

Having trouble viewing this email? [Click here](#)



*The Mark Twain
House & Museum*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
CONTACT: David Cash
860-247-0998, Ext. 243
david.cash@marktwainhouse.org

FOR A PHOTO: Contact David Cash or go to [our
Press Room Photo Gallery](#).

BOOK/MARK:
*The Comedians: Drunks, Thieves, Scoundrels,
and the History of American Comedy*
with author **Kliph Nesteroff**

Tuesday, November 17 at 7:00 p.m.

HARTFORD, Conn. --

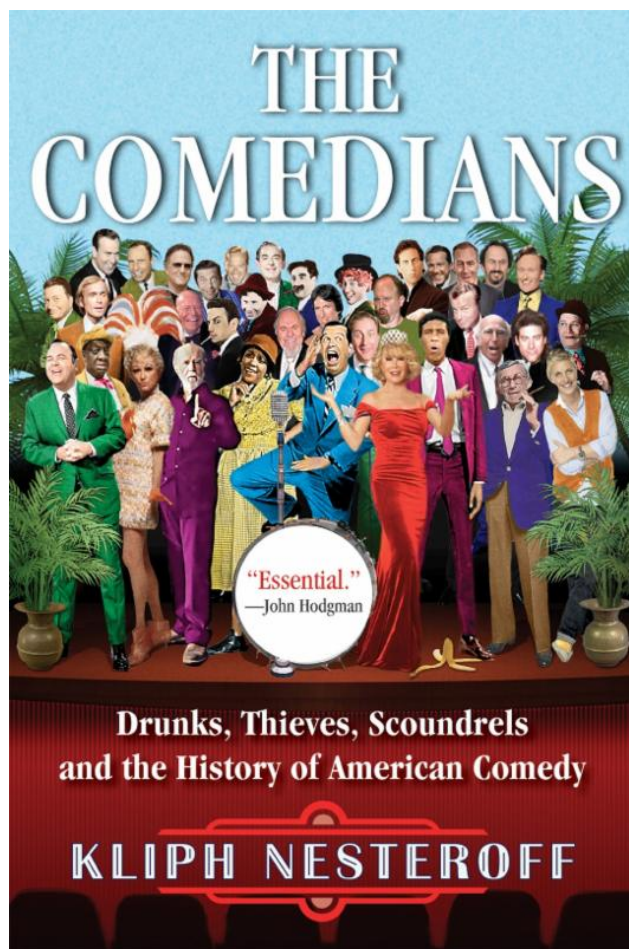
The Mark Twain House & Museum presents an evening with author **Kliph Nesteroff** discussing his new book *The Comedians: Drunks, Thieves, Scoundrels, and the History of American Comedy*, with Sea Tea Improv member **Dan Russell**.

This free BOOK/MARK event takes place on **Tuesday, November 17 at 7:00 p.m. in the Lincoln Financial Services Auditorium at The Mark Twain House & Museum.**

In *The Comedians*, comedy historian Kliph

Nesteroff brings to life a century of American comedy with real-life characters, forgotten stars, mainstream heroes and counterculture iconoclasts. Based on over two hundred original interviews and extensive archival research, Nesteroff's groundbreaking work is a narrative exploration of the way comedians have reflected, shaped, and changed American culture over the past one hundred years.

Starting with the vaudeville circuit at the turn of the last century, Nesteroff introduces the first stand-up comedian--an emcee who abandoned physical shtick for straight jokes. After the repeal of Prohibition, Mafia-run supper clubs replaced speakeasies, and mobsters replaced vaudeville impresarios as the comedian's primary employer. In the 1950s, the late-night talk show brought stand-up to a wide public, while Lenny Bruce, Mort Sahl, and Jonathan Winters attacked conformity and staged a comedy rebellion in coffeehouses. From comedy's part in the Civil Rights movement and the social upheaval of the late 1960s, to the first comedy clubs of the 1970s and the cocaine-fueled comedy boom of the 1980s, *The Comedians* culminates with a new era of media-driven celebrity in the twenty-first century.



**"Kliph Nesteroff and this book are devoted to what I truly love--the art of comedy"--
Mel Brooks**

About Kliph Nesteroff

Kliph Nesteroff is a professional writer regarded for his vast knowledge of show business, particularly in the field of comedy. A former stand-up comedian in Vancouver, Nesteroff is a frequent contributor to CBC Radio One, CBC Radio 2, GQ and Radio WFMU. His work has been cited by *The Atlantic Monthly*, *Boing Boing*, *The Chicago Tribune*, *Comedy Central*, *The Globe and Mail*, *The Guardian*, *NPR*, *The New York Observer*, *The New York Times*, *Salon.com*, *Slate.com* and *Vanity Fair*. For several years he moderated Classic Television Showbiz, a website devoted to classic show business and comedians.

The Book/Mark Series is supported by a generous grant from the George A. & Grace L. Long Foundation, Bank of America, N.A. and Alan S. Parker, Trustees.

This is a free event, and is followed by a book sale and signing. Reservations are highly recommended. Please call (860) 247-0998 or visit marktwainhouse.org and click on Events.

The Mark Twain House & Museum has restored the author's Hartford, Connecticut, home, where the author and his family lived from 1874 to 1891. Twain wrote his most important works during the years he lived there, including *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*, and *A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court*.

In addition to providing tours of Twain's restored home, a National Historic Landmark, the institution offers activities and educational programs that illuminate Twain's literary legacy and provide information about his life and times.

The house and museum at 351 Farmington Ave. are open daily from 9:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. For more information, call (860) 247-0998 or visit www.MarkTwainHouse.org.

Programs at The Mark Twain House & Museum are made possible in part by support from the **Connecticut Department of Economic & Community Development, Office of the Arts**, and the **Greater Hartford Arts Council's United Arts Campaign**.

Mark Twain House & Museum, 351 Farmington Avenue, Hartford, CT 06105

[SafeUnsubscribe™ david.cash@marktwainhouse.org](mailto:david.cash@marktwainhouse.org)

[Forward email](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [About our service provider](#)

Sent by david.cash@marktwainhouse.org in collaboration with

