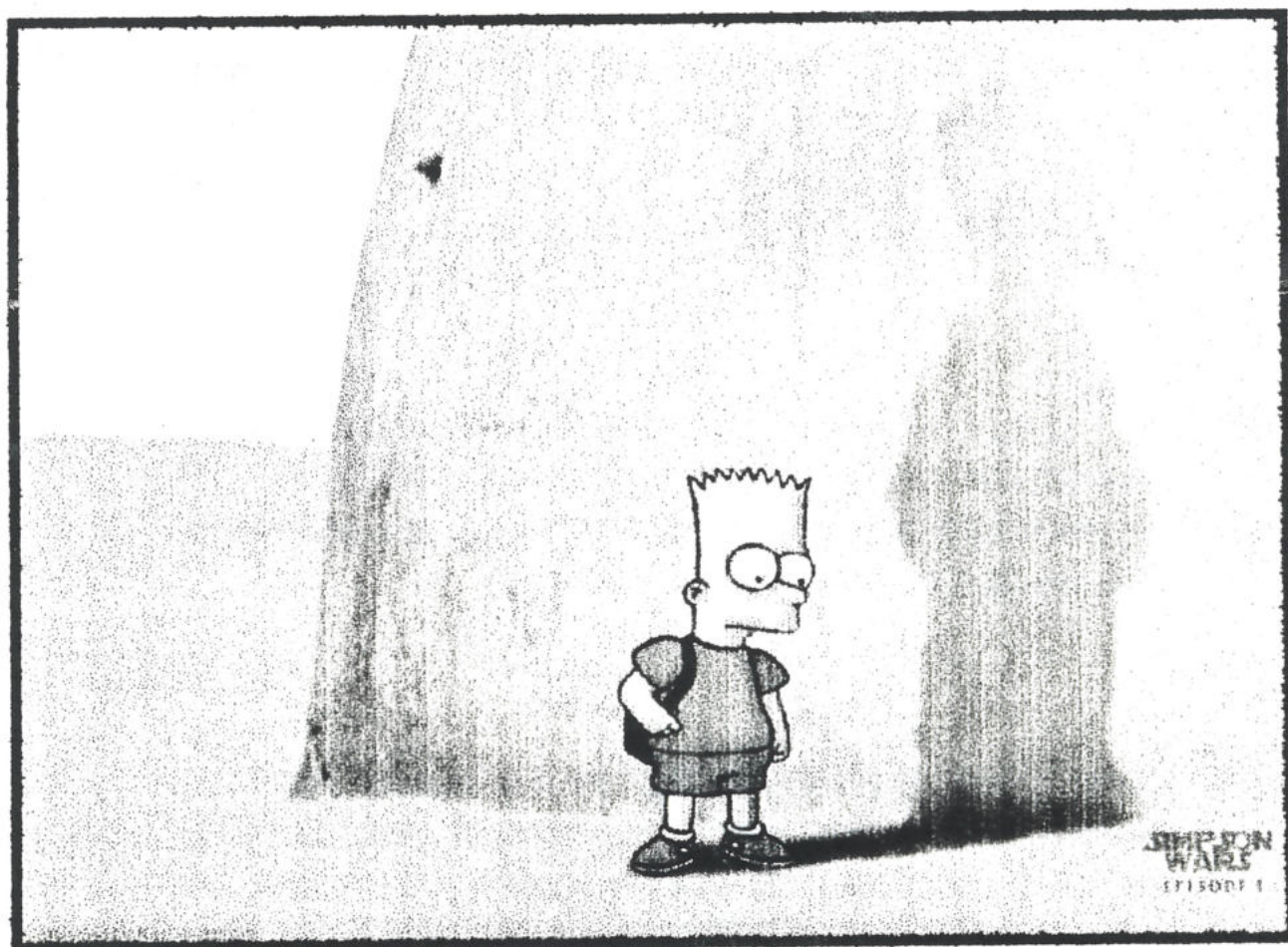


THE CABARET IMPROV TROUPE PRESENTS...

# IM EPISODE I PROV



THURSDAY, MARCH 4, 1999.....7:00PM

FRIDAY, MARCH 5, 1999.....7:00PM, 11:00PM

SATURDAY, MARCH 6, 1999.....8:00PM, 11:00PM

A LONG TIME AGO IN A GALAXY FAR, FAR AWAY.....

