



Raybon Kan.

Height 175 cm

Master Of Ceremony Biography
JOHNSON&LAIRD

It's no exaggeration to say Raybon Kan is one of the pioneers of stand-up comedy in New Zealand. From sell-out tours nationwide, to appearances at overseas comedy festivals, he's left his stamp on the comedy stage and screen for more than 20 years.

A former humour columnist in *The Listener*, *The Dominion*, and *Sunday Star-Times*, his column in *The New Zealand Herald* was recently named Funniest Column by the NZ Comedy Guild. His books include 'An Asian at my Table' (Penguin and Amazon Kindle) and the travel book 'America on Five Bullets a Day'.

His TV appearances include numerous comedy galas, as well as being profiled on *60 Minutes*. He was a regular on TV3's *Nightline*, and he's fronted TV commercial campaigns for an airline (whose ads ran in both NZ and Australia), and a fledgling financial institution. He wrote the screenplay for, and acted in the horror-comedy movie *Diagnosis: Death*.

As an after-dinner speaker or MC, Raybon's been trusted with New Zealand's most prestigious events, including advertising's *Axis Awards*, *Media Awards*, and *Effectiveness Awards*; the *Netguide Awards*; functions for Olympians and All Blacks; and conferences for professionals ranging from surgeons to lawyers, from tax consultants to the IRD, from the PSA to the Royal NZ Navy. His humour speaks to diverse audiences: indeed, Raybon's MC'ed conferences for completely opposing political parties. He was one of the MCs for the World Premiere of the third *Lord of the Rings* movie, and he's given graduation speeches at Massey and Wintec. *Reader's Digest* once named him one of NZ's 50 Most Trusted Kiwis.

Before turning to comedy, Raybon graduated with honours in law from Victoria University of Wellington, where he won the *Dominion Journalism Scholarship* and *Energy Law Scholarship*. He was admitted to the Bar, and his legal research was published in the *New Zealand Law Journal*.

Perhaps paving the way for stand-up comedy, as a student, Raybon won the NZ Universities Impromptu Speaking Competition, and captained the VUW team which came second to Oxford at the 1988 World Universities Debating Championships.

REVIEWS OF RAYBON'S LIVE SHOWS

"That Raybon Kan holds our attention and keeps us laughing for 80 minutes that seem like 40 is a good indication of his talent. He offers extraordinary ways of seeing the ordinary."

JOHN SMYTHE, NATIONAL BUSINESS REVIEW

"Kan is an endearing performer, boyish and self-deprecating, yet not in the slightest bit needy. Some of his material is very dark and some is as light as air, and most of it works. A highlight of the festival."

FIONA SCOTT-NORMAN, THE AGE, MELBOURNE

"The thinking woman 's comedian...Must-see, nerve-wrenching white-knuckle comedy."

TASH MCGILL, AUCKLAND SCENE

"He has made live comedy his own. It's easy to be swept along for a roller-coaster ride that also provokes some serious thought."

NIGEL BENSON, OTAGO DAILY TIMES

"He has a ready wit, an engaging personality with bags of charm, and the true comedian's ability to take the ordinary, the mundane, the unnoticed, and turn it into the bizarre."

THE PRESS, CHRISTCHURCH