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Theo Von, born Theodor Capitani von Kurnatowski III on March 19, 1980, is a renowned American comedian, podcaster, and actor. Born in Covington, Louisiana, he hosts the popular This Past Weekend podcast.Von's mother, Gina Capitani, was from Wyoming, Illinois, where Theo spent part of his childhood. His father, Roland Theodor Achilles von Kurnatowski (1912-1996), was a native of Bluefields, Nicaragua, who later settled in New Orleans. Von's grandfather was a Polish missionary, and he is descended from the noble Kurnatowski szlachta family.Von grew up in Covington with his siblings, legally emancipated at 14. He describes himself as Polish-Nicaraguan. After his father passed away when Von was 16, he moved to Mandeville, Louisiana, and graduated from Mandeville High School.Von's early career includes appearing on MTV's Road Rules: Maximum Velocity Tour in 2000 and competing on The Challenge reality game show for four seasons. He also participated in Last Comic Standing (2006) and won the online competition Last Comic Downloaded.In 2011, Von received his undergraduate degree in Urban Planning from the University of New Orleans. He then hosted the Yahoo! online TV recap show Primetime in No Time and later became the host of TBS' hidden camera show Deal With It (2013-2014). Von has also made cameo acting appearances on shows like Inside Amy Schumer and Why?Hannibal Buress began his career in comedy at a young age, choosing not to pursue acting early on due to a lack of enthusiasm for the projects offered to him. Instead, he focused on touring and podcasting, which allowed him to maintain a balance between his work and personal life.In 2018, Buress landed a three-episode scripted comedy show on Comedy Central, titled Man Up, where he aimed to help male comedians improve their lives. He then appeared in the big-budget film The Tomorrow War but dropped out due to scheduling conflicts. Buress began performing stand-up in Louisiana and eventually moved to Los Angeles to pursue a full-time career in comedy. However, his early days were marked by difficulty in breaking into the industry, as talent agents viewed him as a former reality TV star.Von has since established himself as a comedian, achieving significant milestones such as winning the Fan Favorite title on Last Comic Standing and popularizing "prank texting" through his blog and various television appearances.Von, a veteran of the Hollywood scene, has experienced significant failure during his years living in Tinseltown. His podcast, which ran for three years and produced a total of 123 episodes, came to an end.However, Von bounced back by launching a new long-form video podcast called This Past Weekend in December 2016. The show features storytelling, fan voicemails, and guest interviews, and Von has released over 200 episodes since its inception.In addition to this podcast, Von co-created King and the Sting with fellow podcaster Brendan Schaub in December 2018. The show debuted at number one on the iTunes Podcast charts in the US and reached the top charts in several other countries.In January 2022, Schaub and Von added a third host, Chris D'Elia, to the podcast, renaming it King and the Sting and Wing. Later that year, they officially renamed the show The Golden Hour, with Erik Griffin replacing Von as a co-host.Von has also been involved in several controversies in recent years. In September 2023, he publicly accused Kast Media and its CEO Colin Thomson of non-payment, following similar claims made by other podcasters. This led to a significant drop in the stock price of LiveOne and PodcastOne, and Thomson was eventually fired.Despite these challenges, Von continues to be active in the world of comedy. In August 2024, he interviewed US Senator Bernie Sanders and former President Donald Trump on his podcast, and in October 2024, he spoke with US Senator JD Vance.Von has lived in Nashville, Tennessee since September 2020, when he purchased the home of former Vanderbilt coach Derek Mason. He has also been involved in various charitable endeavors, including supporting the Tipitina' Foundation, which was founded by his older half-brother, Roland von Kurnatowski Jr.In addition to his podcasting work, Von has appeared on several reality TV shows, including Road Rules: Maximum Velocity Tour, Real World/Road Rules Challenge, and Last Comic Standing. He has also released a comedy album, 30lb Bag of Hamster Bones, which reached number one on the iTunes Comedy Album charts.Von's other notable projects include the Netflix series No Offense (2016), the album Regular People (2021), and the podcast This Past Weekend (2016-present).Theo Von's Career and VenturesTheo Von is a comedian who has appeared in various TV shows and podcasts. He started hosting "The Half Hour" in 2012 and later became the host of "Deal With It". In 2017, he was a guest on "The Joe Rogan