

CHARLESTON



2010
COMEDY
FESTIVAL

4 nights, 9 venues, 38 shows
stand-up, improv, sketch

January 20-23, 2010
in historic Charleston, S.C.

www.charlestoncomedyfestival.com

For Immediate Release
December 14, 2009
Contact: Brandy Sullivan at Theatre 99
(843) 853-6687
thehavenots2000@aol.com



**THEATRE 99 and CHARLESTON CITY PAPER
PRESENT**

THE 7th ANNUAL CHARLESTON COMEDY FESTIVAL JANUARY 20-23, 2010

Some of the country's hottest improv, sketch, and stand-up artists will descend upon Charleston, S.C., for what has become the annual event you don't want to miss! Produced by Theatre 99 (Charleston's Home for Improv Comedy) and the *Charleston City Paper* (the premier source for news, arts, and entertainment), 38 shows will be performed in nine different venues in just four nights.

Several returning artists are slated to perform in the Charleston Comedy Festival 2010, including Cook County Social Club, an improv and sketch comedy group from Chicago that played to packed houses in 2009. Cook County will team up with The Dangerous Strangers of Cabaret Kiki, the band behind Charleston's favorite burlesque show who will reunite for a one-night only performance.

Another festival favorite is Elephant Larry, an uproarious NYC sketch comedy troupe who debuted in Charleston at the Comedy Fest in 2006 and returned for that year's Piccolo Fringe Festival in May. The Uprights Citizen Brigade Touring Company makes its semi-annual pilgrimage to town with Pangea 3000, a four-man sketch comedy group comprised of writers and contributors to The Onion, and Sidecar, a group that will perform a compilation of their greatest sketches.

Plenty of stand-up comedians from around the country will be taking the mic. Kenny Zimlinghaus, a former 96Wave deejay who is now on Cosmo Radio on XM and Sirius, will return to perform and emcee the annual Charleston Stand-Up Competition.

Venues for the festival this year include Theatre 99 (280 Meeting St. above the Bicycle Shoppe), The American Theater and Stars Bar (446 King St.), Charleston Ballet Theatre (477 King St.), Trio Club (139 Calhoun St.), the Music Farm (32 Ann St.), and Eye Level Art 103 Gallery (103 Spring St.). The festival has expanded to the suburbs with two new venues: the Charleston Pour House on James Island (1977 Maybank Hwy.) and Centre Pointe Bar & Grill in North Charleston (4950 Centre Pointe Dr.) This festival is the South's premier comedy event and the only event of its kind in the Carolinas. Ticket prices range from \$5 - \$20 and are available at www.charlestoncomedyfestival.com or by calling Etix at 1-800-514-ETIX.*

Tickets will be sold at Theatre 99 (280 Meeting St.) the week of the festival from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. (cash or check only). If the show is not sold out, tickets will be available at the door starting one hour before showtime.

For more info on participating artists and photos, please go to www.charlestoncomedyfestival.com.

7th ANNUAL CHARLESTON COMEDY FESTIVAL SCHEDULE



WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 20

8:00 p.m.	Laugh for a Lincoln featuring Shattering Pearls / Moral Fixation	Theatre 99	\$5
9:00 p.m.	Charleston Stand Up Competition Finals	Music Farm	\$5
9:30 p.m.	The Assorted Rogues Sketch Comedy / Doppelganger	Theatre 99	\$5

THURSDAY, JANUARY 21

8:00 p.m.	Laugh for a Lincoln featuring Neckprov / Purple Jam	Theatre 99	\$5
9:00 p.m.	The Dangerous Strangers of Cabaret Kiki with Special Guests Cook County Social Club	Charleston Ballet Theatre	\$12.50
9:30 p.m.	Laugh for a Lincoln featuring Cats Hugging Cats / Hot Pants	Theatre 99	\$5

