

THE ILLUMINATED THEATER

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**THE ILLUMINATED THEATER LAUNCHES THE CHATROULETTE SHOW
Variety Show & Competition / Drinking Game / Online Performance**

A Live Performance Featuring the Risqué Web Site, www.chatroulette.com

WORLD PREMIERE: Thursday, June 17th

June 3, 2010. SAN FRANCISCO. The Illuminated Theater, dedicated to creating exciting, irresistible theater and performance events, debuts a cutting-edge show in San Francisco and Berkeley.

Chatroulette.com has captivated media attention since its inception in the end of 2009. Site visitors encounter random people through web cams, with no idea who they are, where in the world they may be – or what they will be doing on camera. Due to the inevitability of seeing lewd acts, the site has been portrayed as the latest threat to America's youth.

The ChatRoulette Show, performing in bars with performance spaces, capitalizes upon the guaranteed novelty and surprises found on chatroulette.com. Using a live internet connection projecting the encounter onto a large screen, performers take turns entertaining both surprised people on the site (who would not expect to encounter, say, an opera singer belting an aria) as well as the live audience, while competing for cash and prizes. Performers include singers, actors, improvisers, and performance artists. In the spirit of keeping the event fully participatory, audience members can even take a turn.

More than just a performance, the ChatRoulette Show is also a drinking game: every time nudity appears on screen, audience members may choose to imbibe. As a hybrid performance form, combining an interactive web site with a variety show, drinking game, and a throwback to Candid Camera (people on chatroulette.com may not know they're part of a show), audiences will be incredibly entertained and engaged.

Jonathan Bender, Artistic Director of The Illuminated Theater, asserts, "Theater is my passion, but relatively few people attend because the form doesn't speak to them. Why not create an event based on a current phenomenon, and also guarantee it to be different every time? Since it's impossible to know who (or what) you'll find on chatroulette.com, the show is impossible to predict – except that it will always be outrageous and hysterical." Because of chatroulette.com's infamy, he expects The ChatRoulette Show to draw in audiences that may not normally attend theater.

The ChatRoulette Show unveils everything on June 17th at the Makeout Room in San Francisco; the following week it bares all in Berkeley at LaVal's Subterranean Theatre. Shows are \$10 in advance or \$15 at the door. 21 and over.

The ChatRoulette Show

A Project of the Illuminated Theater

<http://www.chatrouletteshow.com> (live by June 6th)

Thursday, June 18th, 8pm at The Makeout Room, 3225 22nd Street, San Francisco

Saturday, June 26th, 9pm, LaVal's Subterranean, 1834 Euclid, Berkeley

\$10 advance tickets / \$15 door if still available. Buy early at:

<http://chatrouletteshowsf.eventbrite.com>

<http://chatrouletteshow-berkeley.eventbrite.com>

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