
FPA JAMMY AWARDS 2012



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MEN'S PLAYER OF THE YEAR: PAUL KENNY

Some jammy awards can be very cut and dry. It should be obvious when a player dominates the top of the major tourney results who will get player of the year. This year is a little different. There were 4 - 1st place finishes for Claudio at Pago (super-pro and coop) and EFC (open pairs and coop). Clay and one of our new champions, Andrea Dini, had their awesome FPAW open pairs victory, along with many European major 1st place finishes (open coop together at EFC, and Clay with firsts in co-op and mixed at Pago). Awesome job Claudio, Clay, and Andrea.

So it seems like POY should be one of those esteemed gentlemen. But, alas there's a dark horse. A man with less major title victories than the above-mentioned cast of shredders has inched their way to the top of the voting.



How does this happen in our jamming world of many statistics? Can player of the year be determined by other than pure tourney results? Well, this year it has.

Certain intangibles must have been factored into the minds of the voters. What could these be? Maybe the lack of major tournaments in the US? Perhaps the quality of play and the depth of the field, regardless of the finish. Giving back to the sport with organization and spreading the jam, also could factor in. But this award is, in the end, about the results of a person's play, on the competitive field.

So without further ado, I am proud to announce Paul Kenny as the FPA Jammy award of Playa of the Year. His incredible FPAW coop routine with James and Daniel was one of the most thought out, complex routines I have ever seen. And to hit it in that spaunch wind was breathtaking. But there was also a little ol' event called the US Open. As deep a field as I have ever seen, this was the only major event in the US last year, and the quality of play was off the Richter. Using a rank order judging system, the results of the open pairs could not have been closer, with the

nod going to Jake and Arthur's difficulty drenched "Sail" routine, over Paul and my self's frenzied "No One Knows" routine. It was a finals for the ages.

It's hard to define all the intangibles that Paul brings to his and his partners' game. He always technically prepares with state of the art A/V for practices and studying. He makes it happen to get partners together for practices as well. All on top of a very unique turnover/multi-disc style that is un-matched in our sport. His warmth, humor, generosity, and enthusiasm have touched us all in one way or another, and the 2012 Jammy's Player of the year could not have gone to a more deserving player. Congratulations, Paul. You left it all on the field for us to enjoy. Thanks for the opportunity to write about such a great player and an even greater human being.

Text by Dave Schiller

WOMEN'S PLAYER OF THE YEAR: CHAR POWELL

Bianca Strunz deserves many words of praise as one of the world's great female players with great competitive



sensibilities with insane grrrrr factor. Lori Daniels deserves more words than are in the dictionary to describe her ability on the field, winning the Worlds this year and leading Emma to her first title. She also has to manage the FPA organization. At FPAW, she has to manage both...and what an incredible job she did with both. The 2012 Women's Player of the Year this year goes to Char Powell. She and Mike Galloupe had a wonderful swashbuckling routine that not only won the highly contested FPAW 2012 mixed title, she and Mike almost made the finals of the US Open. Congratulations, Char!

Text by Paul Kenny

MOST TURBO: ALEX LEIST

Well, Woo is the man with the in-built Turbo and received this award a few times for good reasons. But this year a



young player will receive it for his endless energy: Alex Leist! He is the one who is the first and the last on field at every Tournament and also asking every day for people who have time to jam with him. And not only the amount of Jamming and energy that this guy has is amazing, also the quality of his game: a combination of acrobatic dance and capoeira style with high quality Frisbee techniques and save catches.

Text by Florian Hess

CRUSTMASTER SUPREME: ROGER MEIER

Roger has been playing since the beginning of flatball and is one of the most underrated freestylers out there. The guy can noodle with the likes of Joey, Rob and Doug and keep up with the youthful legs of Daniel and James. He continues to spread the NYC goodwill vibe, usually playing host to out of town jammers month after month, year after year. He hosts dinner parties all the time for these celebrity players as well. A great guy, generous and as skilled as ever, Roger Meier is the man!!



