

HARRY SHEARER

Harry Shearer is a comic personality who takes "hyphenate" to new levels. First and foremost an actor, he is also an author, director, satirist, musician, radio host, playwright, multi-media artist and record label owner. For seventeen years the Los Angeles native has enjoyed enormous success and planted the fruits of his talents in the heads of millions worldwide thanks to his voice work for **THE SIMPSONS**, where he plays a stable of characters: most notably Mr. Burns, Smithers, and insufferable neighbor Ned Flanders.

In October, Shearer will release his first novel, **NOT ENOUGH INDIANS** (Justin, Charles & Company). The book takes a darkly comic look at the proliferation of Native American gaming and what happens to the fictional town of Gammage, New York, when it transforms into the sovereign nation of the long lost Filaquonsett tribe.

This November, movie audiences will see Shearer's newest collaboration with Christopher Guest and friends from **A MIGHTY WIND**, in the feature film, **FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION**. The film, written by Eugene Levy and Christopher Guest, is directed by Guest. **FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION** is a hilarious depiction of independent filmmaking and how the "buzz" about a potential award nomination impacts the lives of three actors played by Parker Posey, Catherine O'Hara and Shearer.

This summer, Shearer and his wife, singer/songwriter Judith Owen take their comical commentary on American culture to Scotland for the 2006 Edinburgh Festival. Shearer and Owen join forces in **THIS IS SO NOT ABOUT THE SIMPSONS – AMERICAN VOYEURS**. This multi media theatrical experience takes American culture and politics head on through original song intertwined with live feed news footage.

In 2005, Shearer and Owen, along with manager Bambi Moe, launched Courgette Records (which is English for zucchini - a nod to the infamous airport scene from **THIS IS SPINAL TAP**). The label is distributed by Warner Music Group's Alternative Distribution Alliance. Courgette's debut release was Owen's critically acclaimed **LOST AND FOUND**. This past spring, the company also released a compilation DVD of Shearer's comedy sketches from his work on **SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE** and HBO's - **NOW YOU SEE IT**. At the same time, Courgette released **DROPPING ANCHORS** a comedy CD about the sudden disappearance of a generation of network TV News anchors.

A child of Hollywood, Shearer made guest appearances on a variety of A-list television series while still in his teens. Credits include **THE JACK BENNY PROGRAM**, **GENERAL ELECTRIC THEATRE** and **ALFRED HITCHCOCK PRESENTS**

Shearer attended UCLA as a political science major, where he edited and wrote for the school humor magazine. He pursued graduate work at Harvard University

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and served a political internship in Sacramento before turning to freelance journalism, most notably covering the Watts riots for Newsweek.

In 1968, Shearer auditioned for a satirical news team at KRLA-AM called The Credibility Gap. The crew developed a fanatical following, engaging in guerilla comedy actions like alternative live running commentaries to the annual Rose Parade in Pasadena. The classic Gap lineup including Shearer, future bandmate Michael McKean, David Lander, and Richard Beebe began to play local clubs and eventually recorded a number of hilarious - and now scarce - albums, including **A GREAT GIFT IDEA**, **THE BRONZE AGE OF RADIO** and **FLOATS**.

In the early 1980s, he and friends Michael McKean and Christopher Guest, along with director Rob Reiner, began to incubate an idea for a fake documentary about an aging heavy metal band. The resulting movie, **THIS IS SPINAL TAP**, became the granddaddy of the mock-umentary genre and gave the world new insight into the concepts of spontaneously-combusting drummers and amps that go up to eleven.

Theatrically, Shearer has collaborated with writer Tom Leopold and composer Peter Matz to create the book and lyrics for an original musical about J. Edgar Hoover simply called **J. EDGAR! THE MUSICAL**. The play premiered to sold out houses and critical raves at The Aspen Comedy Festival (year) and is currently being developed for Broadway.

In the world of fine art, the Fullerton Museum Center presented Shearer's installation **TELESTHESIA** in the early 1990s, featuring video clips of various media personalities saying nothing. The Museum Of Contemporary Art (MOCA) in Los Angeles presented Shearer's installation, **WALL OF SILENCE**, that featured key figures from the O.J. Simpson Trial in their least soundbite-stealing moments. Most recently, **FACE TIME** featuring the Presidential and vice presidential candidates and the members of the mediocracy that covered them, was displayed in Washington, D.C.'s Conner Contemporary Gallery.

And on radio, Shearer's one-hour satirical sandbox **LE SHOW** is heard weekly on stations around the world.

Shearer's film credits include **REAL LIFE**, **THE RIGHT STUFF**, **PORTRAIT OF A WHITE MARRIAGE**, **THE FISHER KING**, **GODZILLA**, **THE TRUMAN SHOW**, **SMALL SOLDIERS**, **DICK**, and **A MIGHTY WIND**. He has been a regular cast member on **SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE** twice (dates) and, in 2002, wrote and directed his first feature film, **TEDDY BEARS' PICNIC**.

He has won two Cable Ace Awards.