FRIDAY, JANUARY 22

7:30 p.m.	Improv Marathon with Sid Viscous, Danny Canoe and Einstein Meets Elvis	Stars at The American Theater	\$12.50
8:00 p.m.	Cook County Social Club with Butterscotch	Theatre 99	\$12.50
8:00 p.m.	Elephant Larry	Charleston Ballet Theatre	\$12.50
8:00 p.m.	Found Footage Festival	The American Theater	\$12.50
8:00 p.m.	Switchboard / Sitting at The Grown Up Table	Eye Level Art 103 Gallery	\$12.50
8:30 p.m.	Stand Up Showdown with Tig Notaro and Kenny Zimlinghaus	Music Farm	\$12.50
8:30 p.m.	Alt Com! The Alternative Comedy Festival Tour presents Ken Reid, Myq Kaplan and Micah Sherman	Trio Club	\$12.50
8:30 p.m.	The Beards of Comedy Tour	Charleston Pour House	\$12.50
8:30 p.m.	This is Chucktown! (stand up comedy)	Centre Point Bar & Grill	\$8
9:00 p.m.	Improv Marathon with ColdTowne, Best Friends, Senior PGA	Stars at The American Theater	\$12.50
9:30 p.m.	B.S. (Belushi and Stoltenberg) / Eliza Skinner is: SHAMELESS	Theatre 99	\$12.50
9:30 p.m.	The UCB Touring Co. presents Pangea 3000 and SideCar	Charleston Ballet Theatre	\$12.50
9:30 p.m.	Stand Up Double Feature with Craig Baldo and Jamie Lee	The American Theater	\$12.50
9:30 p.m.	Comedy Marathon with Hunter Family Crest, Kanellis & Armstrong present No Swallow, and Matt Donnelly's Celebrity Tarot Lounge	Eye Level Art 103 Gallery	\$12.50
10:00 p.m.	Stand Up Inferno with Ted Alexandro and Trey Galyon	Music Farm	\$12.50
11:00 p.m.	All Star JAM featuring the friends of T99 and guests	Theatre 99	\$6

SATURDAY, JANUARY 23

7:30 p.m.	B.S. (Belushi and Stoltenberg) / Eliza Skinner is: SHAMELESS	Theatre 99	\$12.50
7:30 p.m.	Improv Marathon with ColdTowne, Best Friends, Senior PGA	Stars at The American Theater	\$12.50
8:00 p.m.	The Upright Citizens Brigade Touring Company presents Pangea 3000 and SideCar	Charleston Ballet Theatre	\$12.50
8:00 p.m.	Found Footage Festival	The American Theater	\$12.50
8:00 p.m.	Switchboard / Sitting at The Grown Up Table	Eye Level Art 103 Gallery	\$12.50
8:30 p.m.	Stand Up Inferno with Ted Alexandro and Trey Galyon	Music Farm	\$12.50
8:30 p.m.	Alt Com! The Alternative Comedy Festival Tour presents Ken Reid, Myq Kaplan and Micah Sherman	Trio Club	\$12.50
8:30 p.m.	The Beards of Comedy Tour	Charleston Pour House	\$12.50
9:00 p.m.	Cook County Social Club with Butterscotch	Theatre 99	\$12.50
9:00 p.m.	Improv Marathon with Sid Viscous, Family Dinner, Einstein Meets Elvis	Stars at The American Theater	\$12.50
9:30 p.m.	Elephant Larry	Charleston Ballet Theatre	\$12.50
9:30 p.m.	Stand Up Double Feature with Craig Baldo and Jamie Lee	The American Theater	\$12.50
9:30 p.m.	Comedy Marathon with Hunter Family Crest, Kanellis & Armstrong present No Swallow, and Matt Donnelly's Celebrity Tarot Lounge	Eye Level Art 103 Gallery	\$12.50
10:00 p.m.	Stand Up Showdown with Tig Notaro and Kenny Zimlinghaus	Music Farm	\$12.50
10:30 p.m.	Festival Finale	Theatre 99	\$20

HISTORY OF THE FESTIVAL

The Charleston Comedy Festival is a co-production of Theatre 99 and the *Charleston City Paper*, two institutions that teamed up five years ago to fill one empty weekend in January with lots of laughter.



