

= The Legally Prohibited from Being Funny on Television Tour =

The Legally Prohibited from Being Funny on Television Tour (also known as the Prohibited Tour) was a comedy tour by American comedian and talk show host Conan O'Brien . Its title is a reference to the 2010 Tonight Show host and timeslot conflict , which resulted in O'Brien resigning from his position as host of The Tonight Show in January 2010 . O'Brien reached a settlement with NBC that barred him from appearing on television until September 2010 , but it did not bar him from performing before a live audience in a concert setting . From April through June 2010 , O'Brien performed 42 shows in the United States and Canada .

O'Brien announced on March 11 , 2010 via his Twitter account that he would embark on a 30 @-@ city live tour beginning April 12 . Even with the unconventional marketing campaign of a single Twitter announcement , many locations sold out within hours of the tweet and additional shows were added on to meet demand . During the tour , O'Brien announced that his new show , Conan , would debut on TBS in November 2010 . A documentary following O'Brien during the tour , Conan O'Brien Can't Stop , was released in June 2011 .

= = Background and announcement = =

In January 2010 , late @-@ night talk show hosts Conan O'Brien and Jay Leno engaged in a public relations conflict over who should host The Tonight Show . Due to low ratings for The Jay Leno Show and The Tonight Show with Conan O'Brien , NBC announced a schedule change , moving Leno from 10 : 00 pm to 11 : 30 pm , and O'Brien from 11 : 30 pm to 12 : 00 am . This change resulted in a public outcry and public demonstrations largely in support of O'Brien . O'Brien indicated that he would quit his show and leave the network if NBC were to implement it , citing the " destruction " of the venerable franchise which had aired at or around 11 : 30 pm for over 60 years .

As part of the deal between O'Brien and NBC , O'Brien was legally prohibited from appearing on television prior to September 1 , 2010 . He began to utilize social media to remain engaged with his fan base . O'Brien started a Twitter account on February 24 , 2010 . After about one hour , O'Brien's subscriber list had reached over 30 @,@ 000 members and , approximately 30 minutes later , he was on the brink of passing 50 @,@ 000 followers . After 24 hours , O'Brien had well over 300 @,@ 000 followers . In late May 2010 , he surpassed the one million mark for number of Twitter followers .

O'Brien announced via his Twitter account that he would embark on a 30 @-@ city live tour on March 11 , 2010 , beginning on April 12 , 2010 . On the same day , teamcoco.com , an official website , was launched . According to TMZ , O'Brien decided not to keep any of the proceeds from the tour , in order to employ his show's staff members .

= = Format = =

Several members of O'Brien's staff joined him for the tour , including sidekick Andy Richter , and the former Tonight Show Band , temporarily renamed " The Legally Prohibited Band " . Max Weinberg , the band leader , was unable to participate in the tour due to his recent heart surgery , although he did appear at one of the New York City shows .

Signs at each venue encouraged audience members using Twitter during the show to use a unique hashtag . Reggie Watts served as the tour's opening act . In the video introduction to the show , Conan appeared as an obese and bearded version of himself struggling to cope with the loss of his talk show while Eric Carmen's " All By Myself " plays . He then transforms back into his thin self during his exercise montage (by merely pulling off his body suit) after getting the call to go on tour .

The tour differed from his television shows in that there was no desk or celebrity interviews , but presented as more of a variety show than a stand @-@ up routine . Many elements from TV were incorporated into the show , including video bits , musical and comic performers , and cameo appearances by celebrities . Classic sketches were also revived for the tour , albeit under different

names due to legal issues over the ownership rights . The Masturbating Bear , for example , made a brief appearance before being transformed into the Self @-@ Pleasuring Panda . Also , the " Walker , Texas Ranger lever " was retitled the " Chuck Norris Rural Policeman Handle " . Triumph the Insult Comic Dog mocked the city the tour was appearing in as himself in a prerecorded bit that inserts information about the city by dubbing over the original audio . O 'Brien also introduced a giant inflatable bat he claimed to have purchased during Meat Loaf 's Bat Out of Hell tour and at one point walked onstage wearing a replica of Eddie Murphy 's purple suit from his comedy special Eddie Murphy Raw . In addition , O 'Brien performed music throughout the show , including the disco hit " I Will Survive " and a personal parody of " On the Road Again " .

= = Opening act = =

Reggie Watts (select dates)

= = Special guests = =

= = Tour dates = =

Festivals and other miscellaneous performances

This concert is a part of the " Bonnaroo Music Festival "

= = = Box office score data = = =

= = Response = =

Just hours before the first show of the tour , O 'Brien announced that he would host a new show on cable station TBS , titled Conan , which debuted in November 2010 . In addition to the announcement of the television series , TBS also announced a one @-@ hour TBS Special , featuring several writers for Conan , as well Watts .

Even with ticket prices starting at \$ 40 , The Legally Prohibited from Being Funny on Television Tour sold out . Footage of O 'Brien 's tour has been uploaded onto YouTube by fans in attendance and immediately went viral . A clip of O 'Brien 's performance of " I Will Survive " , for example , has received more than 320 @,@ 000 views .

Conan O 'Brien Can 't Stop , a behind @-@ the @-@ scenes documentary film shot during the tour , was released in June 2011 . It focuses on the production of the tour , O 'Brien 's interactions with fans and his crew , and O 'Brien 's thoughts on the Tonight Show conflict and legal injunction that inspired the tour . The movie was filmed , directed and produced by director Rodman Flender , a college friend of O 'Brien .