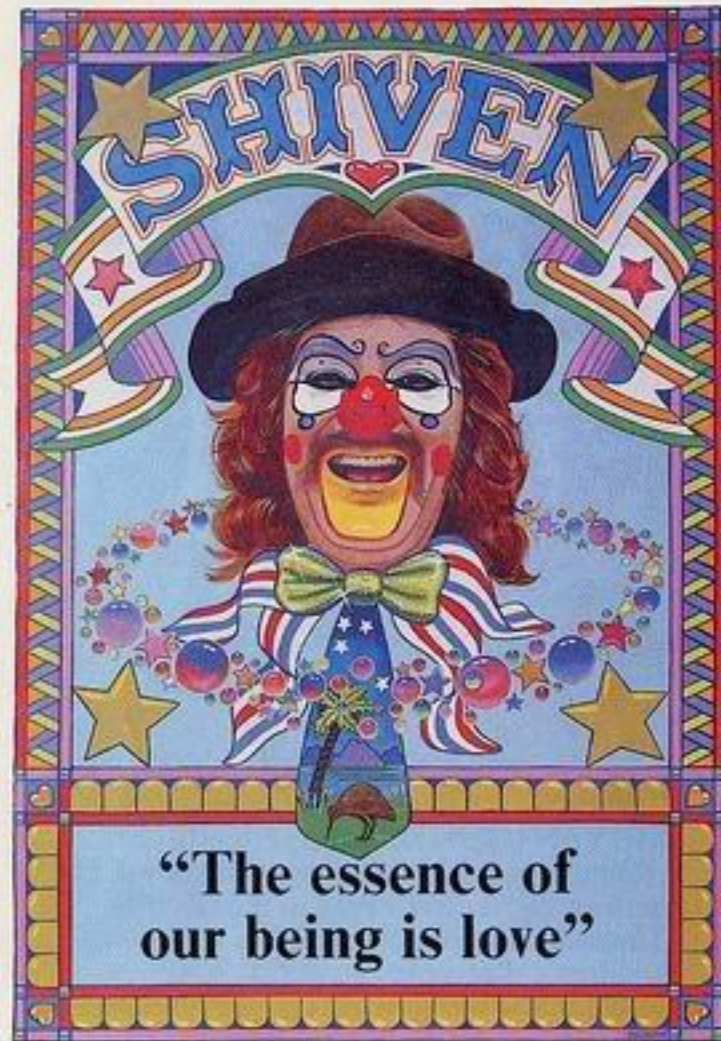
'There's something very special about working with children. It's the interaction, the exchange of energy. As if I throw a ball and the children throw a lot of colourful balls back to me. I try to involve my audience. I try to build up a love relationship with the children and everybody else. I want to give everybody joy.

'I want their laughter — and also their understanding. If it's just for the laughter, it's too cheap for me. I want to pass on a message which is love rather than just stupidity, so it's important for me to create an atmosphere where people are open to understand as well as relax and enjoy.'

'I get about a hundred letters a week. I get fantastic poetry and pictures....it's wonderful. It's a result of: you give everything and you get everything.'

— 'N.Z. LISTENER'

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SHIVEN (GUNTER BENNING's) triumphs in Berlin 1988 are well known. He performed for four weeks in the GRIPS-Theatre, which is considered to be the best children's theatre in the world. In Germany the reviews were enthusiastic: 'SHIVEN, born in Berlin with residence in New Zealand, is one of the very few clowns who understands his trade.'

— 'DER TAGESSPIEGEL', Berlin
'The motto of this joker is: God gave you the gift of your face — the laughing you have to do yourself!'

— 'BERLINER MORGENPOST'
SHIVEN was born in Berlin, Germany in 1939. He has been a teacher, TV reporter, actor, producer, scriptwriter, TV presenter, and since 1977 a professional clown. Hundreds of thousands of CHILDREN from 4 to 94 have shared the joy and laughter of his show.

Before coming to New Zealand in 1983 he performed in nearly every country in Europe as well as the USA in circuses, theatres, at festivals, in schools, kindergartens, hospitals and special schools.

New Zealand's Prime Minister the Rt. Hon. David Lange wrote: 'I am delighted that you and your family are happy New Zealanders and I know that you particularly give much pleasure and happiness to others and for that I thank you.'



SHIVEN HAS THE SUPPORT OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT and Education Boards throughout the country for his work in schools.



You may like to know what our own critics have recently thought about SHIVEN in concert:

'Clown SHIVEN is a classical figure of fun ...'

— 'THE NEW ZEALAND HERALD'
Auckland

'Tapping the child in all of us...'

— 'CHRISTCHURCH STAR'

'A breath of fresh air...'

— 'THE DOMINION', Wellington

'Clown SHIVEN will make laughter the order of the day...'

— 'EVENING POST', Wellington.