

The background of the page is a painting depicting a circus performance. In the foreground, a woman in a white, flowing dress is captured in a dynamic pose, her arms raised. To her right, a man in a green, patterned outfit is also in motion. The background shows a blurred audience and other figures, suggesting a lively circus atmosphere. The overall style is impressionistic with soft, visible brushstrokes.

ALAIN FRERE COLLECTION

Alain Frère, doctor in the general medicine branch and mayor of the French town Tourrette-Levens, is an expert and valuable collector of circus-related documents and objects.

Deeply in love with the circus world, he has been a member of Amici Del Circo Association, and also an active figure in Club du Cirque for 57 years. Such a connoisseur of this world he was, that, in 1974, Prince Ranieri the 3rd himself invited him to join the organization committee of a festival in honour of the circus world, which would have featured four shows and a Grand Gala. From then on, Frère sits as artistic counselor of the Montecarlo International Circus Festival, next to Princess Stephanie.

He also owns a rich collection of unique circus-related documents and objects, such as costumes, objects, paintings and sculptures, monographs, posters and photos. “Musee du Cirque Alain Frere” gathers some of them, that portrait the history of circus’s most famous figures: Fratellini, Grock, Rastrelli, Moira Orfei and Buffalo Bill, in addition to some contemporary paintings. Undoubtfully a unique heritage of relics, collected during an entire life of relationships with the circus world and its protagonists.

Alain Frère Collection is treasures at CEDAC, and features some remarkable posters from the 19th century of rare beauty, among which we find some related to the Travaglias from Martini family and to Grand Cirque Ciotti, in addition to some Red Cross Diplomas awarded to the Fratellini brothers, a letter from tamer Faimali and a poster from Circo Bisini in Verona.