For the last twenty years, Jon Lovitz has been one of the best-known comedians in the universe. At least, according to his cats. On Saturday, October 14 at 8 p.m., San Luis Obispo audiences will decide for themselves when Hollywood funnyman Jon Lovitz delivers a night of irreverent comedy based on life, religion, Hollywood, and his own perspective of the world from the Harman Hall stage at the Christopher Cohan Center.

Lovitz will perform a full set of stand-up comedy, followed by brief set of original songs geared toward the defamation of some of his favorite personalities.

Cal Poly Arts presents this evening of all-new Lovitz material, with special guest opener Jim Short, winner of San Francisco's International Comedy Competition and recent guest on "Late Night with Conan O'Brien", Comedy Central's "Premium Blend", and "The Late Late Show with Craig Ferguson."

PLEASE NOTE: This show is intended for mature audiences only. Adult content and themes.

Two years ago -- after years of performing in television and movies -- actor/comedian Jon Lovitz pursued his dream of becoming a stand-up comedian. He is one of the few performers to start as an actor and then become a stand-up; he now successfully headlines at nightclubs, theatres, and casinos across the country ("a BIG THANK YOU TO DANA CARVEY!!!")

For the first ten years of Lovitz's career, he did plays in high school, earned a B.A. in Drama at the University of California/Irvine, and studied acting with Tony Barr at the Film Actors Workshop.


A year later, after being accepted into their Sunday Company, Lovitz got his first job as an actor for two weeks on the television show, "The Paper Chase: The Second Year." In September of 1984, he was accepted into The Groundlings main company.

On March 28, 1985, The Groundlings appeared on "The Tonight Show with Johnny Carson." It was there that Lovitz premiered his character, Tommy Flannagan of Pathological Liars Anonymous.
The success of that appearance landed Lovitz an agent, a movie ("Last Resort"), and a series ("Foley Square"), and voice-over work for "The Brave Little Toaster" cartoon.

Lovitz then got the big break of his career, based on recommendations from Larraine Newman and Charles Grodin, and joined "Saturday Night Live."

All within six months.

Lovitz has not stopped working since. He was nominated for an Emmy for his first two years on "Saturday Night Live." He became known for many characters, including Tommy Flannagan ("Yeah! That's the ticket"), Master Thespian, Hanukkah Harry, and The Devil.

Lovitz has appeared in over thirty movies, including "Big," "A League of Their Own," "The Wedding Singer," "High School High," "Small Time Crooks," and "Rat Race."

He has worked with some of the best comedy directors, including Penny Marshall, Rob Reiner, Jerry Zucker, and the man who influenced a 13-year old Lovitz to become a comedian: Woody Allen.

Lovitz has become famous for his distinctive voice. He was the lead voice of the character Jay Sherman in the acclaimed cult cartoon series, "The Critic," and has done voice-overs for many other animated features ("American Tale: Fievel Goes West," "Cats and Dogs," "Eight Crazy Nights")

He has also worked on "The Simpsons" many times, including creating the character of Marge Simpson's boyfriend, Artie Ziff (who sounds suspiciously like Jay Sherman.)

Lovitz has appeared on Broadway in Neil Simon's "The Dinner Party," taking over the lead role from Henry Winkler.

He has sung at Carnegie Hall three times (including "Great Performances: Ira Gershwin at 100, a Celebration at Carnegie Hall") and also sung the National Anthem at Dodger Stadium and the U.S. Open.

He's also performed with English rock star Robbie Williams at the Royal Albert Hall and appears on Williams' album, "Swing While You're Winning."

Lovitz was the first famous guest star on "Friends" and guest-starred on "Seinfeld" the same week. When his good friend Phil Hartman was tragically killed, Lovitz stepped in and took a role on Hartman's hit comedy, "News Radio."

In 2005, he guest-starred three times on the hit NBC show, "Las Vegas." Earlier this year, he accepted a recurring role on CBS' "Two and a Half Men," playing Charlie Sheen's nemesis, Archie Baldwin.


Tickets for the performance range from $42 to $54, with student discounts available, and may be purchased at the Performing Arts Ticket Office, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturdays.

To order by phone, call 805/756-2787; to order by fax: 805/756-6088. Order on-line at www.pacslo.org. Sponsored by Linda McGregor and 1340 KYNS.

For audio and video samples of Cal Poly Arts events, visit www.calpolyarts.org.