



Dominique Gisin:

Engelberg's skipjack

Dominique Gisin's first memory "is of skiing." Born into a family that is "ski-fanatic," the now 27-year-old first tested her balancing skills on the hills of Engelberg aged 18 months. "My parents love sports and passed this on to us," she says with a wide smile across her face. Today, all three Gisin children, Dominique, Marc and Michelle, are representing Switzerland on the ski-racing circuit. And the first-born has given her siblings plenty to live up to. Since bursting onto the FIS competition scene in 2001, Gisin has landed seven World Cup podiums and three World Cup wins in 83 starts. Her greatest idol is Swiss skiing legend Vreni Schneider.

However, despite her abundant talent, the skier's career has been anything but plain sailing. It is indeed a tribute to her immense passion and dedication that she has overcome her long list of injuries, including broken kneecaps, ruptured ligaments and a concussion. "I don't think about the risks, because I feel completely safe and happy," she explains, as she talks about her love affair with skiing – a passion that is only matched by her love for flying. "I love speed and I love freedom. Skiing and flying express those feelings to the fullest. As weird as it sounds, they make me feel calm on the inside."

As she is returning from an injury once again, Gisin is looking forward to 2012/2013 with great excitement – and with great expectations. "The World Championships in Schladming are the big goal for me," she says confidently. "I will fight hard to get a medal." And there is no doubting that she will.

Find out more:
www.dominiquegisin.ch