



Summit Pet Product Distributors
2009 Open House Talent



Don Friesen

Executives and clients agree: Don Friesen's act is tailor-made for corporate entertainment.

Fresh, frenetic, and bursting with energy and enthusiasm, Don's comedy is outrageously physical yet thoroughly relatable. His willingness to admit his flaws and exploit them for maximum comedic potential has a way of not only entertaining, but at the same time tapping into the humanity in all of us. It's a uniquely fun, clever, and clean act with an incredibly broad appeal—an act that has earned him rave reviews and die-hard fans throughout the country.

Martin Short calls Don "One of the fastest rising comics in show business today."

Don recently became the only two-time winner in the 32-year history of the prestigious San Francisco International Comedy Competition—the same competition that helped launch the careers of Robin Williams, Dana Carvey, Ellen DeGeneres and Sinbad. Don has continued to impress audiences and critics alike with back-to-back Martin Short episodes (a first for the show,) back-to-back appearances at Novell's International Brainshare Convention (also a first, opening for the Counting Crows and the Goo Goo Dolls,) and a non-stop touring schedule as one of the most sought after headliners in the country.

Whether he's parodying Dr. Phil, John Lithgow, or using his own life as fodder, this USC Business School grad, husband, and father-of-two consistently brings the house down with a unique blend of wit and physicality that resonates with audiences from all walks of life.

With the release of his standup concert, "Inexplicable," Friesen's stock continues to rise, furthering his reputation as one of most exciting and engaging live performers available today. His ability to deliver a wildly entertaining hour of hip and savvy, yet family-friendly comedy has led to a non-stop touring schedule that now includes cruise ships, concerts and corporate and private events.

BACKGROUND

Don got his start in comedy as a business major at the University of Southern California, when, as a senior year with some electives to burn, he took an improv class just for fun and discovered that he had quite a knack for it. He loved it so much that he founded a campus improv troupe and his comedy career was off and running.

After graduation, Don began doing stand-up at open mikes in Los Angeles. Around this time, he met his wife Jill, and in less than a year they were married. In January of 1995, he loaded up his Chevy Nova and began

tirelessly touring America.

Since then Don's career has soared. He quickly became a national headliner, and in 1999, he won the prestigious San Francisco International Comedy Competition, setting the stage for a wildly successful career in comedy clubs, theaters, Las Vegas, cruise ships, and corporate events.

Friesen currently lives in South Pasadena, CA, literally 20 minutes from Hollywood, but maintains a very normal home life, spending as much time as he can with his wife Jill, and children, Fletcher and Josie. With recent appearances at the "Just For Laughs" Festival in Montreal, and TBS' "The Comedy Festival" in Las Vegas, Don's career continues to flourish, keeping him in constant demand in top comedy venues nationwide.