

CLAUDE MEUNIER

BIOGRAPHY

After studying law at the Université de Montréal, in 1973 Claude Meunier became one of the *Frères Brothers* who later gave birth to *Paul et Paul*, and they, in turn, led to *Ding et Dong*. From 1974-1975, he was a member of the group *Les 6 Bols* who wrote for the kids' TV series *La fricassée*, as well as creating sketches for *Les nerfs à l'air*.

From 1976 onwards, in collaboration with Serge Thériault and Jacques Grisé, he staged three shows as part of the trio *Paul et Paul*. At the same time, with Louis Saia, he wrote the medium length feature *Voyage de nuit*, followed by two comedies that were enormously successful theatre productions: *Appelez-moi Stéphane* and *Les voisins*. He is one of the four authors of the play *Broue* which, in 2009, is currently in its 30th year. After that, Claude wrote *Les noces de tôle*, a play that was put on by the Compagnie Jean Duceppe and was an acclaimed success when it went on tour during 2003-2004.

In the early 1980s, he again teamed up with Serge Thériault with whom he created the sensational duo *Ding et Dong* who starred in the famous theatre show *Lundis des Ha! Ha !*, and recorded the album *Ding et Dong... en vie*. They then starred in another three stage shows that were massive hits in Montréal and throughout the whole of Quebec. In 1990, *Ding et Dong* progressed to the big screen with *Ding et Dong, le film*, directed by Alain Chartrand, which became an extraordinary box-office success. In 1992, the duo were presenters of the highly successful Radio-Canada broadcast *Le monde merveilleux de Ding et Dong*.

From 1993 to 2002, he both wrote for and co-starred in the series *La petite vie* in which he played *Popa*. This weekly sitcom about a highly eccentric family has notched up 60 episodes, various 'specials' and innumerable repeats which have catapulted the author into smashing all sorts of records as the show broke through existing viewing figures by attracting more than 74% of the market, a figure that has yet to be equaled.

In 2003-2004, Claude wrote and took the lead role in the TV series *Défect inc.* shown on Société Radio-Canada (French CBC) in 2005 (8 one hour episodes).

In 2006, he wrote the script for *Le Grand Départ*, a dramatic comedy produced by Denise Robert of Cinémaginaire and which he directed in 2007. The film, released in December 2008, marks Claude Meunier's directorial debut.

Since 1984, Claude has been both spokesman and creative contributor for **Pepsi-Cola's** advertising campaigns in Quebec.

He has been a contributing writer to many major TV programs including three shows of *Bye Bye* for Société Radio-Canada (French CBC).

He has won numerous awards including *Gémeaux*, *MetroStars* and *Félix*.