

Negin Farsad presents...

THE DIRTY IMMIGRANT COLLECTIVE

PERFORMERS' NOTES

Edinburgh Fringe 2010

This show has a variable line-up.

NEGIN FARSAD

www.neginfarsad.com

www.youtube.com/neginfarsad

www.twitter.com/neginfarsad

- Director/executive producer of the current feature film release, "Nerdcore Rising," a comedy about Nerdcore hip hop (premiered South By Southwest Film Festival, then toured other festivals winning Best Director, Best Film, and Audience Favourite along the way; now on distribution North America and France, and available on Netflix instant watch).
- Directed and wrote the Comedy Central series, "The Watch List".
- Currently the Independent Film Channel's correspondent on all things interactive, tech and nerdy.
- Currently writing for the forthcoming PBS animated series, "1001 Nights."
- Recently developed and wrote the MTV series, "Detox."
- As a stand-up comedian Negin has opened for the likes of (Senator) Al Franken and Comedy Central's Axis of Evil Comedy Tour in venues ranging from the Laugh Factory in New York, the Comedy Store in Los Angeles, and Town Hall on Broadway.
- Negin has provided original comedy content for ABC Family as well as Pacifica and Sirius radio stations.
- She has been an active comedian and producer, earning a nomination for the Emerging Comics of New York Awards.
- Her solo show "Bootleg Islam", which she wrote and performed, has appeared in multiple comedy festivals around the country culminating in an off-Broadway run in New York.
- Winner Lifetime Woman Filmmaker Award for short film, "Hot Bread Kitchen".
- "Farsad has a touch of madness about her, and that's always worth the price of a ticket" – *nytheatre.com*
- Two master's degrees from Columbia University where she studied public policy and race relations (degrees that now collect dust - ha ha).
- Californian-raised Iranian-American, now based in New York.

LEE CAMP

www.leecamp.net

<http://www.youtube.com/LeeCamp>

- Political satirist and left-wing political activist.
- Although Lee has been writing and performing comedy for 15 years, he came into most of America's consciousness when he went on a national right-wing news network (Fox) and called them a "parade of propaganda and festival of ignorance" live on their own morning show. The viral video got millions of views and more than one hate e-mail involving the phrase "dirty Jew".
- But Lee is also known for his unique blend of left-wing activism and stand-up comedy, which garners him truly die-hard fans and equally die-hard critics. Among the fans is George Carlin's daughter Kelly, who called Lee one of the few comics keeping her father's torch alive. She said, "I was blown away by his balls, and immediately thought, 'He's like my dad!' ".
- His many writing and TV credits include appearances on Comedy Central, MTV, SpikeTV, PBS, E network, Showtime and ABC's "Good Morning America", as well as contributing

humour to The Onion newspaper, the Huffington Post, and The Guardian and dozens of local radio stations.

- Lee has been a featured performer for the 2008 Democratic Convention, on Jon Oliver's BBC Radio show Political Animal, and in a host of guest commentary spots TV.
- Lee is featured as one of the up-and-coming cultural critic comedians in the hit book *Satiristas* by Paul Provenza, which also includes interviews with everyone from George Carlin to Billy Connolly to Lewis Black to Robin Williams to Roseanne Barr.
- "Lee Camp is an amazing writer and a great political thinker. He's the change you and I want to see." – Janeane Garofalo
- "Congrats to Lee on his balls and integrity. Everything he does is SO good. We need more comedians with his kind of fearlessness. It's so rare to find such artful, thoughtful passion in comedy these days. ...or in life. He's waiting for a generation to catch up with him." – Paul Provenza
- "Super impressive." – Roseanne Barr

BECKY DONOHUE

www.beckydonohue.com

<http://www.youtube.com/beckydonohue>

- Comedian, broad, and more.
- Columbian-Irish.
- Becky is a national headliner who's kicked comedy ass in front of tough New York audiences and around the US for the last 10 years.
- Becky's stand-up show ran throughout Edinburgh Fringe 2009 and she's since appeared at Edinburgh's The Stand, and in Dublin.
- "Like a housewife on acid".
- 2008 MAC Award nominee for "Best Stand-Up".
- TV appearances include Comedy Central's Tough Crowd with Colin Quinn, Premium Blend, Shorties Watchin' Shorties, A&E's 15 Films About Madonna, and interstitial stand-up clips for SiTV.
- Becky has also appeared as a commentator on TLC's Trading Spaces, Comedy Central's Weekly Evil, and MTV3.
- She's featured in Stand-up 360, on national release in the US this summer.
- Rebecca is a Friar and was a highlight of the "So You Think You Can Roast" competition (Check out her roast of Omarosa on the video page of her website).
- As a writer, Becky contributes to US Weekly, Life & Style magazine, Tru TV, and Randal Media, just to name a few.

