

Davin Rosenblatt loves hearing laughter from Jerseyans

By ED KAZI • COMEDY CORRESPONDENT • July 30, 2010

Davin Rosenblatt is a happy guy, especially when it comes to working in his native New Jersey.

"Jersey has smart audiences but tough audiences," remarked the quick-thinking funny man, who abandoned a career in law to pursue stand-up full time. "You can do some smart material, but they expect you to be funny. No free passes with a Jersey audience."

Rosenblatt, who also teaches a comedy class (see www.SideSplittingProductions.com for information), is especially pleased to be playing Princeton, and for good reason: "Perhaps the greatest thing about Princeton is that Snooki is not from there."

KAZI: Davin, why the heck would anyone want to be a comedian anyway?

ROSENBLATT: If you enjoy driving 10 to 24 hours at a time and touring various rest areas around the country — if you are lucky — then comedy is for you. If it wasn't for comedy, I probably never would have had the opportunity to dine in a Waffle House or shop in a Piggly Wiggly, and what type of existence would that be? Truth be told, there is no greater rush than making a room full of strangers laugh at your whim. It is power, and it is exhilarating, and the time onstage is usually quite fun!

KAZI: What was your weirdest experience onstage?

ROSENBLATT: I was doing an open mike in North Jersey when I was first starting. So, we are in this dirty biker bar. To my right is a big fat biker with a dirty shirt. Somebody throws an apple at him, and it bounces off his belly and rolls across the stained floor in front of me. Without missing a beat, I picked up the apple, took a bite, and kept on telling jokes. I was like a vegetarian Ozzy Osbourne.

KAZI: Got any heckler-handling tips?

ROSENBLATT: I'm a pretty good heckler-handler. I came up doing dive bars in Jersey, and there is a lot of testosterone going on in those bars, so everybody wants to test the comics. It is kind of like the Wild West in a lot of ways; if somebody is just relentless, I'll try a couple of cute, funny things so that they get the point, but everybody is laughing, and there are no hard feelings. If that doesn't work, I'll try and rip out your soul.

KAZI: If you could be any superhero, which one would you be?

ROSENBLATT: Maybe the Greatest American Hero; I love the theme song. If not, maybe the Wonder Pets so my daughter could watch me. Of course, the downside is I would live in a cage and be paid in celery.

KAZI: Where do you see yourself 10 years from now?

ROSENBLATT: I see myself doing this interview with the embedded micro chip in our head powered via our solar brain-wave amplifiers. It will be good times, as Jenna Bush will be the first female president, and we will be waging war on Hawaii. Let's be honest — if Hawaii didn't have the audacity to be ambushed in World War II, then maybe we wouldn't have gotten into that war. Plus they have yummy pineapples, which is what our cars will be running on.

Have a great weekend, and please remember to laugh responsibly.



"Jersey has smart audiences but tough audiences," Davin Rosenblatt said. (FILE PHOTO)

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