

This week...
Benjamin Louche

Every week we ask one of the people who have helped make Cabaret vs Cancer a success the same ten questions...

1. Who are you and what do you do?

I'm Benjamin Louche and I wear too much make up while talking too loudly. I also write strange things that rhyme and stranger things that don't.

2. Can you list three people who are your inspiration, and why?

David Bowie. Why? B E C A U S E .

David Lynch. Why? Is that a trick question?

Frank Booth. Why? DON'T YOU FUCKIN' LOOK AT ME, t h a t ' s why.

3. What would you save from your burning house?* (people, pets, legal documents and computers are already saved!)

My perforator (look it up). It's not the most valuable item in my antique medical equipment collection but it's certainly the piece I've had most... 'fun' with.

4. What's your favourite meal and what drink is it washed down with?

French Dip au Jus: thinly sliced, juicy, roasted prime rib, still rare, in a house-made toasted French roll, served with a coffee cup of rich gravy; washed down with a blood temperature Californian pinot noir.

5. What talent do you wish you had?

I wish I could draw and paint. Thing is, as a kid I *could* draw well and spent 90% of my time, when not playing with Lego, drawing. At school there were three of us in the class that were good at drawing: Sharon W____, Jason B____ and me. But when we got to around 11 or 12 I just stopped getting any better and they carried on.

6. Where is your favourite place?

Onstage anywhere when the audience is part amused, part disbelieving and part frightened.

7. What do you do to relax?

Listen to music mainly. I am a half-arsed gamer and a half arsed runner too, both of which help me to 'switch off'. A gin & tonic helps too; Tanqueray No.10 if possible. Mine's a double.

8. What book do you recommend everyone reads?

Blood Meridian or the Evening Redness in the West by Cormac McCarthy.

9. What is your biggest regret?

At the risk of sounding like some hippy-dippy cretin, I don't really think in that way. There are certain situations in my past which I could, and definitely should, have extricated myself from earlier than I did, there are some people that I might have liked to punch when I had the chance, but I'm not sure I can see the point in regretting them now; maybe if I were thoroughly miserable where I am it would be easier and excusable to do so.

10. If God existed, what would you like to hear him say to you at the pearly gates?

"I cannot possibly apologise enough."

Finally, do you have anything to plug?

YES! I'm doing the last EVER performances of my one-man show **Being Louche at London Wonderground** on the 9th and 10th August.

Also, I'm crowdfunding pre-orders for my novel *The Dutch Wives* on Unbound!

<https://unbound.com/books/the-dutch-wives>