



Just For Laughs heats up the summer uniting the biggest and the best for its 36th Edition of the Festival

The world-famous comedy festival sets up the summer of 2018 with big laughs from comedy's elite as Just For Laughs announces more of their lineup including Howie Mandel, Russell Peters, David Cross, Ken Jeong, Iliza, Kenya Barris, Maria Bamford, Roy Wood Jr. and many others.

These artists join previously announced megastars Kevin Hart, Trevor Noah, Tiffany Haddish, Jo Koy, Jimmy Carr, Nikki Glaser, Orny Adams, Maz Jobrani, Robert Kelly, Brad Williams, to name a few.

Montréal, May 16, 2018 – Just For Laughs, in association with Loto-Québec, is excited to announce its exclusive lineup of revered comedians, celebrities and podcasters for 2018. The festival will light up Montreal this summer with a celebration of diversity, unity and most of all, big laughs echoing the sentiment carried within its name.

GALAS PACKED WITH BIG NAMES AND BIG LAUGHS

Festival favourite, **Howie Mandel**, is returning for the fourth consecutive year to host the popular gala with a lineup of top comedic stars. Winning over audiences for over 30 years in the business, Mandel continues to push the creative boundaries of the entertainment industry. Join Howie Mandel for one night only as he hosts ***The Howie Mandel All-Star Comedy Gala***, taking place on Thursday, July 26 at 6:30pm, at Salle Wilfrid-Pelletier at Place des Arts.

There's never a dull moment when **Ken Jeong** is performing, whether it's on the big screen, the small screen or live on stage. This year, Jeong will be hosting his own multi-comic Gala. Best

known for his role as Mr. Chow in the movie *The Hangover*, Dr. Kuni in *Knocked Up*, and Prof. Chang in *Community* and the upcoming summer film, *Crazy Rich Asians*, Jeong is notorious for picking roles that steal the scene. See him host ***The Ken Jeong Gala*** on Thursday, July 26 at 9:45pm, at Salle Wilfrid-Pelletier at Place des Arts.

Additional Galas will be announced in the coming weeks.

THEY'RE FUNNY THAT WAY SO, MAKE YOUR WAY TO THESE JFL CONCERTS

Russell Peters returns to Montreal this summer with his "***Deported World Tour***" show. It's all new material including plenty of Peters' own signature interactions with the audience. Peters returns to live touring after taking time off to film his smash hit CTV/Netflix series, *The Indian Detective*. He will hit the Just For Laughs stage on Thursday, July 26 and Friday, July 27 at 7:00pm, at Maison Symphonique.

Just For Laughs is thrilled to announce that award-winning comedian, **David Cross**, will be attending the festival in Montreal. Playing countless characters in TV and film, from the delusional Dr. Tobias Fünke on *Arrested Development*, to the "reshaped" Russ Snyder on *The Unbreakable Kimmy Schmidt*, David has established himself as one of the most charismatic comedic actors of our time. A veteran of the stand-up stage, his inventive style of comedy would have you questioning everything you know about yourself and the world around you if you weren't so busy laughing yourself sick in his new stand-up show, ***David Cross "Oh Come On"***. Don't miss David's one night only performance on Wednesday, July 25 at 7:00pm, at L'Olympia.

One of today's leading comedians, **Iliza**, is bringing her new comedy show, ***Iliza: Elder Millennial***, to Montreal this summer! In the last year, this multi-talented artist created and starred in the web series *Forever 31* which can currently be seen on Hulu, released her first book *Girl Logic: The Genius and the Absurdity*, and hosted her limited run late night talk show "Truth & Iliza" on Freeform. She recently completed production on her fourth Netflix special *Elder Millennial* which is set to premiere later this year and will soon be seen on the big screen in the upcoming film *Instant Family* starring Mark Wahlberg and Rose Byrne. Iliza's one-night only performance at Just For Laughs is not to be missed! ***Iliza: Elder Millennial*** will take place on Friday, July 27 at 9:30pm, at L'Olympia.