It all began with a simple premise: It's January. It's cold in Chicago and New York. Hey, let's put on a comedy festival in Charleston and invite hot acts from the comedy meccas of the country to come down, chill out, and perform. Well, rewind a bit. In 2004, The Have Nots!, Charleston's original improv comedy troupe made up of Brandy Sullivan, Greg Tavares, and Timmy Finch, organized a weekend of comedy with performances by themselves and other homegrown acts at Theatre 99, their home base, which also serves as an incubator for local comedic talent. In 2005, the trio teamed up with the city's free alternative newspaper, the *Charleston City Paper*, to expand their reach and put on a full-blown international festival, inviting acts from all over North America to perform.

2005 featured shows from New York's renowned Uprights Citizens Brigade, Chicago's celebrated ImprovOlympic, and other up-and-coming improv and sketch comedians. One group even drove down from Canada. The break-out hit of the festival was the two-woman show *Rode Hard and Put Away Wet*, a hilarious sketch performance that was coming off an acclaimed 10-month run at the UCB Theatre in NYC, performed by Casey Wilson (who became a castmember on SNL) and June Raphael. The show did so well, it was invited back for Theatre 99's Piccolo Fringe series that spring.

The following year, bolstered by the reputation of Theatre 99's Piccolo Fringe series, which occurs during Charleston's Spoleto season in May, and the success of the previous year's comedy fest, the organizers were able to snag a comic who was just starting to blow up: S.C. native Aziz Ansari. Aziz packed the American Theater for several sold-out shows and ushered in an additional genre for the festival: stand-up comedy. That year also featured New York's five-man sketch troupe Elephant Larry and Boston's Late Night Players. Upright Citizens Brigade sent down a couple of shows, including "4 Dudes," featuring veteran New York actors Bobby Moynihan, Charlie Saunders, Eli Newell, and Eugene Cordero — players who appear regularly on *Late Night with Conan O'Brien* and VH-1's *Best Week Ever*, and one (Moynihan) who has become a cast member of *Saturday Night Live*.

By 2007, the festival had indeed arrived. The word had spread among the nerds of comedy that Charleston was the real deal and interest came from all corners. The lineup featured an exciting array of styles and acts — Pimprov had pimps doing improv, God's Pottery spoofed Christian folk singers, and Bassprov starred Chicago improv kings Mark Sutton and Joe Bill. A new stand-up component featured comedians from around the country, and the festival ultimately put on 34 shows over the course of four days.

For 2010, the lineup is even bigger and better, including some returning acts and some new ones from NYC, Chicago, Atlanta, and beyond. The Stand Up Competition is on again, and with groups like Cook County Social Club and Elephant Larry returning to town and new groups joining the festival, the turnout should be wild.

In keeping with the original premise, it's probably cold where you are, so make plans to come down to Charleston and warm your belly with big laughs.

PERFORMERS & SHOW DESCRIPTIONS



Cook County Social Club with Butterscotch

(Chicago)

The best of Chicago improv meets the finest of Charleston music when the Cook County Social Club returns with band Butterscotch (made up of several former Charlestonians) to perform their signature show "Unplugged." Taking inspiration from the songs played by the band (Matt & Evan Bivins, Chris Gingrich, Henry Riggs) Cook County Social Club weave a night of hilarious magic not to be missed.

"Dream team." —Chicago Magazine

"'Critics Pick' Some of the flat-out funniest moments we've ever seen in an improv show come from this fantastic four." —TimeOut Chicago

"Few improv troupes in Chicago are as ballsy as Cook County Social Club." —Decider/AV Club

"The bromance between these four close friends was hard to miss...they were easily the best act I've seen..."

—Charleston City Paper

www.myspace.com/cookcountysocialclub

Friday, January 22 8:00 p.m. Theatre 99

Saturday, January 23 9:30 p.m. Theatre 99

Eliza Skinner is: SHAMELESS!

(New York City)

A show about people you hate, but have to love. Eliza Skinner portrays three horribly flawed, wickedly funny women.