Text by Paul Kenny

ROUTINE OF THE YEAR: RANDY AND DANIEL AT VIRGINIA STATES

You gotta love it when you are expecting something special, and it really goes down.

I think everybody who had been to Virginia states for the last couple of years knew that the stage was set for



Randy and Daniel. Two ripping jammers who love to perform, an evening curtain time, indoor space, free beer and a large appreciative/knowledgeable audience. Time for Rhapsody in Disc.

Intricate choreography, 9.7ish execution, some highly obscure ministrations and a dose of “hold your breath” scurrying made for an inspirational and explosive round worthy of the standing ovation that it produced

This performance was a classic example of the “whole being greater than the sum of its parts,” and Daniel clearly reveled in the esoteric moments and movements that have become part of the Randoman Routine Repertoire. The routine had a little something for everybody. A few of the snippets that I was especially enamored with: Randy’s bizarro world puddling under Daniel’s leg, Daniel’s thigh stall/bump to hacky sack foot pass, Randy’s Eagle Spotter to figure four catch, Daniel’s UD bad attitude brush pass to Randy, Randy’s dramatic shoot to Daniel’s vacation, (to name a few).

You gotta be hoping to see more from this dramatic duo in the future.

Text by Doug Simon

PARTY OF THE YEAR: PAGANELLO FLAMINGOS

The Baltic Sun Prayer sessions gets kudos for being a howling good time socially with a great event staff. The issue



here is that although Paganello has had incredible parties, 2012 far exceeded even their lofty expectations. Providing the format to allow everyone to play dress-up resulted in the now legendary set of photos of the Karlsruhe Pink Flamingos! Everyone should attend one of these just once in your life...remember, sunrise is usually a part of the party!!!

Text by Paul Kenny

TOURNAMENT OF THE YEAR: FPA WORLDS

There were two stellar candidates for tournament of the Year. What a legendary tournament Beachstylers turned



out to be. Joel Rogers set up a “Gitis Central” storefront showcasing all his historical collections...even giving out many of them as part of the event! What the local San Diego legends do each year has turned Beachstylers into the Must-do fall event on the calendar. Their heartfelt generosity pervades all of us! The Tournament of the Year however goes to the 2012 FPA Worlds. The typical cast of characters (Lui, Clay, Beppe, the FPA Board-led by Lori Daniels) all led by tournament director Claudio Cigna ran an event that was for the ages. From the Puffla tent, daily dinners

together, the rocking portable music system. Can anyone get the song “I’m Sexy and I Know It” out of their heads? The trophies were one of a kind art pieces! Claudio utilized the event planning, executing and follow-up to write a thesis paper that could be a blueprint for all of us going forward. Thanks to Beachstylers and FPAW for putting on such great events. It takes a lot of heart and soul and the community appreciates every part of it!!

Text by Paul Kenny

MOVE OF THE YEAR: MATT GAUTHIER

The move of the year is a difficult category. Should it be the best new move of the year? The most inspiring? The



most popular? Well, one player seems to have achieved something of each of those—Matt Gauthier. He has come up with more new moves in the last year than most of us will ever come up with in our lifetime. Most of them are so dizzying that I could hardly describe them, let alone name them. He seems to be a factory of the unseen, unheard of, or previously unimagined. Some (nameable) examples include the hit-by-the-bus roll, hammer flamingitosis pull, the serpent, and the flamingo back-roll. But if any of these moves deserves recognition, it is the hammer flamingitosis pull, which Matt flawlessly demonstrated in Seaside. The concept, form, and execution were awing. We can all anxiously wait for what Matt comes up with next.

