

Stand-up Comedy – Characteristics and First Steps in Bulgaria

Dafina Genova

(Summary)

The article comments on the most specific features of stand-up comedy and its humor. Seemingly a monologue, in reality stand-up comedy is similar to spontaneously occurring conversations since the performer, in spite of the fact that she/he controls the interaction with the audience, constantly seeks and establishes verbal contact with it. Emphasis is put on those manifestations of stand-up comedy that are socially significant and that exert an impact on the audience in certain contexts in the sense of a change in the perspective on things and even a change in the beliefs and assumptions of people in the audience. The optimal role of a comedian, beyond the role of an entertainer and laughter provoker, is that of a social commentator, rebel and the speaker of truth. Some of the features of the Bulgarian stand-up comedy that has recently appeared, such as content and performance, are also studied.

Keywords: stand-up comedy, humor, social significance of stand-up comedy, stand-up comedy in Bulgaria

Dafina Genova
VTU “St. St. Cyril and Methodius”
“Teodosii Tarnovski” Str., No 2
5003 Veliko Tarnovo, BULGARIA
dafinagenova50@gmail.com