"Skinner wrenches humor from awkward circumstances and cringe-inducing comments....you will love her." —TimeOutNY

"Gut-bustingly hilarious, filled with truly memorable moments." —RichmondVATheater.com

"Shameless is not to be missed ... hilarious and heartbreaking" —AndIAmNotLying.com

www.elizaskinner.net

Friday, January 22 9:30 p.m. Theatre 99

Saturday, January 23 7:30 p.m. Theatre 99

B.S. (Belushi and Stoltenberg)

(Chicago)

B.S. (Rob Belushi and Tim Stoltenberg) takes improv by the horns in this fast-paced show of revolving scenes, characters, and whatever comes up. All fueled by an audience suggestion.

Friday, January 22 9:30 p.m. Theatre 99

Saturday, January 23 7:30 p.m. Theatre 99

Switchboard

(Chicago)

Switchboard is an improvised surprise, born of the creative minds of Rebecca Sohn, Debra Downing, and Jean Villepique. These three lovely ladies use their chops, their gams, and some fancy musical stylings to entertain the masses.

www.switchboardimprov.com

Friday, January 22 8:00 p.m. Eye Level Art 103 Gallery

Saturday, January 23 9:30 p.m. Eye Level Art 103 Gallery

Sitting at the Grown Up Table

(Chicago)

Holly & Eric are newly wed, but not to each other. This irreverent and irresistible look at the ups and downs of the first year of marriage is the true(st) story of two friends who fell in love... with other people.

Written and performed by Holly Laurent & Eric Hunicutt. They are both members of The Reckoning, Chicago's longest running long form group.

Friday, January 22 8:00 p.m. Eye Level Art 103 Gallery

Saturday, January 23 9:30 p.m. Eye Level Art 103 Gallery



Elephant Larry

(New York City)

The five young men of Elephant Larry provide some of the best sketch comedy New York City has to offer. Since 2002, the EL boys have written, produced, and performed over 500 million sketch comedy shows. *The Village Voice* recently named them the Best Comedy Ensemble of 2009, but since their shows in Charleston are nearly three weeks into 2010, all bets are off. They are, and shall forever remain, champions of pizza and high fives.

elephantlarry.com

Friday, January 22 8:00 p.m. Charleston Ballet Theatre
Saturday, January 23 9:30 p.m. Charleston Ballet Theatre

Pangea 3000

(New York City)

Pangea 3000 is a four-man expedition team/sketch comedy group comprised of writers and contributors to *The Onion*. They have performed regularly at the Upright Citizens Brigade Theater in New York. They have also appeared in sketch comedy festivals throughout the country. Its members have appeared on *Late Night with Jimmy Fallon*, *The College Humor Show*, and the podcast *Sound of Young America*.

www.pangea3000.com

Friday, January 22 9:30 p.m. Charleston Ballet Theatre
Saturday, January 23 8:00 p.m. Charleston Ballet Theatre

Sidecar

(New York City)

Sidecar is a crackerjack New York-based sketch and improv team that has been performing in New York and abroad for over three years. *This One's for the Losers* is a compilation of their greatest sketches from at home and abroad.

www.sidecarcomedy.com

www.funnyordie.com/sidecar

Friday, January 22 9:30 p.m. Charleston Ballet Theatre
Saturday, January 23 8:00 p.m. Charleston Ballet Theatre

Found Footage Festival

(New York City)

The Found Footage Festival is a one-of-a-kind event showcasing videos found at garage sales and thrift stores throughout the country. Hosts Joe Pickett (*The Onion*) and Nick Prueher (*Late Show with David Letterman*) serve as tour guides through their ever-growing collection of the VHS tapes that time forgot.

www.foundfootagefest.com

Friday, January 22 8:00 p.m. The American Theater
Saturday, January 23 8:00 p.m. The American Theater

The Dangerous Strangers of Cabaret Kiki with Special Guests Cook County Social Club

(Chicago and Charleston)

The Dangerous Strangers of Cabaret Kiki reunite to play music from Charleston's favorite variety show. Jonny Panik (Matt Bivins) and Kurt Nihilist (Evan Bivins) return from the Windy City to get the band back together for a night of your favorite Cabaret Kiki hits. But in true Kiki form they have a few tricks up their sleeve. They've kidnapped Chicago's finest improv and sketch comedians — the Cook County Social Club — and are forcing them to dance for your pleasure! It's an action packed hour of thrills, chills and gut busting laughs. Don't miss it.

