

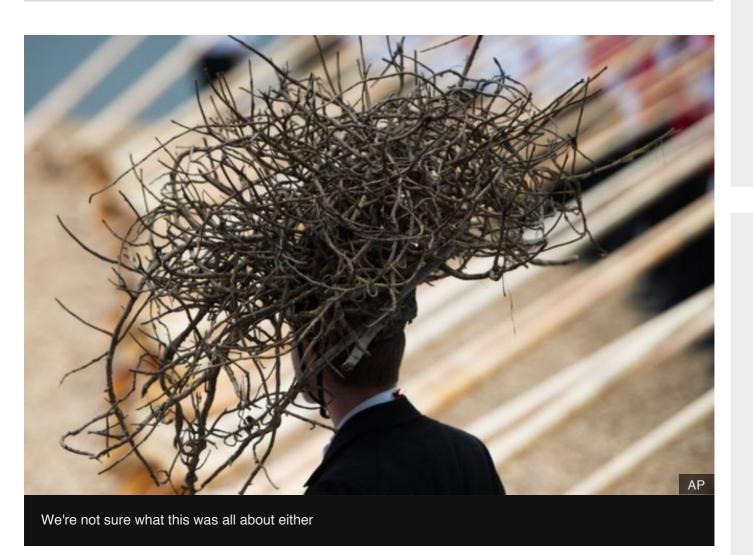
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Switzerland tunnel: The oddest moments of the opening ceremony

() 1 June 2016 | In Pictures



From the World Cup to the Olympics, it is not a significant event if you don't have an unusual opening ceremony to go with it.

This was also the case when the Gotthard base tunnel, the longest and deepest in the world, was inaugurated on Wednesday.

Here are some of the most striking moments from the ceremony - we have tried to explain what is going on as far as possible. It was not always possible.

Warning: This article contains partial nudity



The ceremony represented different aspects of Swiss culture - at this point, milk floats drove in a procession



In the middle of all of this, an actor sat down, looked rather underwhelmed by everything, and ate his lunch



A topless woman decked as a bird hovered above actors representing the nine construction workers who died during the building of the tunnel



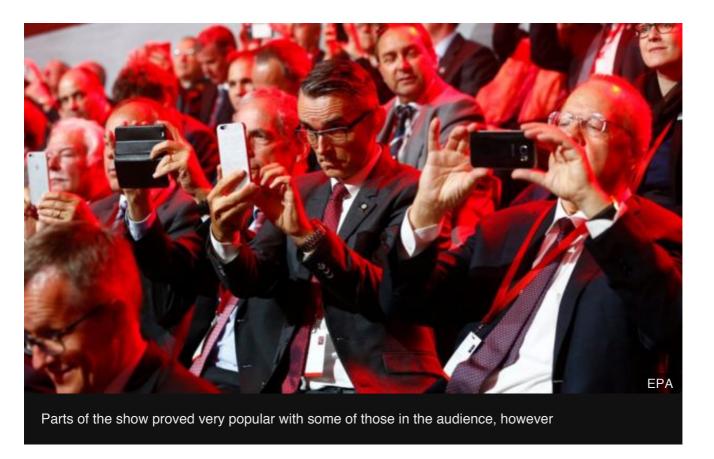
It is unclear what the German, French and Italian leaders, who were all present, made of the ceremony

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@journodave why is there a dead lamb? pic.twitter.com/bVnOJtKVEn 11:35 AM - 1 Jun 2016



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TWITTER/@JOURNODAVE

Some viewers were left baffled, as, perhaps, were some participants

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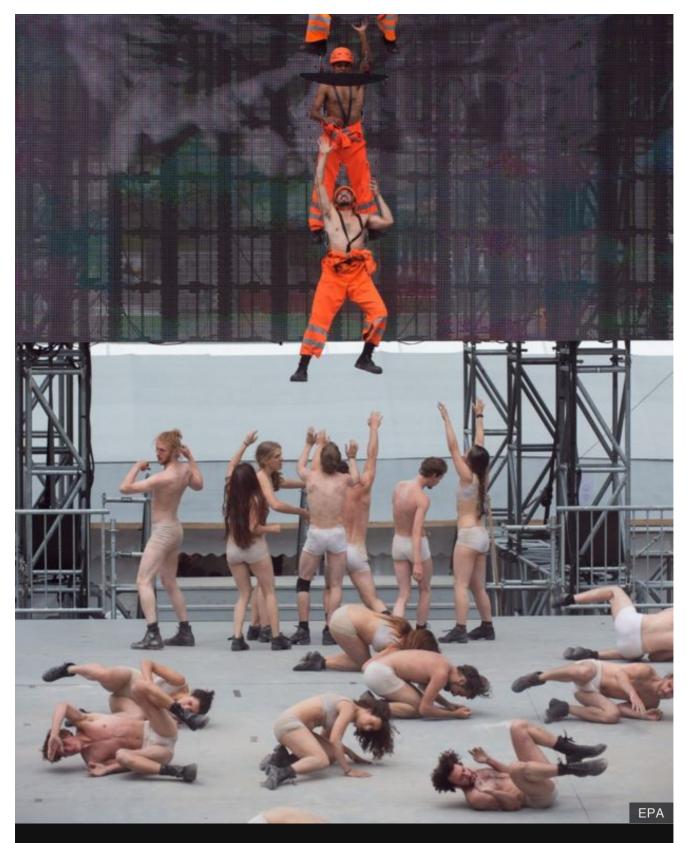
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At one point, there were lots of people rolling around in white underwear



They, too, looked a bit blank about the whole thing - it was put together by German director Volker Hesse, whose most famous work has been done in Switzerland



The ibex, that is native to the Alps, played a prominent part in the ceremony





On inaugure un tunnel, et il y a 2 personnes déguisées en bouquetins qui miment une scène de sexe... #Gottardo2016 pic.twitter.com/zCVZ9c4xOz

11:44 AM - 1 Jun 2016



One Twitter user wrote: "We're opening a tunnel, and here are two people dressed as ibex pretending to have sex"



More than 600 actors reportedly took part in the ceremony - an experience they are unlikely to forget any time soon

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