



## Tim Wilson.

**Height** 175 cm

MC/Entertainer Biography

JOHNSON&LAIRD

When Lady Gaga described performing live as like having an orgasm, Tim Wilson asked her to walk him through that. For the first time in her career, and possibly life The Queen of Outrage blushed.

Days later Tim was trying to book flights to Texas to cover another American gun massacre.

As TVNZ 's first US Correspondent, a post Tim held for seven years, he travelled from the ridiculous to the momentous, sometimes on the same day.

The first New Zealand journalist into a Hurricane Katrina-battered New Orleans. He was live in Grant Park Chicago as Barack Obama spoke as the first black president of the US. He has rubbed a 650 pound woman's tummy on camera, and had to bail out his cameraman, who was arrested during the Occupy Wall Street riots.

Tim also made Brad Pitt laugh, Jennifer Aniston scowl, and got Dr McDreamy Patrick Dempsey to juggle. He knew about the death of Osama bin Laden about 40 minutes before the rest of the world. Taylor Swift refused to rap for him. He had high tea at the Carlyle Hotel with French intellectual Bernard Henri-Levy. He interviewed Brangelina before they were Brangelina.

While working for TVNZ, Tim also part-timed as a reporter for US cable series The IFC Media Project, which was broadcast into 40 million homes in the US, and as a celebrity commentator for RTL, the largest network in Europe.

Returning to New Zealand, Tim spent his first year working in TVNZ's sales department, launching advertorial formats including 'The Extra Mile', and 'Maybelline's NY to NZ'.

Now back in News and Current Affairs, he's mostly known for making fun of weird videos from the internet on Breakfast, and walking up to complete strangers with a camera, and asking, 'Will you take me home?' 'People do.

Tim 's first love is literature. His novel, 'Their Faces Were Shining' written about the end of the world, was a finalist in the NZ Post Book Awards, prompting North&South to describe it as 'one of this year's few must-reads'. A short story collection 'The Desolation Angel' was praised as 'astute', 'polished', and 'punchy' by The Listener. His next novel, 'News Pigs' will be published by VUP in March, 2014.

A print journalist, Tim's work has appeared in the New York Times, the International Herald Tribune, the Guardian, Newsweek. com, The Listener, Metro, and Reader's Digest. He has won awards for investigative and business journalism.

He has 4800 followers on Twitter. Only some of these are bots.

Past jobs include: taxi driver, Woolstore worker, ice-cream roller, English teacher and lawn mower. One of the happiest days of his life occurred on Feb 18, 2012, when he was received into full communion with the Holy Roman Catholic Church.

Tim has MCed many events including KEA 's World Class New Zealand with Miriama Kamo, TNS Global's launch, and—with most difficulty- his pals at TVNZ sales.

## **Testimonials.**

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Tim was absolutely wonderful –so professional, got the tone of the audience straight away and was the perfect mix of funny, relaxed and corporate for our event.

- Alice Francis - Spark Arena Media Launch 2017

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"Tim was, as always fantastic. When he arrived on Thursday to have a'rehearsal'/update with the client he instantly put her mind at rest and understood the situation and their requirements. The conference ran very smoothly and Tim was humorous, informative and perfect for what we needed. Hopefully another opportunity will come up where we can work again with him. " - Will Francis, Spur

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"Tim hosted The Effie Awards for us and was a brilliant choice for this upwardly mobile, bright and professional crowd (Advertising and marketing!). Tim put lots of time in up front with me when working on the script and then on the night had the mana to gain respect from a notoriously fun-loving but boisterous audience. Tim knew exactly what was required during the show, had great timing and was just the right blend of funny and dry. Tim is a professional with a great sense of humour. Oh and scrubs up quite well too! " - Natasha Stichbury, CAANZ

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"We engaged Tim on behalf our client TNS to take on the role as MC for the launch of Mobile Life. Right from the start Tim was very engaged and keen to make sure he had all the background material so he could speak knowledgably at the event. He also came to us proactively with some ideas to help assist the flow of the speakers. We were impressed with how he easily developed a rapport with the audience and helped keep the discussion moving. We wouldn't hesitate in using Tim again for an event. "

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"We used Tim Wilson as our MC for our recent Sales Conference in Hamilton (28th August )—the theme for our conference was Made to Match. We asked Tim to talk about Classic Mishaps and then give an overview of the nights proceedings. Tim was great—arrived in plenty of time to practice his speech and slides. He was interactive and understood who the crowd was. Got into the spirit—made everyone feel involved. He seamlessly tied in the housekeeping side of things with the other proceedings! We wouldn't hesitate to use Tim again. "

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**Testimonials continued...**

- Jacqui Wilson, TVNZ Sales

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"Tim, with Miriama Kamo, MC'd the prestigious World Class New Zealand Awards at The Langham in 2012 and 2013. Tim is an excellent MC –he is calm, charming, witty, and quick-thinking, and he maintains good control of a highly spirited audience that is sometimes difficult to subdue. Even when working to a script his interventions appear spontaneous and fresh, and he is able to keep the proceedings flowing with good humour and intelligence and without over-shadowing the Award winners and the sponsors. He is also meticulous in his preparation, extremely well turned-out, and a

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-Stephen Dee, World Class New Zealand Director, KEA