Thursday, January 21 9:00 p.m. Charleston Ballet Theatre



All Star JAM

Some of the country's best improvisers will be in town during the festival. What better way to celebrate than by having good old-fashioned improv jam! This is sure to be an "anything goes and probably will" type of show.

Friday, January 22 11:00 p.m. Theatre 99

Stand Up Showdown with Tig Notaro and Kenny Zimlinghaus

Tig Notaro

(Los Angeles)

You may recognize Tig from her role as "Officer Tig" on *The Sarah Silverman Program* on Comedy Central. She's had her own half-hour special, *Comedy Central presents Tig*, and guest-starred on Comedy Central's critically acclaimed *Dog Bites Man*. She has also performed on NBC's *Last Comic Standing*, *Jimmy Kimmel Live*, *Last Call with Carson Daly*, ABC's *Comics Unleashed*, and Comedy Central's *Premium Blend*.

"Tig is so funny. She is so comfortable on stage and takes her time like a master. She has the timing of Bob Newhart and the body of a tiny lumberjack. It's so fun to watch her. She's funny without even saying a word. She just has that thing and it's hilarious."

—Sarah Silverman, Actor/Writer/Comedian

tignation.com

Friday, January 22 8:30 p.m. Music Farm

Saturday, January 23 10:00 p.m. Music Farm

Kenny Zimlinghaus

(New York City)

Kenny "Z"imlinghaus is a comedian from New York City. He became a comedian after years of being a very fat child. Kenny is a regular at the Charleston Comedy Festival and those who have seen him perform have said "bless his heart." He has performed all over the country and co-hosts a daily morning show on SIRIUSXM's "Cosmo Radio." Kenny's act never disappoints. Only himself.

www.zimlinghaus.com

www.myspace.com/kennyzimlinghaus

Friday, January 22 8:30 p.m. Music Farm

Saturday, January 23 10:00 p.m. Music Farm

Stand Up Inferno with Ted Alexandro and guest Trey Galyon

Ted Alexandro

(New York City)

Time Out NY named Ted Alexandro one of the top comedians working today. He's performed on David Letterman, Conan O'Brien, Jimmy Kimmel, Craig Ferguson, *The View* and two half-hour specials on Comedy Central. He's also performed internationally on *The World Stands Up* in London, *The Big Night of Comedy Festival* in Amsterdam and three times at Montreal's Just for Laughs Comedy Festival. *Uproar* magazine had this to say: "With an appeal similar to Ray Romano and Jerry Seinfeld, Ted Alexandro may very well become New York's next big hit!"

www.youtube.com/watch?v=diYSNWdqw-o (Late Show with David Letterman)

www.tedalexandro.com

Friday, January 22 10:00 p.m. Music Farm

Saturday, January 23 8:30 p.m. Music Farm

Trey Galyon

(New York City)

After becoming a favorite at clubs in his hometown of Austin, Tray hit the road and made a name for himself, touring the Midwest. He's been lucky enough to perform with some of the best comedians of the last decade,

including Ron White, Mitch Hedberg, Greg Ginaldo, and Tom Rhodes to name a few. With his brutal honesty and a pothead's quick wit, trust us potheads can be pretty quick with the wit, Trey was dubbed the "Anti Hero of Comedy" by the *Austin Chronicle*. From family to drugs to an unnatural love of peanut butter, Trey tackles the not-so-tough subjects and hip-checks a few into the boards that shoulda been left alone.

www.myspace.com/treygalyon

Friday, January 22 10:00 p.m. Music Farm
Saturday, January 23 8:30 p.m. Music Farm



Craig Baldo

(New York City)