Experience #925", while also appearing as a guest on multiple episodes of "The Joe Rogan Experience" throughout his career.In addition to comedy, Von has worked as an actor. His film debut was in "InAPPropriate Comedy Mountain Climber Film" in 2013, followed by the TV series "Inside Amy Schumer". He also starred in the 2024 film "Sweet Dreams Garvey".Von has gained recognition and accolades for his work. In 2023, he was named as one of Rolling Stone's most influential creators of 2024. He has also appeared on various podcasts, including "Full Send Podcast" and "Kill Tony".The article provides biographical information about comedian Theo Von. It mentions his early career, including appearances on MTV's "Road" trip and winning the Last Comic Standing competition in 2006. The piece also highlights his hosting duties on shows like "Prime Time in No Time" and "Man Up". Additionally, it notes that he has appeared on various podcasts, including "This Past Weekend" and "King and the Sting", which he co-hosts with Brendan Schaub.Theo Von: A Comedian's Rise to Fame The American comedian and television host has made a name for himself in the entertainment industry, consistently delivering hilarious performances that leave audiences in stitches. From his early days as a stand-up comedian to his current status as a Netflix favorite, Theo Von has proven himself to be a versatile and talented performer.Throughout his career, Von has appeared on various TV shows and podcasts, including his own show "Kill Tony," which he co-hosts with actor and comedian Brian Redban. The duo's dynamic chemistry and witty banter have captivated audiences, making the show a must-listen for fans of comedy.In addition to his television work, Von has also made a name for himself through his social media presence and podcasting career. He regularly shares humorous stories and observations on his Instagram account, which has gained him a large following. His podcast "CrankTexts" features conversations with strangers, offering a unique glimpse into the lives of everyday people.Von's comedy style is characterized by his unapologetic humor and willingness to tackle sensitive topics. He often incorporates stories about his personal life and experiences into his sets, making him relatable and authentic to his audience.As seen in recent reviews from fans, Von's live performances are just as impressive, with many praising his energy and stage presence. His ability to connect with the crowd and adapt to different settings has allowed him to establish a loyal fan base across various cities and venues.Despite some reported issues with venue management during certain shows, Von remains committed to delivering high-quality performances that leave audiences in awe.Theo Von is an incredible comedian who delivered a fantastic set at the Pueblo Memorial Hall. His material was original and had the audience laughing out loud. As a huge fan, I felt grateful to see him live. The venue itself was beautiful with great acoustics, and parking was convenient. What made the night truly special was meeting Theo after the show, where he was kind and genuine as always.Theo Von Announces Return to UK with Stand-up Tour 'Return of the Rat'Theo Von, one of the biggest touring comedians and podcast hosts, has announced his stand-up tour 'Return of the Rat' coming to the UK this June. With millions of listeners across his popular podcasts, including KING AND THE STING, Theo is set to bring his unique comedy style to the UK.His new comedy special 'REGULAR PEOPLE' was recently released on Netflix, filmed at the historic Ryman Auditorium in Nashville, TN. Theo's previous tour, 'DARK ARTS TOUR', took him across America, Australia, and Europe, cementing his reputation as a rising star in the stand-up world.Theo's UK tour will kick off in Belfast on June 7th, followed by shows in Manchester and London. General sales begin on April 22nd at 10am.Theo is known for his unique blend of humor and audience interaction, often addressing the crowd directly. His comedy style has been praised for its originality and wit, making him a must-see for fans of stand-up comedy.Charles Farrar Browne, famously known as Artemus Ward, is considered America's first stand-up comedian. Although the term 'stand-up' was used in the early 20th century to describe comedy performances, it didn't refer to modern stand-up comedy. Stand-up has various genres and styles, including alternative, anecdotal, character-based, deadpan, impressionist, insult, musical, observational, satirical, topical, and wordplay comedies. These forms often blend together or evolve over time.Stand-up shows typically begin with a host who warms up the audience and introduces other performers. The opener sets the tone, followed by the feature act and then the headliner. Established comedians often perform at established clubs, while newer acts try out material at open mic events, which