



Ali Wong

ALI WONG

"My goal is to be dirty Oprah," says recent San Francisco transplant Ali Wong. Despite doing standup for four years there and being selected by two of the top local papers as the area's best comedian, she headed east. "New York allows me to get so much more stage time and opportunities. On average, I perform two to three sets per night," she says. "The caliber of comedy here is the highest out of any city. There are writers from "30 Rock," "SNL," "Letterman" and national headliners, who will perform at a free bar show on a Monday night. It's amazing!"

Funniest line: "Some useful advice for all my Asian-Americans. Never go paintballing with a Vietnam Veteran."

Catch her: At Carolines, "Best of the Breakout Artists Comedy Series," Thursday, Nov. 4, 9-10 p.m.



VICTOR G. JEFFREYS 2ND

the up-and-comers

JOHN MULANEY

Three years as a "Saturday Night Live" writer have more than earned Mulaney his regular "Weekend Update" spot. He puts a positive spin on the news in the "I Love It" segment.

Best Joke: (talking about a potential AOL/Yahoo! merger): "I love it. It's like when two people in a nursing home start dating. They may not have much time left, but at least they'll have each other."

Catch him: When he occasionally hits "SNL's" desk for "Weekend Update."

YOU SHOULD KNOW

Don't forget to laugh out loud with these jokester pros at the following venues around town:

Mike Birbiglia at Carolines, 1626 Broadway, Tues. Nov. 2, 7 p.m.

Ali Wong at Carolines, 1626 Broadway, Thurs. Nov. 4, 9:30 p.m.

Harrison Greenbaum at Carolines, 1626 Broadway, Sun. Nov. 7, 5 p.m. (part of the "Best of the Breakout Artists"); **Blue Water Grill,** 31 Union Square West, Sun. Nov. 7, 8 p.m.

Lewis Black at Barnes & Noble Union Square, 33 East 17th St., Wed. Nov. 3, 7:30 p.m.

Donnell Rawlings at Carolines, 1626 Broadway, Wed. Nov. 3, 9:30 p.m. (part of the "Jokes.com Live")

Kurt Metzger at Apple Store SoHo, 103 Prince St., Thurs. Nov. 4, 6 p.m. (part of "Ugly Americans" show)

Dave Hill at the Brooklyn Bowl, 61 Wythe Ave., Thurs. Nov. 4, 6 p.m. (part of Lebowski fest)

Hannibal Buress at the UCB Theater, 307 W. 26th St., Thurs. Nov. 4, 11 p.m. (part of "Best of Whiplash")

Rosie O'Donnell at Town Hall, 123 W. 43rd St., Fri. Nov. 5, 8 p.m.

Tracy Morgan at The Times Center, 242 W. 41st St., Sat. Nov. 6, 4 p.m.

Seth Herzog, Tuesdays at the Ella Lounge, 9 Ave. A, 8:15-11 p.m. (ellalounge.com)

John Mulaney, check johnmulaney.com for upcoming shows

Erica Watson, check ericawatson.com for upcoming shows

For more information on the New York Comedy Festival, running Nov. 3-7, visit nycomedyfestival.com.

CHARLIE T

HARRISON GREENBAUM

The summa cum laude Harvard grad put his brains to good use by moving to New York City and shilling for laughs. No, but really, he may be the hardest-working man in comedy. He performed in over 700 shows in 2009 and nearly 500 in 2010 so far. (That's more than one a day. But you'd know that if you went to Harvard.)

Funniest line: "I love New York City.

My friend told me, 'I have to get the F out of here!' and I was like, 'Are you censoring yourself or just being very specific about how you're getting home?'"

Catch him: At Carolines, Comedy Central's "Comics to Watch," Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Carolines, "Best of the Breakout Artists Comedy Series," Sunday, Nov. 7, 5 p.m.; Blue Water Grill, "Blue Water Grill - A Night of Comedy," Sunday,



KYLE BUZZBY

Harrison Greenbaum

Erica Watson



ERICA WATSON

Plus-size comic Erica Watson gets recognized on the street for her appearance in the movie "Precious," but nowadays she's becoming known for her acclaimed one-woman show "Fat Bitch," about society's

obsessions with weight, race, class and gender. "She's laugh-out-loud funny, period," says Comix club's director of new talent, Andy Engel.

Funniest line: "I told my boss, don't make any sudden moves - I'm starving and I might eat you! I checked with Weight Watchers, and skinny white chicks are only worth 1 point. I can take a bite of you and have enough points left to lick a Krispy Kreme doughnut."