

Brian McMillan's



WALKING WITH LIONS

Brian J. McMillan

Brian J. McMillan is a second generation animal trainer from England. In 1964, at the age of fifteen he apprenticed to numerous animal trainers throughout Europe with horses, dogs, elephants, camels, large cats, and primates assisting with the training and husbandry

Brian McMillan, makes stars like Mark Wahlberg, Michael Caine, Tom Hanks, Sean Penn, Jack Nicholson, Whoopi Goldberg, Eddie Murphy, Courteney Cox, and Robert Duvall feel totally at home with a pride of lions, chimps, a tiger, an elephant, a bear, a leopard, to name a few. Brian McMillan has provided exotic animals for some one hundred and fifty films, TV shows, documentaries, commercials and videos.

He has traveled throughout Africa and India, studying the animals in the wild, working with behaviorists, researchers and park rangers.

He apprenticed to world famous, Günter Gable Williams, and when Mr. Williams came to the US, Brian McMillan went with him, where he stayed until 1972. African USA, (at the time the largest animal company in the film industry) recruited him. He started working in films and television. When Africa USA joined Marine World he became the youngest animal director of Animal Shows, he created a mixed animal pyramid act with an elephant, tiger, lion and hawk, which was so impressive it instantly became the main stay of all their advertising. He trained all the animals for the shows and supervised their care. The following years he was hired to produce other live animal shows at theme parks, including Japanese Deer Park and Enchanted Village.

Taking a short leave of absence, he went to South America and worked on various films training everything from lions to horses to elephants. Returning to the United States, he continued to work in the film industry working for various animal companies in the Los Angeles area.

In 1986, Brian and his wife, Vikki, founded Hollywood Animals and Walking with Lions, specializing in lions and other exotic animals. His companies are internationally recognized for the highest standards of animal training, care and safety.

His expertise with animals combined with his knowledge of the camera gave him the opportunities to 2nd unit direct animal sequences. His techniques have made him invaluable to photographers and directors alike. His reputation for safely capturing the impossible shots is well known and has made him a sought after asset to any production.

His animal ranch – full of big, furry darlings is just north of Los Angeles in a spectacular African-like setting in the Santa Clarita Valley. For your next animal project, script, or event, this articulate charmer can provide complete animal coordination, script consultation, amusing and informative answers, anecdotes, and demonstrations.