Craig Baldo performs often on flat-screen TVs, appearing on shows like *Late Night with Conan O'Brien*, *Late Night with Jimmy Fallon*, Comedy Central's *Premium Blend*, etcetera. He was a finalist on the first season of *Last Comic Standing* where he was not left standing. His world-renowned audience warm-up work has landed him gigs on the *Daily Show*, *Colbert Report*, and *Important Things with Demetri Martin*. This guy writes too, stuff like ads, essays, his own bio and lots of jokes. Talkin' mad penmanship. Craig put every dime he's ever made from comedy into a website, so do him a favor and feast your eyes on the damn thing: craigbaldo.com.

blog.craigbaldo.com/standupguy/ (Late Night with Conan O'Brien)

Friday, January 22 9:30 p.m. The American Theater
Saturday, January 23 9:30 p.m. The American Theater

Jamie Lee

(New York City)

Jamie Lee is a pretty swell human. (TMI?) You may have seen her on Collegehumor.com, making fun of celebrity fashion in *Life & Style Magazine*, appearing in commercials for Crunch Gym or Doritos or providing witty commentary on VH1's *Best Night Ever* podcast. However, her face is still unfamiliar to most. She hopes to change that. And she is going to start by making people laugh til they pee a lil' in Charleston, SC.

www.jamieleecomedy.com

Friday, January 22 9:30 p.m. The American Theater
Saturday, January 23 9:30 p.m. The American Theater

The Beards of Comedy Tour

(Atlanta)

The BEARDS OF COMEDY Tour is quickly becoming one of the hottest shows in the U.S, with four of the funniest, freshest (and yes, bearded) faces in comedy. The "Beards" deliver an original brand of humor that's deeply rooted in stand-up, and lightly blended with avant-garde elements of music, sketch, and improv.

www.myspace.com/beardsofcomedy

Friday, January 22 8:30 p.m. Charleston Pour House
Saturday, January 23 8:30 p.m. Charleston Pour House

Alt Com! The Alternative Comedy Festival Tour presents Ken Reid, Myq Kaplan and Micah Sherman

(Boston)

Three of the freshest, funniest comedians to emerge from Boston's legendary alt comedy scene. You don't want to miss this show! Check them out on the web at: www.altcomfestival.com

www.myqkaplan.com

www.micahsherman.com

www.myspace.com/kenreid

Friday, January 22 8:30 p.m. Trio Club
Saturday, January 23 8:30 p.m. Trio Club



Sid Viscous

(New York City)

Made up entirely of house team members from The Peoples Improv Theater in New York City, SidViscous! represents a union of some of the sharpest and most warped comedic minds in Manhattan. Now entering their fourth year together, the team has earned renown throughout NYC's improv community for their hive-like group mind and penchant for creative experimentation.

sidviscous.com

Friday, January 22 7:30 p.m. Stars at The American Theater
Saturday, January 23 9:00 p.m. Stars at The American Theater

Danny Canoe

(Raleigh)

Danny Canoe is an improv team made up of veteran players (more than 45 years of improv experience among them). The various players have played together in various shows for years. They like playing together so much that they decided to make it an ongoing thing with Danny Canoe. Their show features players assuming each other's characters — sometimes even mid-scene. They love Charleston and hope that Charleston will love Danny Canoe.

Friday, January 22 7:30 p.m. Stars at The American Theater

Einstein meets Elvis

(Atlanta)

This award-winning JaCKPie touring team brings together an all-star cast to rock your socks off! (EmE is not responsible for lost socks.) What do you get when Einstein Meets Elvis? Rocked-fueled improv!! EmE features longtime friends Mike Brune, Jen Caldwell, Damian Dunn, and Chris Nik. When EmE hit the festival circuit they hit with a boom, performing in just nine months at the Charleston Comedy Festival, North Carolina Comedy Arts Festival, Richmond Improv Festival, Black Box Improv Festival, Southeastern Comedy Arts Festival, Spontaneous Combustion, So ILL Improv Festival, Hawaii Festival of Improv, as well as multiple shows at Theatre 99 (Charleston, SC), DSI Comedy Theater (Carborro, NC), Mississippi State University and Ole Miss—all the while performing and coaching in Atlanta every week! This explosion of minds create long-form shows that just can't be missed. They'll put the party up in yo' business, light your test tube, and you'll shake your pelvis, when Einstein Meets Elvis!

