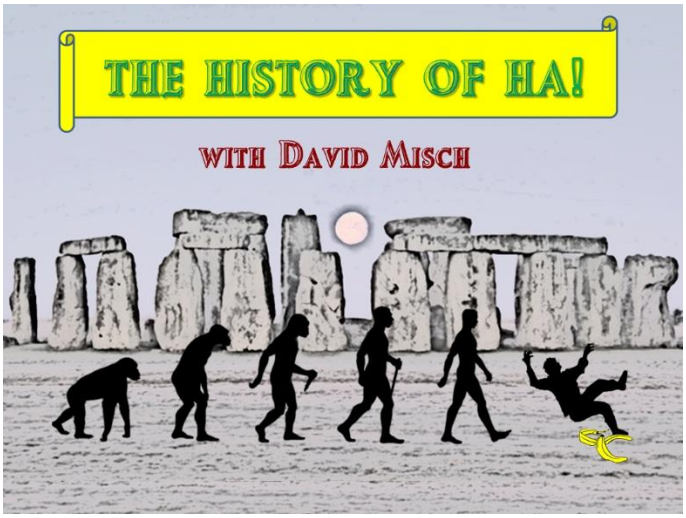


Ripped from the pages of his award-eligible “Funny: The Book,” David Misch presents a some-holds-barred survey of absolutely everything funny that’s ever happened, in an hour. (FDA advisory: Some funny things not included.)

Beginning in pre-history with the mythological Trickster, this multimedia presentation looks at comedy from Ancient Greece to yesterday morning, from court jesters to Plato & Aristotle to Key & Peele. With stops along the way for commedia dell’arte, a French fartist and how comedy killed Abraham Lincoln, David uses clips and commentary to look at what comedy is, where it comes from and where it’s going (oddly enough, Philadelphia).

We’ll look at how comedy’s been influenced by language, chaos and the grotesque and how it’s often been viewed as a 2nd-class art form; in fact, laughter itself was once seen as a moral failing. (And is considered obscene in some cultures even today.) But we’ll also see that comedy gives us what author Philip Pullman calls “the value of simple delight,” and can even lead us to ecstasy.

Among David Misch’s TV and movie credits are the Emmy-nominated “Mork and Mindy,” the Emmy-losing “Duckman,” the Emmy-engorged “Saturday Night Live,” and the Emmy-ineligible “The Muppets Take Manhattan.” In addition to “Funny: The Book,” he’s written “A Beginner’s Guide To Corruption,” is also a playwright, songwriter, blogger, teacher and recovered stand-up comic, and has spoken at the Smithsonian, Yale, Oxford University, CineStudio Paris, University of Sydney (Australia), VIEW Cinema Conference (Torino, Italy), Raindance Film Festival (London), American Film Institute, Austin Film Festival, Burbank Comedy Festival, Midwest Popular Culture Association, USC and UCLA. Too much more at davidmisch.com.