Stand-up comedian, actress, voice actress and writer, **Maria Bamford**, is returning to the Just For Laughs festival with her unforgettable new show. Her twisted and brazen sense of humour has labeled her one of *Rolling Stone's* 50 Funniest People, with Judd Apatow's endorsement in the *L.A. Times*, citing that she's "hysterically funny." Bamford has starred in and created numerous comedy specials including her wildly successful Netflix series *Lady Dynamite*, and has appeared in such hits as *Arrested Development* and *Fresh off the Boat*. She's also lent her unique vocal talent to *Adventure Time* and *Kung Fu Panda*. She is performing one night only Friday, July 27 at 7:00pm, at MTELUS.

SOLO SHOWS YOU WON'T WANT TO ATTEND SOLO AND MORE

Canadian comic, **Tom Green**, is coming to Just For Laughs this summer to perform, ***Tom Green: One Night Only!*** Green will make you laugh all night with his brilliant cracked view of the world around him. Anyone who is a fan of Tom will tell you he's as maddeningly funny as he is unpredictable and this show will be no exception! With a broad career on stage and in film, he has cornered the market on the absurdity with appearances on *Trailer Park Boys* and *Workaholics* and in the movies *Freddy Got Fingered* and *Road Trip*. Don't miss the chance to see him live Wednesday, July 25 at 9:30pm, at the Maison Theatre.

Award-winning comedian, **Dylan Moran**, will be bringing his new show, ***Dylan Moran-Grumbling Mustard***. Moran is regarded internationally as the premier comedian of his generation, being called "The Oscar Wilde of comedy," by The London Evening News and "The greatest comedian, living or dead," by Le Monde. Catch one of only two performances, on Thursday, July 26 and Saturday, July 28 at 7:00pm, at the Maison Theatre.

Entertainment Weekly described the thought-provoking comedy of **Roy Wood Jr.** as "Charismatic Crankiness." Currently, he's the host of the widely-successful Comedy Central show *This Is Not Happening*, and a correspondent on *The Daily Show with Trevor Noah*. Roy has been described by the Hollywood Reporter as "A Standout" and was named one of the 2016 'Variety' magazine 10 Comics to Watch. This summer, he'll be entertaining Just For Laughs audiences with his solo show, taking place Friday, July 27 at 9:30pm, at Cinquième Salle.

Australian comedian **Hannah Gadsby** has created a truly global phenomenon with her masterpiece, *Nanette*, which earned her Australia's most prestigious comedy award 'The Barry' for Best Show at the 2017 Melbourne International Comedy Festival, as well as the world's biggest prize for live comedy, the Best Comedy Show award at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe. The show went on to sell out two seasons in London and a three-month run in New York, described by the New York Times as "a riveting New York debut at SoHo Playhouse that announces a major new voice". In 2018, *Nanette* will be released on Netflix worldwide, and her visit to Montreal for Just for Laughs will be the last time Hannah performs *Nanette* on the stage. Don't miss the chance to be spellbound by one of Australia's most applauded comedians, and the inner workings of Hannah's unique mind on Thursday, July 26, at 9:30 pm, at the Maison Theatre. 18+

Comedian **Doug Benson**, as seen on *@midnight*, *Trailer Park Boys*, and *Super High Me*, brings his Comedy Central hit ***The Benson Interruption*** to the festival. This is a unique show where Benson invites his special guests to do stand-up, but stays on stage and interrupts whenever he feels like it. *The Interruption* will be back at the festival for one night only on Thursday, July 26th at 9:30pm, at Cinquième Salle in the Place des Arts.

Additional solo shows will be announced in the coming weeks.

SEE THE DISCOVERED AND THE ONES ABOUT TO BE

Just For Laughs Festival is excited to introduce a premium new comedy series, **The Stand Up Show with Katherine Ryan**, which will be filmed for The Comedy Network. Join our provocative and stylish host along with a roster of cutting edge talent as they perform their very best material on Wednesday, July 25 to Friday, July 27, at 7:00pm and 10:00pm, at L'Astral

The star of the Crave TV hit series, *Letterkenny*, **K. Trevor Wilson** returns to Just For Laughs this summer to host a celebration of Canadian comics and stand-up comedy in this year's 20th edition of **Homegrown Comics**. A great Canadian comedy superstar himself, Wilson is the perfect guide to the brightest new comics specially chosen from coast to coast of The Great White North. Don't miss your chance to root for the home team at JFL this year when **Homegrown Comics** will be taped for a future broadcast on The Comedy Network. Come watch the taping when it takes place on Saturday, July 28 at 9:00pm, at L'Astral.