can be booked in advance or walked into on short notice.Comedians may also produce television specials or comedy albums, recorded either on tour or specifically for a TV show or album release. Festivals showcase both established and up-and-coming talent, serving as a platform for promoters and agents to discover new acts. Experienced comedians can leverage their following to create these productions, while newer acts work towards building theirs.A stand-up comedian's material may be repackaged and distributed through various mediums, such as television, video streaming, or film theatres, and even re-released in audio formats. A standard "half-hour special" ranges from 20 to 35 minutes in length, excluding commercials, while an "hour-long special" typically spans 40 to 65 minutes.Stand-up comedians hone their craft by crafting routines that are built upon interconnected jokes and "bits." These "bits" weave together to form a cohesive narrative, culminating in the show's final punchline. Most jokes rely on the juxtaposition of two seemingly unrelated elements, often incorporating a twist or unexpected turn for added comedic effect.The delivery of a joke relies heavily on factors such as intonation, inflection, attitude, and timing, as well as other stylistic devices like idioms, archetypes, or wordplay. The paraprosdokian, a surprise punchline that subverts the setup's context or meaning, is another common joke structure.Comedians often employ the "jester's privilege" to freely mock social norms and conventions without fear of retribution. However, some comedians have criticized the concepts of "punching up" and "punching down," suggesting that these terms are more a product of activism than genuine comedic concerns.Appropriation and plagiarism are considered serious transgressions in stand-up comedy, with many notable cases involving accusations of joke theft. While it can be challenging to successfully sue for copyright infringement due to the idea-expression distinction, comedians like Colin Quinn have spoken out against what they see as an overly restrictive cultural rhetoric.Audiences play a crucial role in shaping the comedic experience, serving as both "co-constructors" and "co-responsible participants." The reception of a joke, whether met with laughter or disapproval, hinges on the audience's understanding of the premise and appreciation for the punchline. A seasoned comedian can expertly navigate these dynamics to create an engaging narrative.Stand-up comedy stands apart from traditional performing arts in its direct, one-on-one interaction between performer and audience. Success relies heavily on creating a sense of spontaneity, fostering intimacy, and avoiding heckling.Laughter and humor are crucial elements in live comedy, serving as both a counterbalance to the comedian and a contributing factor to the overall experience. Canned laughter on television is an example of this, with shows often appearing dull or unentertaining without it. Many shows are filmed in front of a live audience for similar reasons.Bridget Christie performing in 2016 was a notable event in comedy history. A pause can be used to create comic timing, allowing the comedian to deliver their punchline effectively.Bit, or a section within a comedy show or routine, is an essential part of any stand-up performance. Bombing, failing to get laughs from the audience, is one of the biggest challenges comedians face. Callbacks are references to earlier jokes in the set, which can be used to create a sense of continuity and engagement.Chewing the scenery refers to over-the-top performances that aim to elicit laughter through exaggerated expressions and physical gestures. The chi-chi room, or the ritzy room of a nightclub or comedy club, is where niche performers showcase their talents.Clapter occurs when the audience cheers or applauds an opinion they agree with, even if it's not funny enough to laugh at. This concept was coined by Seth Meyers. Corpsing, or breaking, happens when the comedian laughs unintentionally during a portion of the show in which they are supposed to keep a straight face.Crowd work involves talking directly to audience members through prewritten bits, improvisation, or both. A hack is an unskilled or clichd comic who relies on worn-out material. When a stand-up performs well, they are said to be "killing," but if they're doing poorly, they're "dying."Mugging refers to using silly faces and physical gestures to elicit cheap laughs. This technique aims to generate amusement through visual absurdity and can be employed by performers to enhance the comedic impact of their delivery.The term "punter" primarily refers to a member of the audience in British comedy culture. The room, or the space where the performance takes place, is crucial for comedians who need to "read the room" to interpret signs from the audience and "work the room" by interacting with the