

REX NAVARRETE **stand-up comedian bio**



Many claim that college is the turning point in one's life, when one finds his or her future. This was the case for San Francisco Bay Area comedian Rex Navarrete, when Navarrete's college professor told him he was wasting his talents.

"He told me, 'Get out of my office-we shouldn't be joking here, you should be taking those jokes to the stage,'" recalls Navarrete of his Asian American Studies professor Dan Gonzales, the teacher who supported his dream to be a comedian in 1989.

"I was looking for my identity then just as everyone else was at that age," says Navarrete. "Much of my material was very serious, it lacked comedy. I figured that I had some important stuff to say, so say it in the format of stand-up. This is where I started to take comedy as a vehicle seriously."

Up until now, Navarrete is seeing his routine evolve through the use of characters, many of whom were struggling underdogs. His portrayals, which ranged from his ESL teacher Mrs. Scott to his Uncle Boy and to Maritess the domestic worker, gave him the voice to air his thoughts on issues and speak about things that otherwise wouldn't be mentioned.

Navarrete gathers all of his material from what he calls "real Rex moments," reality and shared life experiences. "I think everything has humor; you will always find humor. I don't always make stuff up. Even though most of my material is geared for a Filipino audience, if you're smart enough you'll understand the universality of it. Look at the comedy traditions of Jewish and African American comics, which are now the mainstream through Seinfeld, Bruce, Allen, Rock, Pryor and Murphy. Our struggles become our comedy."

"My parents never knew I would become a comedian. They did think I would go on to become an architect. I led a dual life; I would play the role of a Filipino at home and at school be the American with my classmates. I bought my first Eddie Murphy album in middle school and memorized 'Comedian' with my friends. That was my first real introduction to stand-up comedy and the art of storytelling."

A lot has happened since then. Navarrete has performed his brand of comedy all across the nation touring numerous colleges, universities and community events. He has become a household name in Filipino American homes. In 1998, he released his first comedy CD entitled, "Badly Brownd", which was followed by another CD in the summer of 1999, "Husky Boy". Then in 2001, "Bastos", was released. These three efforts are a first for any Filipino American comedian. Currently, he can be seen on TFC's "Stateside" program with his very own segment, "Rex Files: Pinoy Undercover" which airs internationally on ABS-CBN's The Filipino Channel satellite service.

Presently on his website, he has released in collaboration with animator Dino Ignacio a web cartoon version of his 1997 routine, "Maritess vs. The Superfriends". The cartoon at Fractalcow.com has gained a worldwide audience, even among non-Filipinos. The future has him bringing his shows worldwide and creating a full length DVD of his CD trilogy as well as many more live CDs to come.

These CD's can be purchased online at www.RexNavarrete.com

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REX NAVARRETE stand-up performance comedian history

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Visit (www.RexNavarrete.com) For current news/events calendar**



Comedy Clubs

The Holy City Zoo, San Francisco CA...opened for Rob Schneider
The Punchline, San Francisco CA
The Improv, Brea CA...headliner
New York Comedy Club, NYC...headliner

Colleges/Universities

University of California campuses of...
Los Angeles, Santa Cruz, San Francisco, Berkeley, Davis, San Diego, Irvine
California State University campuses of...
San Francisco, San Diego, San Jose, Fresno, Chico, Hayward, Long Beach,
San Luis Obispo, Northridge, Sonoma
Stanford University, University of Pennsylvania, Hunter College NY, University of Puget
Sound WA, University of Washington WA, University of Hawaii Manoa HI,
University of San Francisco CA, Seattle University WA, Virginia Tech VA, University of
Texas Austin TX, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, Rutgers University NJ,
New York University NY, University of Nevada Las Vegas, Pomona College CA
Chapman University CA, St. Peter's College NJ, University of North Florida, Michigan
State University, Ryerson Polytechnic University in Toronto, Canada

Improvational Group/Collaborations/Notable Appearances

"Wild 94.9's Bigger & Better Comedy Jam at the Shoreline Amphitheater" SF Bay Area
(Opened for DL Hughely, Tommy Davidson and George Lopez) Summer 2001
"Live and Bastos" one-man show at the Guam Hilton, Summer 2001
Festival of Philippine Arts & Culture in Los Angeles, Summer 1999-2001
"Asians in the City" shows in NYC's New York Comedy Club (headliner), Fall 2000
San Francisco Asian American Film Festival SF (emcee) 2000-01
"What's That In My Rice!?" shows (the nation's first Asian-Am Comedy Show) SF 1993
Opened for Mr. Paul Mooney, SF 1993
Tongue In A Mood: an all Filipino American sketch comedy group (co-founder) SF 1992
Color of Funny Comedy Competition, Berkeley (finalist) 1991

Current Projects/Television Appearances

Debut CD entitled, "BADLY BROWNED", under the Karabaw label.
Recorded live and released in 1998. The first ever Filipino American "live stand-up
comedy" album released in the country featuring music from DJ Qbert, world
champion turntablists and "Wave Twisters" fame. Second CD entitled, "HUSKY BOY",
also released under the Karabaw label released in the summer of 1999.
In the summer of 2001, released "BASTOS", the Third Live CD on the Kakarabaw Label.
He has since been a featured subject in ABS-CBN's "Stateside" weekly program and a
featured interview in Bamboo Girl Zine issue #10.

Since the summer of 2000, his web site **RexNavarrete.com**, has been online for
fans to log-in and check out his latest projects, events calendar, free comedy
material and more.

Other Appearances and References Available Upon Request

