

"A performance is a struggle you have to win." ~ Maria Callas

Planet March Mashup

Let's Eat

Three handsome male dogs are walking down the street when they see a beautiful, enticing, female Poodle and they immediately fall all over themselves in an effort to reach her first but end up arriving in front of her at the same time.

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SAY 'CHEESE'
The cover girl's a dog.

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The males are speechless before her beauty, slobbering on themselves and hoping for just a glance from her in return.

Aware of her charms and her obvious effect on the three suitors, she decides to be kind and tells them: "The first one who can use the words 'liver' and 'cheese' together in an imaginative, intelligent sentence can go out with me." The sturdy, muscular black Lab speaks up quickly and says, "I love liver and cheese."

"Oh, how childish," said the Poodle. "That shows no imagination or intelligence whatsoever." She turns to the tall, shiny Golden Retriever and says, "How well can you do?"

"Um. I HATE liver and cheese," blurts the Golden Retriever. "My, my," said the Poodle. "I guess it's hopeless. That's just as dumb as the Lab's sentence." She then turns to the last of the three dogs and says, "How about you, little guy?"

The chihuahua, tiny in stature but big in finesse, gives her a smile, a sly wink, turns to the other dogs and says... "Liver alone! Cheese mine!"

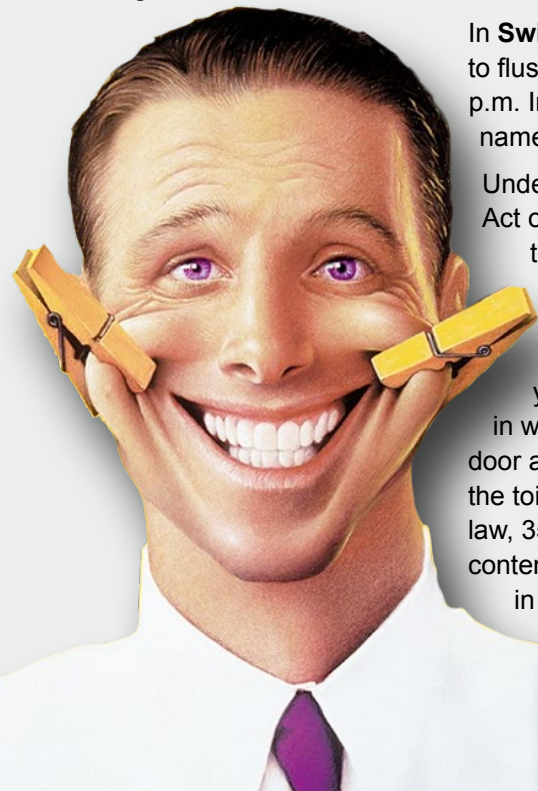
A priest, a minister and a rabbit walk into a bar.
The rabbit says, "I think I might be a typo..."
~ Anonymous

It's the law

THERE IS A LAW in Milan, Italy, requiring people to smile at all times or pay a fine, except during funerals and hospital visits, and in Torino, the law requires you to walk your dog three times a day, plus it's illegal to build sandcastles in Eraclea.

In Switzerland, it is illegal to flush the toilet after 7 p.m. In France, it is illegal to name a pig Napoleon.

Under England's Salmon Act of 1986, it is a crime to hold a salmon "suspiciously," and the Scots have a law that requires you to allow anyone in who knocks on your door and requests to use the toilet. *Nae Shite!* By law, 35 percent of the content played on the radio in Canada has to be



WEAR PROTECTION

The Milanese are serious about smiling.

Marching on ...

THE END OF THIS MAD MONTH, AFTER a visit with Oona Austin on Fox Island, Melinda and I were scheduled to perform at the annual REPS old-time radio Convention in Bellevue, WA, in recreations of a "Burns & Allen" show, starring Brad Zinn and the usual suspects, and in "The Shadow," starring David Ossman with Mellie as Margot Lane, directed by the great Gregg Oppenheimer. BUT – thanks to the COVID-19-Nightmare – it has been postponed until October!

"What?" I exclaimed, almost spilling my martini, "You mean to tell me that because of a silly virus you're cancelling a beloved gathering of deaf octogenarians who come to listen to us perform classic radio shows, eating and drinking and schmoozing for three days in an enclosed environment? What could go wrong?"

Yet so far we will still be flying to Ohio for *Night of the Zombie Racoons* – an original surreal live audio piece by Roger Gregg for the *Good Humour Radio Hour* at Youngstown University, and thence to NYC in early April to catch our Yale pal, Austin Pendleton in Tracy Lett's new Broadway play, *The Minutes*, and then back to LaLaLand, where we hope (!) to start rehearsals for Antaeus' end-of-season production of William Saroyan's *The Time of Your Life*– No Foolin'...

"Nothing dates harder and faster
and more strangely than the future." ~ Neil Gelman

Canadian. Australian law has made it illegal to crush beer cans with your breasts.

Denmark has a law specifying 7,000 baby names that are the only ones permitted for use. Norway has restrictions, too. (We had to name our daughter "Anne Kristin" instead of "Kristin Anne." Go Figure...)

