If you haven’t heard of 19-year-old Sergey Chernyshov from the Russian city of Voronezh it won’t be long before you have. Better known as ‘Bumblebee’ the world’s first Youth Olympic Champion in the sport of ‘Breaking’ is fast becoming a social media sensation.

Having won Gold at the Youth Olympic Games Buenos Aires 2018, the charismatic Russian has become an idol for many aspiring Olympians and an Instagram sensation for his acrobatic street pranks on the unsuspecting public.

The Bumblebee flew into Switzerland this week as a special guest at the 3rd Winter Youth Olympic Games in Lausanne and brought with him his own particular brand of Olympic spirit. Impromptu, random acts of Breaking across the city of Lausanne have delighted and inspired Olympic fans, young and old. “So, first of all, I take from culture, so before me some people inspired me and after if I can inspire people sure I will do this because its like, generations exchange, first of all you take from the last generation then you give to the new generation and for me, this is the most important thing.”

The Bumblebee’s father, whose name is also Sergei, was very fond of breakdance when he was a teenager. Back then, in the 90s, after the Soviet Union collapsed, he became very attracted to hip-hop culture, new and foreign to Russia. He was getting every VHS tape he could find to learn new moves and styles of breakdance. Several years later, Sergei Chernyshov Sr. founded a breakdance studio in Voronezh, a city around 300km south from Moscow, to share his knowledge and skills with children of different ages. His son, then a 9-year-old boy, became one of them.

It took Sergei Jr. some time to realise the meaning of that gold medal for him personally and for the Olympic movement in general. But life hasn’t changed much, says Bumblebee, he just started to travel more and meet the world-famous athletes.
But a visit to the Olympic Museum in Lausanne this week has brought a new sense to his vision of competitions.

“For me it was just like a big competition but it's not only about competition it's about fighting with your life it's about all the best that you can do in your life, it's wonderful.”

His next goal is 2024 Summer Olympic Games in Paris where breakdancing will for the first time be featured as a part of the competition program. And there, of course, he dreams to win and make his father proud even more.

“So if I can be a two-time Olympic Champion first at the Youth Olympic Games and then first at the Olympic Games it will be perfect for me and I think I will be 24, I think it is a perfect age.”

Lausanne 2020 is the third edition of the Winter YOG, bringing together the world’s best young athletes between the ages of 15 and 18. For the first time in Winter Olympic history the Games will have gender equality, with equal numbers of male and female competitors in the 81 medal events.

1,872 athletes from 79 National Olympic Committees (NOCs) will be in action in Lausanne, 12 of those NOCs for the first time at a Youth Olympic Games - Albania, Azerbaijan, Ecuador, Haiti, Hong Kong, Kosovo, Pakistan, Qatar, Singapore, Thailand, Turkmenistan and Trinidad & Tobago.

As well as the brand new sport of Ski Mountaineering, Lausanne 2020 features five new events, Women's Nordic Combined, Individual Normal Hill/4km, Women's Doubles Luge, Mixed NOC 3x3 Ice Hockey, Freeski Big Air, Snowboard Big Air.

The first Winter Youth Olympic Games took place in Innsbruck, Austria, in 2012. The second edition was held in the Norwegian city of Lillehammer in 2016.

SHOTLIST:

00:05 Bumblebee walking to camera
00:17 Bumblebee tumbles in front of the USA Men's Ice Hockey team at Youth Olympic Village “The Vortex”
00:26 Bumblebee talking to Team USA athletes
00:32 Bumblebee performing for Team USA athletes
01:13 Bumblebee swapping pin badges
01:39 Bumblebee performing tricks on ice rink

01:58 SOUNDbite: Bumblebee (English Language).
“If you go on the street and you do one move and all the people around you go ‘Wow What!’ It's really cool because it's the reaction of people and it's all about emotions and I like to give emotions to people.”

02:17 Bumblebee performing for children in Lausanne

02:35 SOUNDbite: Bumblebee (English Language).
“So, first of all, I take from culture so before me some people inspired me and after if I can inspire people sure I will do this because its like exchange, generations exchange, first of all, you take from the last generation then you give to new generation and for me this is the most important thing.”

03:01 Bumblebee teaching routine to kids in Lausanne

03:20 **SOUNDBITE: Bumblebee (English Language).**
**Q. Is your target to win the Breaking gold medal at Paris 2024?**
“So if i can be two time Olympic Champion first at the youth Olympic Games and then first at the Olympic Games it will be perfect for me and I think I will be 24 I think it is a perfect age.”

03:40 Kids trying breaking

03:50 **SOUNDBITE: Bumblebee (English Language).**
“Before Buenos Aires I was not just like any other Breakdancer because I had a name in our culture, dance culture but in sports no. And now.....buzz.....I can say that my life, changed.”

04:12 Woman taking picture of Bumblebee and kids

04:27 **SOUNDBITE: Bumblebee (English Language).**
“OK, on this trip I was in the Olympic Museum here in Lausanne, I was in shock I was really inspired, it’s changed my mind because Olympics it’s not just...for me it was just like a big competition but it’s not only about competition it’s about fighting with your life it’s about all the best that you can do in your life, it’s wonderful.”

04:56 Bumblebee performing tricks on bench

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