

Joel Fragomeni

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It's been said that Joel Fragomeni looks like the offspring of Drew Carey and Danny DeVito. He'll take that - at least they're funny. In reality, Joel is the child of an Italian immigrant and a coal miner's daughter. A first-generation American and a product of the suburbs, his edgy humor is neither safe nor predictable. To laugh at him is to love him, and he's been laughed at his whole life.

First gracing the comedy stage in the fall of 1999, Joel Fragomeni has quickly become a favorite at every Comedy Club, saloon and speakeasy he's appeared. His combination of quick wit, expert timing and inventive punchlines was honed through many years of short-story and poetry writing, home video projects with friends, and an appreciation of the great self-effacing comedy talents of Woody Allen, Albert Brooks and Howard Stern. Joel's stand-up career, however, only began after finding a comic kinship with the comedy albums of Robert Schimmel. A chance meeting with Schimmel after a show in 1999 got the stand-up comedy ball rolling, and it's been going downhill ever since.

Joel's material takes shots at politicians, technology, bad television and suburbia. Joel's favorite target, however, is himself. From his unique appearance to his romantic shortcomings, Joel's "loveable loser" persona never fails to enchant an audience. A common post-show sight is Joel surrounded by a throng of women - and being introduced to all of their boyfriends.

In addition to touring clubs nationwide, Joel is a talented writer and filmmaker. Joel's 1998 student short film "Bathtub" was the hit of Wayne State University's film and video production program. As well as writing and directing, Joel also starred in the comedy, which was shot, almost entirely, in his own bathroom.

Joel is currently touring clubs nationwide. In 2004, he racked up over 250 shows in more than a dozen states. He is also the co-host of the The Corey and Joel Radio Show (coreyandjoelradio.com), a popular internet podcast. And Joel's alter-ego, Upchuck the Clown, is the host of "The Gathering of the Juggalos" an Insane Clown Posse outdoor fan festival, which hosts over 8,000 fans from around the world.