

April 24, 2009



THE 2009 LOL SUDBURY COMEDY FESTIVAL OPENING GALA: 'COMEDY OF CULTURES'

SUDBURY —There's no better way to kick off the Festival's 3rd edition than with the show that has become one of the event's original 'festival traditions'. **COMEDY OF CULTURES** has been a fixture at LOL Sudbury since the inaugural event in 2007 and is set to win rave reviews once again with Festival audiences as the 2009 LOL Sudbury Opening Gala. This 2009 global cocktail of comics features a multi-continental blend of talents who know how to knock at the funny-bone of cultural diversity.

Hosted by: Martha Chaves (Nicaraguan)

Toronto's Martha Chaves was born and raised in Nicaragua during the tumultuous years of the Sandinista revolution. Not surprisingly Chaves' comedy is nothing short of explosive. Having mastered four languages (five when intoxicated or praying), Martha's extraordinary humour incorporates a unique and vast repertoire of multicultural nuances which surprise and delight her audiences as she delivers her lines in either Spanish, Italian, English or French, sometimes simultaneously. Martha's TV credits include two Galas at the *Just For Laughs International Comedy Festival* and her own national comedy specials *COMICS!* on CBC and *Something About Martha* on CTV and on the Comedy Network.

Freddy Proia (Italian)

Freddy Proia is a seasoned, high energy performer with an array of celebrity impressions that have made him an audience favorite for almost 20 years. A true entertainer who genuinely has fun on stage, Freddy's love for performing is contagious, and keeps audiences buzzing long after he's left the stage. His film and television credits include, 20th Century Fox's *PCU*, *Twitch City* and *Due South*. Recently Freddy released his first comedy CD, *Freddy Proia - Live & Uncensored*

Tony Krolo (Croatian/French)

The Montreal born and Oakville raised Tony Krolo, is a comedian with a sophisticated style that blends razor-sharp wit with an incredible ability to see the absurdities of modern day relationships. He has over 50 Film and Television credits, which include the somber Detective on *The Jon Dore Show*, and the clumsy Cop in Tim Allen's *The Santa Clause*. He was winner "The Funniest New Comic" contest at *Yuk Yuks* in his first year and now headlines top comedy clubs across the country, and has taken his act to the US, England, Ireland, Holland, and the Middle East.

Ron Josol (Phillipino)

A previous winner of the "Home Grown Competition" at the *Just For Laughs Comedy Festival* in Montreal, Ron Josol is indubitably the most recognizable Asian comedian in Canada. Ron has been featured in his own CTV and Comedy Network segment of *Comedy Now!*. Ron has written and performed on the Gemini Award winning show *The Buzz*, has hosted a television series on the new Omni2 Network called, *FLIP*. Currently, Ron is a writer and performer on the Much Music hit show *Video on Trial*.

Lou Dinos (Greek)

28 years ago Lou Dinos' career started at a little club called *Yuk Yuks* in Toronto, the only comedy club in the country. He did five minutes and was scared to death. But he killed. Shortly there after he moved to Los Angeles, auditioned at *The Comedy Store* and within a month, he was a regular there. Soon after that he hooked up with his childhood friend, Howie Mandel. For five years they toured theatres across the U.S. and Canada together, including stops at Radio City Music Hall, The Fox Theater, Ceasar's - Tahoe, and The Sands in Atlantic City, and Carnegie Hall. After his tour with Howie, he embarked on a solo tour, headlining a number of North America's biggest clubs.

COMEDY OF CULTURES will take place on Tuesday, May 26 at 7 pm at Science North's Inco Cavern. Tickets cost \$35.50, and can be purchased in advance on April 28th by calling (705) 688-1234, or by visiting the LOL Sudbury office at 49 Durham St. *Comedy of Cultures* is proudly sponsored by CTV.

The 3rd edition of Laugh Out Loud Sudbury Comedy Festival runs from May 26th to May 30th. For more information, please call (705) 688-1234 or visit www.lolsudbury.com

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26 till **30** 2009

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