DESIREE BURCH

www.desireeburch.com

www.twitter.com/destheray

- Performance artist. Comedian. Writer. Actor. Poet. Woman. Genius.
- Desiree is an NYC-based comedian, MC, writer, and performer and one of New York Magazine's "10 People That Funny People Find Funny".
- Known for work with the New York Neo-Futurists in "Too Much Light Makes the Baby Go Blind".
- Four-star reviews in TimeOut New York and The List, and a spotlight in Backstage for her acclaimed solo show "52 Man Pickup", performed at the New York and Edinburgh Fringe Festivals and featured at Joe's Pub, NY.
- Has written and performed for MTV, VH1, NBC News, The New York Post, Comedy Central, Huffington Post, Caroline's on Broadway, The New Museum and fans of Ra Ra Riot and Clap Your Hands Say Yeah in concert.
- Desiree can also be seen in the forthcoming feature-length documentary "I Heart New York."

- She previously hosted/curated the reading and variety Smut ("Art that should carry a Parental Advisory Label" – NY Times), and in 2008 founded The Hysterical Festival for women in comedy.

KATIE HALPER

www.katiehalper.com

www.twitter.com/kthalps

www.youtube.com/neginfarsad

- Third generation New Yorker pinko secular Jew who passes for Latina.
- Comedian, satirist, filmmaker, writer, blogger, high school Latin American History teacher.
- Has performed as a standup at Stand Up New York, Town Hall, The Culture Project, Headlines the Nation Magazine Cruise with Governor Howard Dean, and has opened for Lizz Winstead, Marga Gomez, Jim Hightower, Markos Moulitas, The Yes Men, Cynthia Nixon.
- Founder of and performer with Laughing Liberally, a political comedy collective that performs throughout the country.
- Written for Comedy Central, The New York Times, The Nation, Gawker, Kenneth Cole's blog AWEARNESS, Nerve regular contributor to Huffington Post, Alternet, Talking Points Memo Cafe, The Faster Times.
- Writer and director of political comedy viral videos including "women for McCain".
- Has featured in NY Times, LA Times, NY Magazine, The Nation, and has appeared on MSNBC, FOX News, The Alan Colmes Show, RT, GritTV with Laura Flanders, WBAI, Serious, The Young Turks, Jezebel, Air America Radio.
- Producer of Tim Robbin's film Embedded; Estela Bravo's documentary Free to Fly.
- Outreach director of The Take, the award-winning documentary by Avi Lewis and Naomi Klein.
- Director/producer of various documentaries, including: La Memoria es Vaga, (official selection Amnesty International Firefly festival, winner Best Cinematography Granada Film Festival); an oral-history video project on New Yorkers during the Spanish Civil War commissioned by Museum of the City of New York; a feature about Camp Kinderland, the legendary social justice summer camp Katie (along with her mother and grandmother) attended, where the bunks are named after Harriet Tubman, Pablo Neruda, Anne Frank, focusing on their "Peace Olympics," the camp's peaceful non-violent alternative to other camps' competitive color wars.
- Is in a Palestinian-Jewish women's dialog group with a co-founder of Ms. Magazine and a Palestinian diplomat.
- Was once sent a bag of chocolates by Whoopie Goldberg; and was written to by John Cusack's assistant to discuss a project but her return e-mail was ignored.
- "Every blacklisted comic is finally getting justice and its name is Katie Halper. I feel a great wave of pity for anyone who has never seen Katie perform." – *Al Gioradano, Narco News*
- "The only profanity-free comic. Cute and somewhat brainy." – *National Review Online*
- "Don't let her sweet, mild-mannered looks fool you. Katie is the antonym of "politically correct", dangerously funny and smart." – *Markos Moulitsas, Daily Kos*
- "Katie is such a sharp observer. No doubt that is what makes her so funny. She sees stuff early and by the time others are talking about it she's bounced it around in her head for a while and has figured out all the ridiculousness and irony. She is like our pre homo-erectus ancestors, chewing up the food of politics for and then passing it down to us youngsters in an easier-to-digest kiss. But not as gross." – *Gina Cooper, Net Roots Consultant*

AT EDINBURGH FRINGE 2010:

Dates: 9-27 August

Time: 10.30 (one hour)

Tickets: FREE, as part of PBH's Free Fringe
Venue: Voodoo Rooms Ballroom, 19a West Register Street, Edinburgh EH2 2AA
Venue telephone: 0131 556 7060

MEDIA CONTACT:

Geraldine Hill at flying monkey PR – (+44) 07932 783768 / geri@flyingmonkey.net

www.neginfarsad.com

www.DirtyImmigrantCollective.com

www.flyingmonkey.net/blog

June 2010