

TANITH BELBIN & BENJAMIN AGOSTO

(2009 PROFILE)

PERSONAL DATA

Tanith Belbin-

Age: 24 (Born: 7/11/1984)

Height: 5' 4" (162 cm)

Birthplace: Kingston, Ontario

Home Town: Glen Mills, Pennsylvania

Education:

Family Information: Daughter of Charles and Michele Belbin; brother Lucas.

Benjamin Agosto-

Age: 27 (Born: 1/15/1982)

Height: 5' 9" (175 cm)

Birthplace: Chicago, Illinois

Hometown: Bloomfield Hills, Michigan

Education: Groves High School graduate (with honors)

Family Information: Son of Angel and Miriam Agosto; brothers Nico, Joe and sister Lisa.

Tanith & Ben-

Training Rink: Iceworks SC, Aston, PA

Home Club: Iceworks SC

Coach: Natalia Linichuk and Gennadi Karpanossov

Choreographer: Natalia Linichuk

All partnerships are a careful balance of work, commitment, and passion. This can be said of marriages, companies, and certainly ice dancers. Everyone can attest to the challenges presented by finding that "perfect match". Whole television series have been created to depict the almost impossible odds of finding true love. Human Resource Departments struggle daily to find employees that meet the needs of their companies. And some skaters go their whole careers never finding the ONE that compliments them and allows them to succeed. For Tanith Belbin and Ben Agosto the impossible happened 8 years ago when their coach Igor set up a try-out for them. They had both skated with other partners. They had both auditioned many more. But creating a winning team requires more than skills. It requires charisma, chemistry, and that "certain something". From the first time they hit the ice together they both knew they had found their skating match and since then they have grown and developed together into one of the foremost dance teams to grace the sport.

It is easy to see when you watch them glide through their almost seamless routines that they have good lines, and complementary technique. Ben is a smoldering and handsome young man and Tanith is a glowing and glamorous young woman. They look good together and are a pleasure to watch. They appear to enjoy themselves. Watching them dance is reminiscent of Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers with some modern edge and spice added to the mix. There is no doubt they are terrific together on the ice but what becomes truly evident and what is most remarkable is watching them off the ice. It is there we see how perfectly suited they are as a team.

Tanith is a delight in every respect: she is fun, cheerful, kind, and articulate. Ben is quiet initially until you discover his subtle and tremendous sense of humor and deep creativity. When you watch them preparing for interviews you see that they anticipate each other's moods and needs. Even here they complement each other. They have strengths that support one another. Where one

is shy the other is gregarious, and when one is nervous the other is strong. This counterplay keeps them balanced, grounded, and ready for anything that comes their way.

Take the challenges they faced regarding Tanith becoming a US citizen: they handled the stress and pressure with decorum and aplomb. They are a synergistic duo: the two being stronger than each individually.

Now, with their sights set on Olympic gold in 2010, this team remains focused on reaching their full potential in life and sport. During the next four years, Tanith and Ben both plan on balancing their training with other opportunities outside of skating, including voice-over work for Ben (like on a recent video game for FOX), and broadcasting for Tanith (including her current role as a contributor to ABC's Good Morning America).

TANITH BELBIN & BENJAMIN AGOSTO COMPETITIVE RECORD **(ICE DANCING)**

2008-2009 SEASON

*World Championships 2009- 2nd
*World Team Trophy 2009- 1st
*World Championships 2008- 4th
*ISU Grand Prix Final 2008- 2nd
*Cup of China 2008- 2nd
Skate America 2008- 2nd
National Championships 2008- 1st

2007-2008 SEASON

*World Championships 2007- 3rd
*Four Continents Championships 2007- 2nd
*Cup of Russia 2007- 1st
Skate America 2007- 1st
National Championships 2007- 1st

2006-2007 SEASON

*Olympic Winter Games 2006- 2nd
*World Championships 2006- 3rd
*Four Continents Championships 2006- 1st
*HomeSense Skate Canada Intern. 2006- 1st
*Cup of Russia - Bosco Sport 2006- 1st
*Cup of China 2006- 2nd
National Championships 2006- 1st

2005-2006 SEASON

*World Championships 2005- 2nd
*Four Continents Championships 2005- 1st
*ISU Grand Prix Final 2005- 2nd
SmartOnes Skate America 2005- 1st
*Nebelhorn Trophy 2005- 1st
National Championships 2005- 1st

2004-2005 SEASON

*World Championships 2004- 5th
*Four Continents Championships 2004- 1st
*ISU Grand Prix Final 2004- 3rd
*Cup of China 2004- 1st

2003-2004 SEASON

*World Championships 2003- 7th
*Four Continents Championships 2003- 2nd
*Cup of Russia Gallina Blanca 2003- 2nd
*Trophee Lalique 2003- 4th
Smart Ones Skate America 2003- 1st
National Championships 2003- 2nd

2002-2003 SEASON

*World Championships 2002- 13th
*Four Continents Championships 2002- 2nd
*World Junior Championships 2002- 1st (Junior)
*Trophee Lalique 2002- 3rd
Smart Ones Skate America 2002- 3rd
National Championships 2002- 2nd

2001-2002 SEASON

*World Championships 2001- 17th
*World Junior Championships 2001- 2nd (Junior)
*ISU Junior Grand Prix Final 2001- 1st (Junior)
*Trophee Lalique 2001- 1st
Skate America 2001- 5th
*Goodwill Games 2001- 5th
National Championships 2001- 2nd

2000-2001 SEASON

*World Junior Championships 2000- 3rd (Junior)
*ISU Junior Grand Prix Final 2000- 4th (Junior)
*Pokal der Blauen Schwerter 2000- 1st (Junior)
*Mexico Cup 2000- 1st (Junior)
National Championships 2000- 1st (Junior)

1999-2000 SEASON

*SBC Cup 1999- 2nd (Junior)
Junior Grand Prix Canada 1999- 1st (Junior)

SmartOnes Skate America 2004- 1st
National Championships 2004- 1st

*International Competition

PERSONAL BESTS

Type	Date	Score	Event	Event Category	Discipline	Level
Total	03.27.2009	205.08	World Championships 2009	Ice Dance	Ice Dance	Seniors
Total	18.03.2005	221.26	World Championships 2005	Ice Dance	Ice Dance	Seniors
CD	16.02.2005	44.00	Four Continents Championships 2005	Ice Dance	Ice Dance	Seniors
CD Technical	23.10.2003	24.22	Smart Ones Skate America 2003	Ice Dance	Ice Dance	Seniors
CD Component	21.10.2004	23.81	SmartOnes Skate America 2004	Ice Dance	Ice Dance	Seniors
SP/OD	17.03.2005	67.54	World Championships 2005	Ice Dance	Ice Dance	Seniors
SP/OD Technical	20.03.2008	34.23	World Championships 2008	Ice Dance	Ice Dance	Seniors
SP/OD Component	24.10.2003	40.97	Smart Ones Skate America 2003	Ice Dance	Ice Dance	Seniors
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FS/FD	18.03.2005	11.54	World Championships 2005	Ice Dance	Ice Dance	Seniors
FS/FD Technical	21.03.2008	53.75	World Championships 2008	Ice Dance	Ice Dance	Seniors
FS/FD Component	25.10.2003	67.89	Smart Ones Skate America 2003	Ice Dance	Ice Dance	Seniors