# EPISODE I:

## THE PHANTOM IMPROV

IT WAS A DARK TIME FOR THEATER. THE SCRIPTED EMPIRE KEPT WRITING BAD SCRIPTS TRYING TO PASS IT OFF AS ENTERTAINMENT WHILE PATRONS PAID LUDICROUS AMOUNTS OF MONEY TO SEE IT.

A SMALL GROUP OF IMPROVISORS BANDED TOGETHER TO PROVIDE ENTERTAINMENT FOR THE MASSES AT A REASONABLE PRICE. THEY ALL KNEW THE VALUE OF A CHEAP DATE.

THE REBEL IMPROVISORS STOLE PLANS FOR THE WORST SCRIPT EVER WRITTEN, THE DREADED DEATH SCRIPT, SO THAT IT WOULD NEVER FALL INTO THE HANDS OF THE EVIL STONE COLD STEVE AUSTIN...

# IM

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# THE CAST & CREW

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## PROV

### HOST

Jamie Rivera

### CAST

Liz Bolton  
Joe Heregthy  
Michael Mainetti  
Andy Miner  
Gregg Podolski  
Jill Ritchie  
Jamie Rivera  
John Witherspoon

### DIRECTORS

Jamie Rivera  
Liz Bolton

### MUSICAL DIRECTOR

John Witherspoon

### PROGRAM/FLYER DESIGNERS

Jamie Rivera  
Erick Battaglia



# IM CAST BIOGRAPHIES PROV

**Liz Bolton:** "I would like to thank the Academy. This is... Wow! This is incredible. You've all been so fabulous and... I just never expected this. Thanks to my family, my friends, the whole cast, Jamie—you're just the best director I've ever worked with, and of course, James—for everything. I accept this on behalf of all of you. I love you. I thank you. They're cueing the music, it's time to go to commercial. You are all wonderful... Goodnight!"

**Joseph Hereghity:** "I am the Devil, come and dance with me, I will show you the way—or sink in the sea of retarded sexuality."

**Michael Mainetti:** This is Michael's second season with the Cabaret Improv Troupe. Since his quick stint in the Mexican adult film industry failed, he plans to embrace comedy as a way of life. He hopes to make you feel uncomfortable tonight.

**Andy Miner:** "You first!"

**Gregg Podolski:** "I hate people who are always talking about themselves. So, I'd like to take this opportunity to inform you—the audience—about the people you'll be watching the show with. The person sitting in the right end seat in the back center row has a gun. Don't worry, he hasn't snapped yet, but if anyone near him uses a verb—he will. The woman in the middle of the third row with the long hair is depressed about all the socks she's lost in the laundry. The person sitting next to her stole them, but she doesn't know it. All the men are impotent and half of the women are horny—but you have to guess which ones... Enjoy the show!"

**Jill Ritchie:** After a near end to her acting career—what with rejections including the role of Tootie on *The Facts of Life*, Kelley on *Saved by the Bell*, and Pumba in the Broadway production of *The Lion King*—Jill's talents were finally recognized by the Cabaret Improv Troupe. She'd like to thank all those who knew that one day she'd make it big.

**Jamie Rivera:** Jamie is an established playwright whose works include *An Improv in the Sun*, *A Midsummer Night's Improv*, *Improvface*, *A Streetcar Named Improv*, and *Improvicus Rex*. After this production closes, Mr. Rivera will work on his collaboration with Andrew Lloyd Webber... *Improv! The Musical*, opening next spring in New York, followed by a belated honeymoon with his new wife, Mrs. Catharine Zeta-Jones-Rivera.

**John Witherspoon:** "I am a senior at Cook College, majoring in Biology. I am finally graduating, so somebody HIRE ME! This is my third semester with the Troupe and it has been a lot of fun. Over the past three semesters, I have worked with really talented and cool people. I will miss you all. Thank you, Jamie, for integrating music into the show and taking the time to get it right. Thanks to all the people I've worked with—I will miss you all. Hi Jen. God bless!"



# IM DIRECTOR'S NOTE

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## PROV

I wish I could say this is the end of an era or something so grandiose. I am, after all, the last of the first Cabaret Improv Troupe that I'd worked with that's still here, though I'm sure at least one other member of that troupe will be in attendance. But the fact is that whenever new people came along, even last semester when the overwhelming majority of the cast was brand spanking new, they just seemed to fit into place in a short time. There have been no eras, but more like a stream of time washing through this theatre.

