

# will durst

comedy for people  
who read  
or know someone  
who does



## WILL DURST

WILL DURST'S IDENTITY CRISIS IS NOT HELPED BY THE MEDIA. THE L.A. TIMES CALLS HIM, "A MODERN DAY WILL ROGERS." THE S. F. EXAMINER ARGUES HE'S "THE HEIR APPARENT TO MORT SAHL AND DICK GREGORY." THE CHICAGO TRIBUNE HAILS DURST AS A "HYSTERICAL HYBRID OF HUNTER THOMPSON AND CHARLES OSGOOD", BUT ALL AGREE HE IS AMERICA'S PREMIER POLITICAL COMIC. AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY OFFENDER. A BI-PARTISAN SMARTASS. A MAN, WHO IN 1998, SCORED A POLITICAL HAT TRICK BY OPENING FOR VICE PRESIDENT GORE AND PERFORMING AT BOTH THE GOVERNORS CONFERENCE IN MILWAUKEE AND THE MAYORS CONVENTION IN RENO. THE DARK PRINCE OF DOUBT; DURST READS BETWEEN THE LINES AND IS CONVINCED IF YOU'RE NOT CONFUSED, YOU'RE NOT PAYING ATTENTION. "YOU CAN'T MAKE STUFF UP LIKE THIS." HE CLAIMS NOT TO HAVE TO WRITE MATERIAL. IT GETS DELIVERED TO HIM AT 8 AM EVERY MORNING WITH THE SIX DAILY NEWSPAPERS HE READS. "ALL I DO IS EDIT. AND PRECIOUS LITTLE OF THAT" HE'S OUTRAGED AND OUTRAGEOUS. WILLIAM TELL BRUCE JOHN HENRY DURST JR. GREW UP IN MILWAUKEE. HE THEN MOVED TO SAN FRANCISCO BECAUSE "COMEDY IS ILLEGAL IN MILWAUKEE." THIS EDGY BUT GROUNDED BLUE COLLAR COMIC HELD OVER 100 JOBS BEFORE FINALLY EARNING HIS LIVING MAKING PEOPLE LAUGH OUT LOUD ON PURPOSE AGAINST THEIR WILL. HE ONCE RAN FOR MAYOR OF SAN FRANCISCO, CAME IN 4TH OUT OF 11, SPENT \$1,200 AND GOT 2% OF THE VOTE: SO ON A DOLLAR PER VOTE BASIS, HE IS MAYOR OF SAN FRANCISCO. THE ONLY COMIC INVITED TO PERFORM AT HARVARD'S KENNEDY SCHOOL OF GOVERNMENT, DURST, A MODERN RENAISSANCE MAN, ALSO WRITES A DAILY INTERNET COLUMN, IS A FREQUENT CONTRIBUTOR TO *GEORGE* MAGAZINE, AND VARIOUS OP-ED PAGES SUCH AS THE *NEW YORK TIMES*, AND THE *SAN FRANCISCO CHRONICLE*. HIS BI-WEEKLY COMMENTARIES CAN BE HEARD ON PUBLIC RADIO'S "MARKETPLACE" AND HE IS A FIVE TIME EMMY NOMINEE AND HOST/ CO-PRODUCER OF THE AWARD WINNING ONGOING PBS SERIES "LIVELYHOOD." HIS WORK IN COMEDY CLUBS HAS BEEN RECOGNIZED WITH APPEARANCES ON EVERY SHOW FEATURING A BRICK WALL, INCLUDING LETTERMAN, HBO AND SHOWTIME, ALSO GARNERING 7 NOMINATIONS FOR THE AMERICAN COMEDY AWARDS STAND UP OF THE YEAR. INTERNATIONALLY, DURST WAS THE FIRST AMERICAN NOMINATED FOR THE PRESTIGIOUS PERRIER AWARD AT THE EDINBURGH THEATER FESTIVAL FOR HIS ONE MAN SHOW "YOU CAN'T MAKE STUFF UP LIKE THIS." HIS PERFORMANCES ARE MADE POSSIBLE BY THE FIRST AMENDMENT.



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