

You Asked the Questions

EW readers interview Greg Proops.

Greg Proops, best know for his hilarious comedy on ABC's *Whose Line Is Anyway*, visits Eugene this week with the rest of the show's cast to raise the roof at the Hult Center. We asked you, our dear readers, if you had any questions you wanted to ask Greg. And you did. 251 questions to be exact. We picked a few, and Greg answered by email. Here's what the man himself has to say.

Who inspired you to become a comedian and why?

I loved the comics I saw on TV and the movies. I listened to comedy albums growing up, Bill Cosby, Alan Sherman and Albert Brooks. When I got to be a teen, comedy was exploding. George Carlin, Richard Pryor, Lily Tomlin, Monty Python, SNL were all huge. Mostly I always wanted to do it. I love Groucho, Peter Sellers, Peter Cook and Dudley Moore, Buster Keaton, Laurel and Hardy and all the screwball comedies. Go seek them out and learn to laugh again.

How many ducks does it take to screw in a lightbulb?

In Eugene, four. One to find a bulb, one to get some micro brewed beer and two to hold the bong.

If you were an undercover agent on a secret mission and could choose your

mission and your character, what would they be?

My mission would be to stop all governments from ruining everyone's life. My character would be Gerry the Diplomatic Wombat.

What is the worst thing to say or do at an airport security checkpoint?

Oh, by the will of Allah, how forgetful I am. I wore my exploding shoes.

What shouldn't you say at a gynecologist's office?

A little to the right, Doc. That's it, pow!

Have you ever thought about using livestock in your improv?

You pervert. A chipmunk, maybe.

Who is your favorite Smurf?

The blue lady with the white hair. Hot.

Is there anything that you will not joke about and, if so, what would that be?

Anyone who cannot defend themselves. The President and the rich and celebrated have a platform. They are fair game. Everything is funny in context.

If you and your fellow comedians started "The Comedians Political

Party," how would your policies differ from the Democrats and Republicans?

Less meetings. More drinking. No voting, everything done by applause. Everyone do what you want. Keep to your time.

If you could spend an evening with anyone, living or dead, who would that be?

My wife. In Paris, France.

If the world was coming to an abrupt end and all you were allowed to bring into heaven was one pair of shoes, which pair of your shoes would you choose?

My brown suede Fratelli lace-ups. Divine comfort for the afterworld.

What do you love about doing improv?

The freedom. Hanging with the boys. We are pals.

If you could select one comedian to serve as President of the United States, who would it be and why?

Al Franken. Because he is an informed, intelligent humanist. Margaret Cho as VP. Lewis Black as Secretary of State. Dave



A Night of Improv
7:30 pm, Saturday, 6/4
The Hult Center, \$32-\$45

Chappelle as Secretary of Defense. George Carlin as Chief Justice of the Supreme Court. Scott Thompson from *Kids in the Hall* as first Ladyman. And Bill Hicks as spiritual advisor.

Then you got Pro-Choice Jews, Asians, Queers and troublemaking dope smoking Black people running the show the way the Lord really wants. The Lord called me and told me he is tired of over-entitled, corporate lapdog white guys.

EW

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