audience directly.A tight five is a well-rehearsed routine that consists of a comedian's best material reliably getting laughs. It's often used for auditions as a stepping stone to getting paid gigs. A warm-up is necessary to engage a "cold" audience during the opening act before the main show, and it's frequently used at the filming of television comedies in front of studio audiences.Comedians work out new material over time by introducing and polishing brand-new jokes. Jessica Delfino holds the record for most comedy sets performed in one night by a female comedian. Phyllis Diller holds the Guinness World Record for most laughs per minute, with 12. Taylor Goodwin holds the record for most jokes told in an hour, with 550.Lee Evans sold 7 million worth of tickets for his 2011 tour in a day, the biggest first-day sale of a British comedy tour. Ricky Gervais set a new Guinness World Record for the highest gross from a single stand-up performance with his tour "Armageddon." The performance at the Hollywood Bowl in Los Angeles, California, on May 6, 2023, garnered 1,410,000 ($1,790,206.50).Stand-up comedy refers to a type of performance where individuals use humor to entertain an audience. According to Encyclopdia Britannica, this form of entertainment has been considered a significant literary movement in American culture.Research suggests that stand-up comedy often relies on observational humor, which involves mocking everyday behaviors while affirming and promoting a fixed idea of normalcy. The genre has various styles, including satire, self-deprecation, and absurdity.A typical comedy show typically consists of a headliner, feature act, opener, and emcee, with each performer having a specific amount of time to perform original material. Open mikes provide an opportunity for comedians to experiment and test their material in front of a live audience.To succeed in stand-up comedy, performers need to gauge themselves against others at festivals and be willing to take risks and try new material. They also need to develop skills such as writing, acting, and improvisation. Some notable comedians have shared their insights on the art of stand-up, including Eddie Izzard's approach to structure and pacing.The study of humor and comedy has been explored in various fields, including anthropology, sociology, and philosophy. Researchers have also examined the role of obscenity in live performances and the importance of self-deprecation as a comedic device.Overall, stand-up comedy is a complex and multifaceted art form that requires skill, creativity, and a willingness to take risks and experiment with new material.The concept of "punching up" in comedy, where comedians target those in power or authority, has been debated among scholars and comedians alike. While some argue that it is an effective way to critique societal issues, others claim that it can be problematic, particularly when targeting vulnerable groups.Comedian George Carlin once stated that "comedy has traditionally picked on people in power," suggesting that this approach can be a powerful tool for social commentary. However, others have criticized comedians who use this tactic, arguing that it can come across as insensitive or even hurtful.The article cites examples of comedians who have used the "punching up" approach to tackle topics like racism and religion, but notes that when comedians target marginalized groups, it can be seen as a form of joke theft or plagiarism. The article also highlights the importance of context in humor, suggesting that there are cases where coincidence or parallel thinking may occur.Additionally, the text discusses the emotional toll of public speaking on comedians, citing studies that show that audiences only see 20% of a comedian's nerves while performing. It also touches on the concept of "clapter" comedy, which refers to the rise of short-form content and the changing nature of comedy in the digital age.Ultimately, the article suggests that becoming a successful comedian requires more than just clever writing or charismatic stage presence; it demands a deep understanding of audience expectations, context, and the nuances of humor.The Guinness Book of World Records has been a benchmark for stand-up comedy, with several notable records being set and broken over the years. Aaron Berg and Jessica Delfino attempted to break Steve Byrne's record in 2015, but Phyllis Diller still holds the title for delivering the most punch lines per minute at an impressive 12. Additionally, Ricky Gervais broke a stand-up comedy record with his Armageddon tour in 2023. British comedians have also made headlines, with one tour achieving the biggest first-day sale of any British comedy tour ever. Various sources, including The Comic's Comic and Chortle, have reported on these records and notable events in the world of stand-up comedy.

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