Just For Laughs' **New Faces** is all about giving big breaks to the next big comedy superstars just like it did for Kevin Hart, Amy Schumer, Ali Wong and Hannibal Buress, to name a few. You don't want to miss the moment when a fresh new comic breaks the barrier and becomes a household name when they take the stage at salle Ludger-Duvernay at Monument-National with our **New Faces showcases** on Wednesday, July 25 at 7:00pm and 9:30pm, and with **New Faces: Characters** and **New Faces: Unrepped** showcases on Thursday July 26 at 7:00pm and 9:30pm respectively.

After its successful launch last year, **New Faces: Creators** returns. A showcase of the up-and-coming influencers, New Faces: Creators shows us the creators who, through digital content creation, are contributing to the evolution of the comedy industry. The festival is excited to have comedian and host of the wildly popular global-hit *HQ Trivia*, **Scott Rogowsky** host this show when it takes place Thursday, July 26 at 12:30pm, in the Grand Salon Opera at the Hyatt Regency Montreal.

With so many brilliant comics at Just For Laughs, sometimes it's hard to make a list of who to see. If that's your biggest problem then **Variety's "10 Comics To Watch"** is for you. Recognizing a wide range of talent in stand-up, sketch and web content, this show exposes audiences to the artists making the biggest impact on comedy this year. Get your tickets now and see who made the list for 2018 on Friday, July 27 at 9:30pm, at salle Ludger-Duvernay at Monument-National.

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO THE ROYAL WIT-ING

Who needs an invite to the Royal Wedding this summer when you can rub elbows with British Comedy Royalty right here in Montreal with **The Brit(ish) Show**. Hosted by **Nish Kumar**, and featuring **Paul Chowdhry, Joel Dommett, Sara Pascoe, Ed Gamble and Lauren Pattison**, this show will have you laughing so hard you might lose your bangers and mash! Bring your best mate and have a gander at the best comedians the UK has to offer and leave gobsmacked on Wednesday, July 25th and Friday, July 27 at 7:00pm, at the Maison Theatre.

BIG LAUGHS ARE EVERYWHERE WITH OFF-JFL AND ZOOFEST **In Collaboration with Pabst Blue Ribbon**

Featuring over sixty different, unique shows spread across Montreal's most intimate venues, *OFF-JFL* showcases world class headliners and amazing concept shows for a great bargain. Throughout the festival, these full-length performances and truly impressive concept shows featuring a wide range of the hottest comics and diverse styles are guaranteed to satisfy every comedy taste. Attend the right show and you may even catch a drop-in set by the biggest festival headliners. Come discover everything OFF-JFL, in collaboration with Pabst Blue Ribbon, has to offer to get the full JFL experience!

Some of the comics you'll catch this year include comedian-actor, and one of the favourites from *NBC's 30 Rock* **Judah Friedlander**; Canada's own comedian-actress **Sabrina Jalees**, who guest-starred on *Amazon's Transparent*; *Saturday Night Live* cast member **Melissa Villaseñor**; unfiltered comedian **Godfrey** in his *Yea...I Said It...* show; 20-year vet and *The Late Show With Stephen Colbert* regular **Tom Papa**; and *Life In Pieces* actor-comedian **Nick Thune** pairs up with *The Good Fight's* **Michael Ian Black** for their co-headlining show.

This series will also feature comedians **Aparna Nancherla**, **Todd Glass**, **Neal Brennan** in his "*Here We Go*" tour, **Chris Gethard**, **Fortune Feimster**, **Gary Gulman**, **Mike Ward**, **Big Jay Oakerson**, "*What's Your F@#king Deal*" and countless others that bring their comedy A game to the stage.

And if you're still waiting for it... back by popular demand, the festival has lined up fan favourites: **Fest At The Nest**, **Midnight Surprise**, **Hosts with the Most**, **Best of The Fest** and the ever so popular, **The Alternative Show hosted by Andy Kindler**.

