

Charlie Todd

Founder, Improv Everywhere

Thought-provoking insights on creativity & the power of play



Biography

For over 20 years, comedian Charlie Todd has been creating big moments of unexpected joy in everyday public spaces. In 2001 he founded the comedy collective Improv Everywhere, a New York group that pioneered large-scale surprise public performances, long before anyone had heard of the term “flash mob.” Charlie’s projects are site-specific, hugely uplifting, and uniquely hilarious.

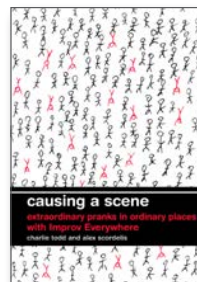
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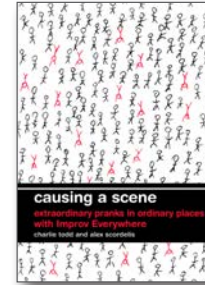
Who doesn't want to live in a world where high fives are offered at the top of a subway escalator, a Broadway musical breaks out in the produce section of the grocery store, and random people are given the chance to conduct a world-class orchestra on the streets of New York City?

Charlie was one of the original YouTubers, and Improv Everywhere was one of the very first comedy channels on the platform in early 2006. To date the channel has over half a billion views. With viral hits like the legendary Grand Central freeze and the absurdly silly No Pants Subway Ride, Improv Everywhere has created iconic projects that have entered the zeitgeist and spread to all corners of the globe. Charlie's success with Improv Everywhere has led to a career in television, recently serving as executive producer and director of the Disney+ series "Pixar In Real Life."

Charlie's talk tells the story of Improv Everywhere and shares what he's learned about crowds, viral media, and the importance of play through his personal experiences and hilarious video clips. Charlie's presentation is both laugh-out-loud funny and thought-provoking. **His talk will energize your audience and get their creative juices flowing.**

Charlie has spoken at high-profile conferences around the world, including TED, and has given lectures at institutions like the Museum of Modern Art and the New Museum of Contemporary Art. He is the author of the book *Causing A Scene: Extraordinary Pranks in Ordinary Places with Improv Everywhere* and the subject of the documentary *We Cause Scenes*, which premiered at SXSW. Charlie has been profiled by *The New York Times*, *The Today Show*, *This American Life*, and *New York Magazine*, to name a few.

In addition to his talk, Charlie is available to collaborate with sponsors to **custom-design an event that will surprise and engage your audience**. He can also be booked to teach an improv comedy masterclass, sharing the tools of successful improvisation with your attendees and demonstrating how the skills can be translated to the real world. Charlie taught and performed improv comedy at the Upright Citizens Brigade Theatre in New York for nearly two decades.



"Improv Everywhere tramples the lines drawn between spectacle and spectator, theatre and real life, public and private, performance and protest, and reclaims the streets for ordinary people." — Lyn Gardner, *The Guardian*

"Improv Everywhere is reliably hilarious to millions of people. The masters of mischief. [The Frozen Grand Central stunt] is one of the funniest moments ever captured on tape." — Martin Bashir, *ABC News Nightline*

"I love Improv Everywhere. Look at the peoples' faces. You cannot be unhappy. I love it." — Gayle King - *CBS This Morning*

"Improv Everywhere has heightened public spectacle to an artform. Hilarious." — Faith Salie, *Public Radio International*

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