

Improv Comedy Taken to New Lengths

by Brandon Hulgens



Galapagos currently performs every 1st Saturday of the month at the The Trunk Space, and every 3rd Saturday of the month at the The Paper Heart.

Galapagos also teaches improvisation workshops & classes. New classes and workshops for September and October have been posted. Check the website for details.

"Long-form improvisation usually takes a single suggestion from the audience, at the beginning of a set or show, to inform or inspire a series of scenes, games and monologues," explains Jose Gonzalez of Phoenix-based Galapagos comedy improv troupe.

Improv can be a refreshing break from a mundane dinner and a Vin Diesel movie on a Saturday evening.

Galapagos was formed in fall 2003 with former members of the Barrow Gang and FLD Productions. They are a strong ensemble devoted to performing truth-based, long-form improvisation. Long-form improvisation follows the form of Harold, a structure and philosophy developed by Del Close at ImprovOlympic in Chicago.

In contrast to short-form improv, which normally spans three to five minutes before the audience

is asked for another suggestion, Galapagos' style calls for ninety-minute shows that are consistently clever, laugh-out-loud hilarious and amazingly never actually lag. The group uses monologues and games, and intertwines multiple story lines to keep the audience hooked.

Troupe Members include Bill Binder, Amy Carpenter, Jose Gonzalez, Jon Jahmarkt, Mark Jordan and Shane Shannon.

Catch Galapagos performances at Modified Arts, Mesa's Hollywood Alley, The Space, The Paper Heart and The Trunk Space.

For more information visit galapagosimprov.com or myspace.com/Galapagos.