

June 26th, 2008

Press release

GET READY FOR MAJOR FUN - JONGLEURS COMES TO IRELAND

WORLD'S LARGEST COMEDY CLUB CHAIN LAUNCHES WITH FIVE INTERNATIONAL AND IRISH ACTS

Plans underway for Jongleurs on Tour, Christmas Comedy, Jongleurs TV, Comedy Talent Showcase, and Executive Comedy Masterclasses

Ireland better get ready for belly laughs and sore ribs – Jongleurs Comedy Ireland unleashed its particular brand of comedy upon the Irish public today.

Ricky Grover, Tom Stade, John Moloney and Ireland's own Ian Coppinger and Karl Spain were the line up for the ticket-only, Jongleurs Comedy Ireland launch event.

The largest chain of comedy clubs in the world, Jongleurs brings major-league comedy to Ireland. In business for 25 years, Jongleurs works with over 1300 comedians, musicians & personalities. The brand manages the best, latest and greatest talent, celebrities and personalities in the business, with over 3.5million people attending their shows every year.

Seriously funny comedians have been propelled to stardom by Jongleurs. Comedic greats such as Rory Bremner, Graham Norton, Eddie Izzard, Ben Elton, Jack Dee, Al Murray, Harry Enfield, Frank Skinner, Lee Evans, Josie Lawrence and Ed Byrne have all grown up and found fame with the Jongleurs brand.

Peter Dennehy and Tim Stone, the entrepreneurial pair behind Jongleurs in Ireland, have big plans for the brand. Apart from the invite-only launch for 250 at the Sugar Club today, the first year alone is jam-packed with projects which include:

- **Jongleurs on Tour** – a travelling comedy extravaganza which plans to bring comedy to the four corners of Ireland. Going where no comic has dared go before, Jongleurs will deliver top notch gags, food and booze to the places other comedy gigs just can't reach.
- **Jongleurs TV** – The Jongleurs Comedy Ireland team wants to bring humour to the nation and is working on a television format with production partners Double Z (creators of Zig & Zag and Podge & Rodge) and RTE.
- **Jongleurs Comedy Showcase** – Jongleurs will seek and find the best in new comedy talent. A chance to show the nation you're a true comic genius? Or a chance for some tired old media hack to take a cut at you? You'll never know where your future might lie if you don't try out for the Jongleurs Comedy Showcase!
- **Jongleurs Christmas Comedy at Leopardstown** – Say 'No!' to karaoke down the local this year, book a Jongleurs night and actually enjoy yourselves for once! Running for the entire festive period at the Silken Glider, Leopardstown – Christmas work parties have never been so much fun!

- **Jongleurs Executive Comedy Masterclass** - Be gone painful paint-balling and cringey team away-days! Who needs that when you can bond together over stand-up routines and badly delivered punchlines!

‘Up until today, good comedy hasn’t been easy to access in Ireland,’ said Peter Dennehy, Director. ‘Jongleurs Comedy Ireland will bring the best international and local funny-men and –women to the larger towns and smaller cities where there is demand’.

‘We’re testing the market through a launch, a tour, a showcase, a Christmas show and a TV programme. If the Irish love comedy as much as we think they do, we’ll look at Jongleurs comedy venues in the near future,’ he added.

‘The Jongleurs brand has 25 years of international experience, a large network of comic talent and the ability to really make people laugh - hard. This is something Ireland has needed for some time and we look forward to entertaining you across the country,’ said Maria Kampinska, Founder and Chief Executive, Jongleurs Comedy Limited.

www.jongleurs.ie

ENDS

For further media information please contact:

Catherine Logan - 086 811 4785 - catherine@catherinelogan.ie

About the launch comedians:

Ian Coppinger: One of Ireland’s busiest comedians, Ian has performed to packed houses on four continents, including yearly appearances at the Kilkenny Cat Laughs Comedy Festival and is a regular at Jongleurs Clubs. Ian is a founding member of ‘The Comedy Improv’ (1992), where he still performs every Monday night at the International Bar in Dublin. Ian has since accepted invitations to improvise with the popular Second City from Chicago, Whose Line Is It Anyway, The Comedy Store Players and Theatresports. He also shares two hit radio shows on RTE with The Comedy Improv Radio Show. Ian played the part of Martini in a West End production of One Flew Over The Cuckoo’s Nest with Christian Slater.

Ricky Grover: Multi-award winning comedian, actor and writer Ricky Grover has an impressive list of TV & film credits and is a hugely popular and explosive act, on both the national and international comedy circuit. Born and bred in the East End of London, Ricky was an ex champion boxer and hairdresser before taking the comedy scene by storm. Ricky is one of Britain's top stand-up comedians, who headlines everywhere he plays, including Jongleurs and The Comedy Store. His alter ego 'Bulla' writes a monthly page in Front magazine.

John Moloney: A highly sought-after comic and musician who has delighted audiences far and wide for the past decade. John appears regularly at Jongleurs and has performed many times at the Edinburgh Festival, playing to sell-out audiences. John is also in demand on the corporate circuit as an after-dinner speaker, and has enjoyed repeat bookings from his cherished clients. He is fluent in German and French and has a working knowledge of Italian. John has won many awards and regularly appears on TV.

Tom Stade: An assuredly funny Canadian comic who puts nothing out of his comedy range, from the obscure to the familiar, even when you think you know where a story is heading, he has an individually quirky way of looking at it and a sometimes inspired turn of phrase that leads to unexpected punch lines. Tom has phenomenal charisma and a magnetic stage presence that makes audiences love him the world over. He is hugely in demand as a headline act and he performs regularly at Jongleurs Clubs.

Karl Spain: Karl was born and still lives Limerick, but he has travelled in between. He has performed his comedy all over the world. He's probably best known in Ireland for his TV series 'Karl Spain Wants A Woman'. The show was a huge success - not only did it receive huge ratings but he also found himself a woman.