Text by James Wiseman

MOST FIRED UP: PHILIPP KRÜGER

To be fired up is a feeling discovered in all of us. Everybody has the motivation to step forward, to improve



and to show the most exciting tricks. Philipp Krüger AKA Phil AKA German PK is one of those jammers expressing this motivation in his play. Since he started to play he had the feeling for flow and smooth movements, and now that he has moved to Berlin and come in contact with a lot of different styles and has been inspired by a lot of different techniques, he will surprise you by combining things that you are usually only dreaming of. We can hope that he will give his combos names soon, to share them around the globe - because he is also a trick inventor! It is only a matter of time before he will be so secure with his

creative moves that he will win also national or international tournaments.

Text by Florian Hess

ROOKIE OF THE YEAR: KONRAD PATRIS

Most players spend their first years on the sidelines, learning the basics and watching others. Few have stormed



the sport like Konrad Patris. In the last year, he has been seen at all kinds of events jamming alongside the best of them with an intuitive grasp of how to flow and never bust the jam, a skill many of us would envy in our earliest days. Almost out of nothing, he has created and inspired an ever-growing Polish jam scene, even bringing freestyle to a public audience with media appearances and videos. After only a year or so on the competitive scene, furthermore, he is hosting a major tournament for European players unable to go to worlds, a difficult and impressive feat that will assuage those who cannot make the long trip to Santa Cruz. He is the kind of rookie freestyle needs: working hard, jamming hard, and inspiring others to do the same.

Text by James Wiseman

SPIRIT OF THE JAM: RYAN YOUNG

Nobody embodies the spirit of the jam quite like Ryan Young. In fact, he *is* the spirit of the jam. His smile is



indomitable. You can almost breathe his love of the jam. He makes every jam the best jam, never letting frustration or bad conditions lessen the joy he feels and shares with others. He makes us all play better on our best and worst days with kind, often selfless sets that help everyone get the most out of their jam. At the same time, Ryan is as dedicated to the spreading the sport as anyone out there. He never fails to volunteer for the job nobody else wants, and he is always looking out for new ways to help a tournament along, inspire a new player, or spread the jam. And all the while, he jams harder than any of us. Thanks Ryan, for everything you do.

Text by James Wiseman

BEHIND THE SCENES: CHRIS BELLAJ

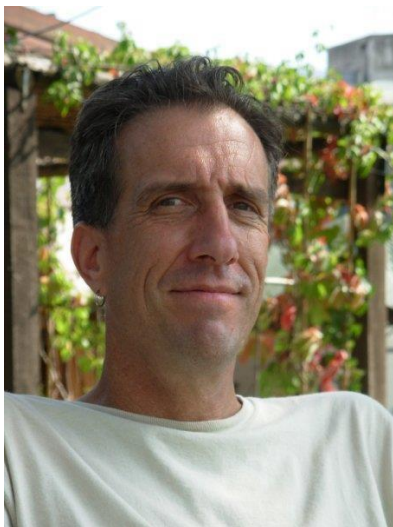
It would not be a stretch to give this to Claudio Cigna. His work at FPAW was exemplary. Look elsewhere for a further explanation of his great efforts. Lui is the standard bearer and we could give it to her every year. Frisbee Mama is as big a legend as the players she makes a part of her family. This year, one man has separated himself and given the best gift freestylers could have if they cannot attend an event...LIVE STREAMING!!! Yes, we are talking about Chris Fraktalog, the 2012 Behind the Scenes winner!!!! Chris is laid back, doing all these things from his heart just so we can all be together worldwide. We now have the benchmark for going forward and we have Chris to thank for that.



Text by Paul Kenny

DOCUMENTARIAN OF THE YEAR: RODNEY SANCHEZ

Rodney is a playing legend and gives back in a great way, reviewing tournaments and giving descriptions that fill in



the gaps at tournaments that Chris is not streaming! Rodney eases the anxiety of everyone that cannot wait for the videos to post to Youtube. His write-ups are thorough spot-on characterizations of what transpires at events he attends...including all the social elements. Thanks for your gift Rodney!

Text by Paul Kenny