THE BUSINESS OF BEING FUNNY

JFL ComedyPRO returns, bringing together trailblazers in the comedy business over the 4-day event, attracting everyone from newcomers to legends, to discuss the ever-changing comedy landscape.

Kenya Barris made the transition from reality show creator with *America's Next Top Model* to successful screenwriter and sitcom showrunner. We're delighted to welcome back to Montreal, last year's "Just For Laughs Comedy Writer of the Year" to deliver the JFL Keynote Address. With his hit TV show *Black-ish* nearing the magical 100-episode milestone, recent spin-off *Grown-ish* blossoming into a hit, and high-profile upcoming project like the new *Shaft* reboot, Barris is well-placed to offer up his outspoken observations and opinions to anyone who thinks they're an expert in comedy, taking place Thursday, July 26 at 2:30pm, in the Grand Salon Opera at the Hyatt Regency Montreal.

Anthony Atamanuik's Make Canada America Again! The Trump Rally brings his popular portrayal of the Commander-in-Chief to JFL ComedyPRO. Come to the Donald J. Trump comedy rally and witness Anthony's hilarious and iconic take on today's most divisive political figure.

This event is sure to draw the biggest crowd ever in the history of Just For Laughs, so don't miss out on Thursday, July 26 at 3:45pm, in the Grand Salon Opera, at the Hyatt Regency Montreal.

Fact: more than ever before, Canadian comedians and comedy content are being consumed here and around the globe. But don't take our word for it ... take **Mark Forward's** and **Rebecca Kohler's** words. Yes, Canadian comedy is so strong, we "double-doubled" down on two crazy Canucks for this year's "**Oh Comedy! A Canadian Perspective**" address. Last year, comedian, actor, and gadabout Mark Forward – a familiar face from stand-up world and TV land, including *Letterkenny*, *Mr. D.*, and *Fargo*) – brought us his incisive insight and curmudgeonly commentary. This year, Mark is joined by Rebecca Kohler, who happens to also be a stand-up comedian and a writer on three of the biggest hits of the past year, namely *Schitt's Creek*, *Workin' Moms*, and *Kim's Convenience*. Together, they examine the many highs and occasional lows of the business of funny north of the 49th parallel. Don't miss this on Wednesday, July 25 at 1:00pm, in the Inspiration Room at the Hyatt Regency Montreal.

The Sultan of Schadenfreude, **Andy Kindler** returns this year to once again deliver the *State of the Industry Address 2018*. This delightful tirade is a festival tradition and will leave you with not only a profound sense of where we are in the comedy world, but also in need of pain meds after Andy's gut bustingly funny breakdown of the ins and outs of the industry. The address takes place Friday, July 27 at 4:45pm, in the Grand Salon Opera at the Hyatt Regency Montreal.

FOR YOUR LISTENING PLEASURE, THE PODCASTS EVERYONE IS TALKING ABOUT

From the serious side of humour to the humorous side of murder, podcasts have become just as popular to listen to during a long drive, a walk or a workout as music ever was. To the luck of audiences worldwide, comedians have cornered the market with eclectic concepts and uncensored conversations that are reshaping how we view the world around us, all from our earbuds. JFL brings some of the most popular and relevant podcasts to the festival this year to record LIVE, such as **Doug Loves Movies** with *Doug Benson*, **Beautiful Stories From Anonymous People** with *Chris Gethard*, the **Watch What Crappens Podcast** with hosts *Ben Mandelker* and *Ronnie Karam*, **The Todd Glass Show**, **About Last Night Podcast** hosted by *Brad Williams* and *Adam Ray*, **You Know What Dude!** with *Robert Kelly*, **Good One: A Podcast About Jokes** hosted by *Vulture's Jesse David Fox* as well as **Industry Standard w/ Barry Katz**, , and **Chosen Family** hosted by *Tranna Wintour* and *Thomas Leblanc*.