profile.myspace.com/index.cfm?fuseaction=user.viewprofile&friendID=216714203

www.facebook.com/pages/Einstein-meets-Elvis/21013281640

Friday, January 22 7:30 p.m. Stars at The American Theater
Saturday, January 23 9:00 p.m. Stars at The American Theater

Family Dinner

(Atlanta)

The Basement Theatre's Family Dinner is an improvised look at your family. In Family Dinner, one audience member tells about four of their family members then the players create a fun and hilarious holiday dinner full of familial drama that is sure to remind you of your own crazy family!

www.TheBasementTheatre.com

Saturday, January 23 9:00 p.m. Stars at The American Theater

ColdTowne Tourco

(Austin, TX)

ColdTowne Tourco is composed of veteran performers and faculty members of ColdTowne Conservatory. ColdTowne Theater's resident comedians have performed and taught improv all over the country, including at some of the world's most famous comedy institutions — The Second City, iO, the UCB, and The Annoyance Theatre. They have won every major comedy award Austin has to offer, and have performed at every major comedy festival in North America.

coldtownetheater.com

Friday, January 22 9:00 p.m. Stars at The American Theater
Saturday, January 23 7:30 p.m. Stars at The American Theater



Best Friends

(Washington, DC and NYC)

As a kid, it was half of your little league team. As a teen, it was half a six pack. As an adult, it was half of your wedding party. As an old man it's half your memories. BFF: what makes friends last forever? Best Friends, the always hilarious and often heart-warming show from Washington DC and New York City, explores the things that bring people together and the stresses that pull them apart.

Friday, January 22 9:00 p.m. Stars at The American Theater
Saturday, January 23 7:30 p.m. Stars at The American Theater

Senior PGA

(Raleigh, NC)

Senior PGA performs regularly at the DSI Comedy Theater. Zach Ward and Jeremy McDonald improvised together in late '90s and after a decade of separation (one hit Chicago and the other hit the Beach) they are reconnected on stage and it's a hit... every single time.

"Senior PGA sustained a packed house with continuous, unexhausted laughter... delivering successful joke after successful joke." —*Daily Tar Heel*

"Off-the-wall comedy ... Easily more engrossing than any movie or television show. By the end, the performers had me in tears." —*Independent Weekly*

dsicomedytheater.com/teams/senior-pga/

Friday, January 22 9:00 p.m. Stars at The American Theater
Saturday, January 23 7:30 p.m. Stars at The American Theater

Hunter Family Crest

(Chicago)

Hunter Family Crest is a dynamic group of slightly dysfunctional friends that perform longform improvisational comedy. Camille, Chris, Joe and Anthony met while performing at Chicago's famous iO Theater, formerly Improv Olympic. Hunter Family Crest's shows use monologues to inspire scenes driven by personal relationships and the absurdity that comes from them.

Friday, January 22 9:30 p.m. Eye Level Art 103 Gallery
Saturday, January 23 9:30 p.m. Eye Level Art 103 Gallery

Kanellis & Armstrong present No Swallow

(New York City)

Hot-new-thing NYC comedians Nick Kanellis and Russ Armstrong's, *No Swallow* is a fast, fluid collection of smart, juicy comedy woven into a crisp, tasty package. A wild range of thumpingly hilarious characters and junkyard fantasies — and all the wrong birds. It's American-made. Grab your m#therf#cking binoculars.

Friday, January 22 9:30 p.m. Eye Level Art 103 Gallery
Saturday, January 23 9:30 p.m. Eye Level Art 103 Gallery

Matt Donnelly's Celebrity Tarot Lounge

(Las Vegas)

Matt Donnelly's Celebrity Tarot Lounge is a Las Vegas improv show filled with comedy, mystery, and celebrity secrets... sure to entice any audience. The show features the best and brightest improv comics from Las Vegas, Los Angeles, New York City, and Chicago who create a series of characters, sketches and montages based solely on a comedic tarot reading of an actual guest celebrity and/or an audience member live on stage.

www.TarotLounge.com

Friday, January 22 9:30 p.m. Eye Level Art 103 Gallery
Saturday, January 23 9:30 p.m. Eye Level Art 103 Gallery



Charleston Stand Up Competition Finals

After four preliminary rounds held in November, December, and January, the final night of the Charleston Stand Up Competition will feature the 16 comics with the most audience votes competing in the finals of the Charleston Stand Up Competition. It will be hosted by Kenny Zimlinghaus. Audience members will vote on the paper ballot to decide the winner of this year's competition.