I also wish I could say I was the best performer ever to grace this troupe. I'm not even the best director. She has yet to helm the director's chair. I'm sure someone thinks that I'm the best, and I'll take this opportunity to thank that one deluded person. But I can say that the troupe has gotten better every semester. Not so much because of anything I've done, but because of the many talented and hard working people have been a part of these shows with me. Some stayed for a short time, and some have become good friends. The one problem with directing a troupe like this is that you have to start over every semester with new auditions. But having great people try out and become part of this troupe definitely makes this easier.

Because of their efforts, more people will see improvisation as an art. There are those who would beg to differ with me on that point, but what we'll do onstage is art. Many times during my time with the troupe, I've gone through some tough times. From fights with girlfriends, breakups with girlfriends, no girlfriends, potential girlfriends who stop calling me to serious doubts as to who I am, why I exist, and my importance in this life. As I struggled to believe and overcome these daunting obstacles in my life, there was always an improv rehearsal somewhere in the near future. And as much as I didn't want to go to rehearsal, or didn't want to laugh, I'd always go to rehearsal and laugh my ass off. It always seemed to be when I needed it most. I found therapy in this troupe.

Most people think of catharsis involves crying. For me, it's laughter. Whether it's me laughing, hearing a room full of people laugh, or, especially, a good friend laugh this is what cleanses my soul. I don't pretend to change people's life with my art. I'm not so pretentious. But I can change someone's day. Hopefully when those of you reading this leave, you'll feel a lot better. You'll forget about your troubles for a little while. They'll still be there when you leave, but damn you had a good time!

Thanks to my parents who made me possible and made me who I am, and my friends—past, present, and future—who help me get by. I love you all.

Thank You,

Jamie Rivera  
Cabaret Improv Troupe (1995-1999)



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# THE CABARET THEATER STAFF

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## PROV

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**Producer:** Ray DeJohn  
**Associate Producer:** Taryn Lennon  
**Artistic Director:** Ian August  
**Technical Directors:** Douglass Greene & Joseph Tapp  
**Secretary:** Frank Ferrara  
**Box Office:** Samantha Shechtman & Jason Twomey  
**Business Manager:** Karen Zee  
**Coffeehouses:** Kristen Sidebotham  
**Directors' Program:** Nora Francescani & Kelly George  
**House Managers:** Kenneth Lew & Ruth Darcy  
**Improv Troupe:** Jamie Rivera  
**Publicity:** Michelle Demming  
**Public Relations:** Sean Murphy  
**Special Projects Director:** Andrew LaMonica  
**Webmaster:** Dawn Gilliland  
**Writers' Program:** Victoria Jalo & Ken Urban

**General Staff:** Kerri Allen, Julie Balog, Christopher Buckley, Michael Buckley, Ellen Diner, Christopher Dirkman, Jason Fiorello, Jamal Howard, Jeanne LeClare, Shanna Levine, Dolores Martinez, Sean Morris, Amy Wagner, & Daniel Wiener

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# SPECIAL THANKS

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## PROV

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Erick Battaglia, Michelle Demming, the Fellas at 58 Guilden St., Dug Green, James Huang, Ande LaMonica, Taryn Lennon, Dean Mehan & the Annual Women's Conference, Michael O'Keefe & ImprovJam, the Cabaret Staff, Past Directors of Cabaret Improv, Future Directors of Cabaret Improv, Anyone that's ever been in Cabaret Improv, Anyone that's ever done anything for Cabaret Improv, and the Audience (especially those who've come to more than one show because they liked it so much and those that yelled out a suggestion!)

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# CABARET MISSION STATEMENT

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## PROV

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The Cabaret Theater is a non-profit, flexible space theater located on the Douglass College Campus of Rutgers University. Entirely student managed, we receive no financial assistance from the university and rely entirely on receipts from previous events to fund our new productions. For over twenty years, Cabaret Theater has been committed to providing the university and the surrounding community with a wide variety of theatrical experiences, as well as offering a forum for students to learn about acting, directing, writing, design, management, and construction through various workshops, projects, and hands-on experiences.