JFL BRINGS BIG LAUGHS TO THE CLUBS EVERYONE WANTS TO GET INTO WITH THEIR CLUB SERIES

THE ETHNIC SHOW and THE NASTY SHOW

The Ethnic Show, returning for its 10th Edition, brings some of the world's most brilliant comedians from different cultures and backgrounds to the center stage. This year's master of ceremonies **Maz Jobrani**, will be joined by comedians **Gina Brillon**, **Francisco Ramos**, **Matteo Lane**, **Arthur Simeon**, and with special guest, **Orny Adams**. 16 performances take place at Club Soda, from Wednesday, July 11 - Sunday, July 22; and 3 more Tuesday, July 24 – Thursday, July 26 at 7:00 pm, at MTELUS.

The Nasty Show, the show your parents warned you about, returns with a masterful line-up of daring standup comics guaranteed to push the boundaries of what's appropriate to joke about. Hosted by **Robert Kelly**, whose honest, abrasively funny, yet refreshingly vulnerable take on life has been winning over audiences for years, the lineup also includes **Brad Williams, Nikki Glaser, Mike Britt, Ms. Pat** and **Derek Seguin**. This uncensored show not for the faint of heart runs Wednesday, July 18 - Saturday, July 21; and Tuesday July 24 - Saturday July 28, at 9:30 pm, at MTELUS.

And this is just for starters...*Be prepared for more premium programming lineups to be announced for the festival in the coming weeks.*

Pre-sale tickets will be available starting today, Wednesday May 16, 2018 as of 10:00 am; and to the general public Friday, May 18, 2018 at 10:00 am at www.hahaha.com

Montreal's Just For Laughs Festival runs from July 11-29, 2018 in Montréal, Canada.

For its 36th edition, the Juste Pour Rire Festival will present four galas hosted by Laurent Paquin, Jérémy Demay, Denis Drolet and Pier-Luc Funk, as well as ten theatrical performances starring Jean-Marc Parent, Laurent Paquin, Sèxe Illegal, Jérémy Demay, Mike Ward, Korine Côté, Philippe-Audrey Larue-St-Jacques, Neev, Daniel Grenier and Didier Lambert. The musical FAME, presented by Tangerine and directed by Serge Postigo, will run at Théâtre Saint-Denis I from June 7 to 28. Premiering for the first time in North America is the theatrical piece *Edmond d'Alexis Michalik*, which will show at the Théâtre du New World from July 26th to August 11th. A superb free outdoor program will also be offered to festival-goers, which includes the following must-see shows on the main stage: **Alexandre Barrette** on July 18th, **Juste pour Ados** on July 22nd, **The Beach Boys** on July 23rd, **Super Quiz** show hosted by Anaïs Favronle on July 24th, and the 5th edition of **Mado's Got Talent!** More details at hahaha.com.

Looking for the best way to experience the Just For Laughs Festival? Get a JFLMTL Pass! Passes available include: the JFL 2-Show Pass for \$99.99, 3-Show Pass for \$139.99 and 5-Show Pass for \$215. Each pass includes one free ticket every day from July 25-July 28, 2018 (some restrictions apply).

Find us on social media #JFLMTL

*check out the newly-launched Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/jflmtl/>

Facebook: @justforlaughsfestival

Twitter: @JFLMTL

Instagram: @JFLMTL

For tickets to the Montreal festival:

**By phone, online or in person: The Just For Laughs Box Office, 514-845-2322,
website: hahaha.com**

The Just For Laughs Festival would like to thank its public partners: Government of Canada,

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Loto-Québec, Tangerine, Sleeman, and Tim Hortons are proud supporters of the 2018 festival.

About Just For Laughs

Founded in 1983, the Just For Laughs Group's growth is concentrated on three major focal points: festivals (in Montreal, Toronto, Vancouver and Sydney); television production and stand-up specials (most notably Gags, seen in 135 countries and on 100 airlines); and live shows (Canadian tour dates for Jerry Seinfeld, Jim Gaffigan, Bill Burr, Kevin Hart, Jimmy Carr, Danny Bhoj, North American dates for John Cleese & Eric Idle and *Family Guy Live! to name a few*). The Montreal Just For Laughs Festival, which will celebrate its 36th edition in 2018, is the world's largest and most prestigious comedy event, welcoming more than 2 million people each summer.

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