Wednesday, January 20 9:00 p.m. Music Farm

Neckprov

(Charleston)

Join Skeeter, Wild Man, Jackson, Carlene, R.L., Ray Ray and Chevron for an evening for rednecks and those who are curious about rednecks. This long-form will weave a tapestry of stereotypical redneck situations and not so stereotypical situations into a gut busting show that will have you waving the stars and stripes and yelling "Free Bird." What if rednecks were at the signing of the Declaration of Independence? What if they were the brains behind such great inventions as the telescope, duck pate or the atom bomb? Someone is gonna burn down their trailer house trying to deep fry some road kill. It's all improv based on your suggestions. Rednecks don't write scripts.

Thursday, January 21 8:00 p.m. Theatre 99

Doppelganger

(Charleston)

Charleston's only all-improvised rock show, where the audience shouts out the "titles" of their favorite Doppelganger songs and have them performed for the first and last time ever.

The Critics say: "Lee Lewis and Jason Cooper are so good at what they do that the lines between fact and fiction may blur a bit during the show." —Jason Zwiker

"It's a mix of VH1 Storytellers and Tenacious D" —Erica Jackson

Wednesday, January 20 9:30 p.m. Theatre 99

The Assorted Rogues

(Charleston)

This brand new Sketch Comedy show powered by the minds (or lack there of) of The Assorted Rogues comedy troupe will make fun of all the mindless television you love, but here there is no digital converter box or premium cable subscription required, and with more laughs than you can shake your old useless analog antenna at! Local sketch comedy at its best.

Wednesday, January 20 9:30 p.m. Theatre 99

This is Chucktown

(Charleston)

This is Chucktown is a collection of the best local comics who have combined forces to present the greatest comedy the world has ever produced. You'll laugh. You'll cry. You'll laugh at other people crying.

Friday, January 22 8:30 p.m. Centre Point Bar & Grill

Shattering Pearls

(Charleston)

Annie Boxell, Renee Fincke, and Brandy Sullivan take your suggestions and create scenes and songs. Three chicks, one piano, one suggestion ... a bunch of musical improv. Every show is opening and closing night.

Wednesday, January 20 8:00 p.m. Theatre 99

Moral Fixation

(Charleston)

Moral Fixation is a two-man long-form improv show birthed from the fertile loins of Lee Lewis and Greg Tavares. They take one audience member suggestion and through personal revelation and virtuoso scenework, weave an intricate tapestry of artistic deliciousness. It's improv at the speed of brilliance! The perfect show for those who like their comedy a little on the meaty side...

Wednesday, January 20 8:00 p.m. Theatre 99



Hot Pants

(Charleston)

Get fired up with Theatre 99 co-founder Brandy Sullivan and Theatre 99 veteran performer Jennifer Buddin as they let it all hang out in the two-woman, comedy improv show Hot Pants!

Based on audience suggestions, the ladies explore different characters, relationships, and situations that'll have your pants on fire, too!

Thursday, January 21 9:30 p.m. Theatre 99

Cats Hugging Cats

(Charleston)

This five-person improv group finds the comedy in the mundane. Scenes start out normal but soon become ticking time bombs of insane hilarity. A show may start out with a scene about a parent-teacher conference or a board meeting, but by the end chickens have risen up and taken over the world and cavemen file class action lawsuits. If that's not enough, everyone in the show is totally hot as shit.

Thursday, January 21 9:30 p.m. Theatre 99

Festival Finale

The hottest ticket in the festival! This two-hour extravaganza is a sample platter of many of the festival shows and artists. Get your tickets now before they sell out.

Saturday, January 23 10:30 p.m. Theatre 99

PHOTO CD AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST