



PDX culture in a box (several small boxes, actually)  
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## The Show Must Go Odd

**THE DATE:** WEDNESDAY, JULY 7. **THE EVENT:** A PERFORMANCE OF THE WHITE-HOT "FAMOUS MYSTERIOUS ACTOR SHOW" AT THE ASH STREET SALOON.

**"THE FAMOUS MYSTERIOUS ACTOR SHOW" IS ESSENTIALLY AN IMPROV COMEDY TROUPE MASQUERADING AS A TALK SHOW....**

IT'S NOT ACTUALLY TELEVISED, BUT IT HAS REAL GUESTS AND "COMMERCIAL BREAKS" — AND A "HOST" WHO'S DISGUISED AS A CANDY-LOVING, MASK-WEARING KOOK.

BECAUSE THE SHOW'S COMEDY DEPENDS LARGELY ON THAT HOST'S IMPROVISED RANDOMNESS, THE HUMOR MAY VERY WELL BE OF THE "YOU HAD TO BE THERE" VARIETY.

WE WILL NEVERTHELESS TRY TO CONVEY THE EXPERIENCE IN COMICS FORM.

AND SO: **EIGHT THINGS THAT HAPPENED DURING "THE FAMOUS MYSTERIOUS ACTOR SHOW" THAT SEEMED GUT-BUSTINGLY HILARIOUS AND/OR AWESOME AT THE TIME, BUT WHICH MAY ACTUALLY MAKE NO SENSE IN PRINT**

**1. THE AWKWARDLY WRITTEN AND DELIVERED OPENING MONOLOGUE**

IT'S GOOD TO SEE EVERYTHING IS GOING GOOD SINCE WE HANDED IRAQ OVER TO THE IRAQIS ... IN OPPOSITE LAND!!!

**2. SPLICING NUCLEAR EXPLOSIONS INTO VIDEO CLIPS FROM "CROCODILE DUNDEE"**

DOING C. DUNDEE ANIMAL-HYPNOSIS TRICK ON INFERNI!

**3. NONSENSICALLY RIPPING ON THE STATE OF COLORADO**

I HATE MINERALS.

**4. BIZARRE SPONSORS**

TONIGHT'S SHOW IS BROUGHT TO YOU BY A QUARTER-POUND OF BALLOONS.

I'M TIRED OF BUYING MY BALLOONS ONE OUNCE AT A TIME!

**5. THE FAMOUS MYSTERIOUS ACTOR'S COOKING ADVICE**

I KNOW HOW TO MAKE A TAMALE... YOU JUST TAKE A BUNCH OF CANDY CORN AND PUT IT IN A BLENDER AND POUR IT IN A SOCK!

**6. THE F.M.A. JAMMING OUT ON A TYCO "HOT KEYZ," WITH SEAN CROGHAN ON GUITAR!**

YOU COULDN'T HOLD A CANDLE TO "HOT KEYZ."

**7. THE F.M.A. MAKING FUN OF NOISE ARTIST MIKE LASTRA'S EXTRA-LONG "SECRET BEARD"**

"HAM HAT" SECRET BEARD

IT TASTES LIKE YOUR THIGH!

**8. SHOWING VINTAGE LIVE CLIPS OF THE DEAD KENNEDYS AND POISON IDEA DURING "COMMERCIAL BREAKS"**

PATRONS SUPPENLY REMINDED OF THE ANEMIA OF TODAY'S "ANGRY" ALT-ROCK

**ENDNOTES AND DIGRESSIONS:** 1. You can learn more about the show — including future performances — at its sort of half-formed Web site, *TheFMAShow.com*. 2. One wracks the brain trying to come up with the perfect phrase to describe the program, but as usual, one is out-done by periodic CulturePulp guest star S.W. "Conch" Conser, who turned me on to this event: "Imagine the old Steve Allen Tonight Show with Pee-Wee Herman behind the desk." Well, *exactly*. 3. I'd wager that the "Famous Mysterious Actor" — whom we won't name here — wouldn't be half as fearlessly funny if he weren't wearing that mask. In fact, I'll wager that the mask is a necessary actor's crutch in this case, as "Famous" heaps relentless, hilarious abuse on some intimidating guests — which on July 7 included local noise/music legends Sean Croghan and Mike Lastra.

