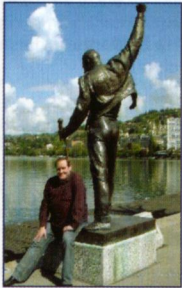


FREDDIE MERCURY'S MONTREUX!

Everybody knows about the magnificent statue of Freddie Mercury in Montreux, the small Swiss town on the shores of Lake Geneva. Every Freddie fan is also aware of Freddie's attachment to this place, where he found peace for his soul in the last days of his life.

So many places and people still talk about Freddie in Montreux! There is

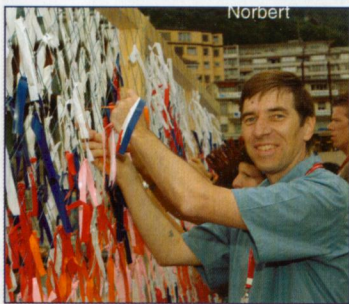


the mythic Lake House, the small chalet appearing on the cover of his last CD. There are still – despite the loss of the Mountain Studio – vestiges of his recordings in Montreux: David Richards, the famous sound engineer, lives here. He has a whole bunch of keepsakes in his mind, ready to unwrap them when the conversation switches to Freddie and Queen! Many restaurants and night clubs saw Freddie and Queen when they owned Mountain Studios, and did their recordings in Montreux, in the Eighties.

But do you know that there are two people there, working constantly and with all their conviction, on a perpetuation of Freddie's remembrance? Norbert and Rita, having created the Freddie Mercury's Montreux Memorial Day, do not want to let Freddie's footsteps disappear from their town.

For many years, Norbert and Rita have had the very precious help of Peter Freestone – another man in love with Montreux! Peter has joined the Montreuxmusic team, established as an association for a few months. Phoebe doesn't need to be introduced; he's an eminence in the world of Freddie's fans. But he's also a man with a big heart, opening it to everybody and willing to contribute, in his very personal way, to the development of Freddie Mercury's Montreux.

So – keep in mind Montreux, the lovely place surrounded by Lake Geneva and the Swiss mountains, where Freddie loved to stay! Visit the [montreuxmusic website \(www.montreuxmusic.com\)](http://montreuxmusic.com) where Norbert and Rita announce their news about the events they organize in honour of Freddie Mercury. It's always worth a trip, particularly for the Freddie Memorial Days - and this year was no exception.



Norbert

In September, the Memorial Days were a remarkable success! Fans gathered from all over the world in glorious sunshine at the feet of the magnificent statue, ready for the weekend. It started with a performance on Friday September 1st of the fantastic Argentinean coverband Dios Salve A La Reine (God Save The Queen) at the "Petit Palais" Montreux Palace, the same venue Queen played when they appeared here. The first part of the evening consisted of a surprise appearance by David Richards, and the rarely seen movie of the unveiling of Freddie's statue in 1996 featuring Brian May, Roger Taylor, Montserrat Caballe, Freddie's parents etc.

Saturday September 2nd was dedicated to a Freddie birthday celebration, with Freddie's birthday party under the covered Market Place. But the very highlight was the exceptional presence of Freddie's mum and sister Kash, with David Richards and Peter Freestone.

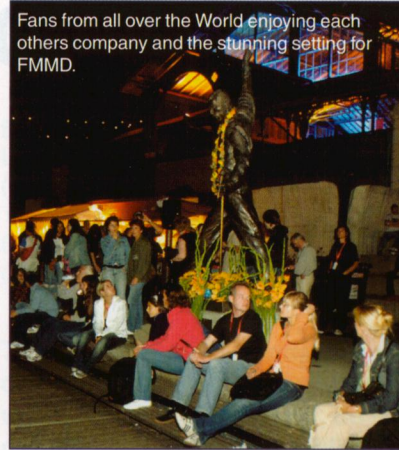
In the afternoon, Rudi Dolezal, the multi award winning director, associated with Queen and Freddie Mercury for many years, presented the very first public showing of "The Making of" Freddie Mercury - The Untold Story' DVD along with the premiere of the new, full length version of "The Untold Story".

Mrs Bulsara & Freddie's sister Kash



Rita

Fans from all over the World enjoying each others company and the stunning setting for FMMD.



In the evening, at the prestigious and beautiful Stravinsky Hall, it was the night programme, which was prepared and presented by Peter Freestone. The evening featured TWO premieres; the stunning piano recital by Thierry Lang, well known by the Queen fans as the composer of the music for the "Untold Story" and then, having its Swiss premiere, the classical concert "Queen Symphony" directed by Tolga Kashif, its composer. The performance was enthusiastically greeted by a mixed audience of classical music amateurs, enthusiasts and Queen fans.

The next morning, the fans again gathered at Freddie's feet in the sun, for more Queen/Freddie music, breakfast and to take a final look across the lake and at the wonderful "Passage" artwork on the pontoon. I think many of them will be back NEXT year! So keep in touch – and don't miss the next Freddie Mercury's Montreux Memorial Days: September 8th and 9th, 2007! See you there!



THE PASSAGE. This stunning artwork, created by Matilda Valli and Grego Matos, is based on the waveform of Freddie's voice singing "Don't Stop Me Now". The coloured ribbons were tied on to just one side of the mesh - and the fans had to complete the work by tying ribbons onto the other side in exactly the same colour patterns. Over the course of a day you could see the piece taking more form and shape, it was quite breathtaking when complete! It was on display on the pontoon over the lake right in front of the statue. Photos show Tild tying on ribbons, and the completed piece.. Isn't it fabulous? And what a setting!



U K C O N V E N T I O N 2 0 0 7 !

You should by now have received a booking form for the best weekend of the year! The convention will be held March 23 to 26, at Brea Sands Holiday Centre, near Weston Super Mare in Somerset. We have LOADS of fabulous things lined up for you as always - live bands, special guests, market place, karaoke, sports and games, quizzes - and this year we're planning to introduce a 'silly hour' of fun games - trivia, scrabble.. the kind of things Freddie loved! Last year we celebrated Christmas in May, and you guys donated HUNDREDS of gifts to the local Rotary Club, who will, this Christmas, distribute them to all the needy children in the North Wales area. In March, we're going to celebrate EASTER. It will be our theme for the fancy dress - Easter bonnets, silly hats, bunnies (yes, the 'adult' kind will be acceptable!) and all things egg shaped! We will ask you to bring with you an easter egg (the chocolate variety) or small easter gift for children, and we hope to get a local charitable organisation to collect them from us and distribute them to under privileged kids in the area. All this will be explained to you in the information pack we send out prior to the event. Please bear in mind Brea is MUCH smaller than Prestayn, and is already filling up FAST. So get those booking forms off NOW! If you haven't yet had a form then give me a call or an email and I'll send you one, or you can download one from www.arenatravel.co.uk. See you there... it's not that long to wait!!