Cambodia has laws against using squirt guns or any sort of water weaponry. Also, gum chewing is banned in Singapore, unless you have no teeth, and being overweight or obese is illegal in Japan. But worst of all, Buddhist Monks require the permission of the government to reincarnate.

Also, a town in France only allows you to die in the city limits if you have a plot in the local cemetery; and being in North Korea bans foreign people from using the local currency or entering a department store. Buy online!

But here in the Enlightened States of America, things are very different – in Oklahoma, for example, the law forbids anyone from keeping a sleeping donkey in the bathtub after 7 p.m. (*Good advice!*) while Michigan has a law that makes it illegal to chain an alligator to a fire hydrant. (*Duh!*) In Chicago, it is illegal to fish while sitting on a giraffe's neck. (*Ever try it?*)

And lastly but beastly, Georgia has a law forbidding poultry owners from allowing their chickens to cross the road. (They have NO sense of humor, and too many chickens...)

■ CONTINUED

The dot above the letters i and j, is called a "tittle."
~ Phil's Phunny Phacts

"An artist is somebody who produces things
that people don't need to have."
~ Andy Warhol

Just asking

AN OLD GUY IN MIAMI BEACH SAYS TO ANOTHER,
"A big fire wiped out my business, so I retired to
Florida with the insurance money."

"Well, a big *flood* wiped out *my* business," says his pal,
"and I also retired to Florida with the insurance money."

"So?" the first guy says, "How do you start a *flood*?"

"I make mistakes; I'll be the second to admit it."
~ Jean Kerr

Porn to be wild

ACCORDING TO THE 'NEW YORK POST,' THE
daughter of legendary film director **Steven
Spielberg, Mikeala**, announced that she is
working to obtain her Tennessee state stripper's license
and will be starring in her own solo porn videos.

The 23-year-old reportedly said she "got really tired of
being told to hate my body," adding, "I feel like doing this
kind of work, I'm able to 'satisfy' other people, but that feels

good because it's not in a way
that makes me feel violated."

She said it was an "empowering
choice," adding that she won't
really have sex on camera out
of respect for her fiancé, the
self-proclaimed "Chunky Pixie,"

Chuck Panko, a former professional dart player...

"It's not my parents' fault," says **Mikaela**, who was adopted
by the director and his actress wife, **Kate Capshaw**, as a
baby. "They couldn't have known." For their part, they admit
to being "embarrassed" but "supportive."

"It's easier to ask for forgiveness
than it is to get permission."
~ Rear Admiral **Grace Murray Hopper**

Age-vantage?

ROGER STEFFENS, LONGTIME PAL, BEST-
selling author, Planeteer and supreme Reggae
archivist, sent me this: "I read an interview recently
with a woman who had just turned 103. She was asked,
'Are there any advantages to being that age?'"

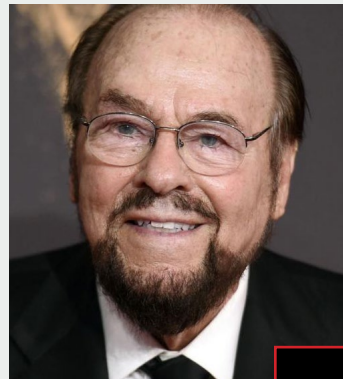
'Yes,' she said. 'There's no peer pressure.'"

Nude radio

WHEN I FIRST MET JAMES LIPTON, I WAS
playing a Russian character opposite my
future wife, **Melinda Peterson**, as the farmer's
daughter, in a play called *Nude Radio* by **Shelby Hyatt** at
the Actors Studio Playwright's division – you can read the
whole bizarre story in *Where's my Fortune Cookie?*, co-
authored by **Brad Schreiber**.

Lipton finally succumbed at 93 to bladder cancer – what
a pisser! He studied with **Stella Adler** for more than a
decade, inspiring him to start the Actors Studio Drama
School in 1994. "I could have had four PhDs now if they
had given degrees for those subjects...It was my child; it
was my love!" It led him to create the Bravo show "Inside
the Actors Studio," about which he said:

"When I started it, I said it's going to be about craft,
craft, craft. I had no dark hopes for it. I just had no way
of guessing these things would happen." And so, for 24
years, as explained in the *LA Times* obit, "the erudite
multihyphenate divulged his experiences as an actor,
theater, film and television director and producer, as well
as choreographer, author, playwright, lyricist, screenwriter,
author and academic, and earlier in his prolific life **HE
EVEN WORKED** as a *macro* in Paris' red-light district!"



THE SINCEREST FORM
Lipman and his Ferrell fan

Each episode of his
show was an edit
of a four-or-five-

hour master class in acting, and his first guest was **Paul
Newman**, who, by the way, presented me my Promising
Personality Award for the musical, *The Amorous Flea*,
which brought me to LA. His interview style was spoofed by
Sacha Baron Cohen, and **Will Ferrell ON SNL**.

"He feasted on me," Lipton joked. "He devoured my flesh."

"To live is the rarest thing in the world.
Most people exist - that is all."
~ Oscar Wilde

"Every man takes the limits of his own vision for the limits of the world."
~ Arthur Schopenhauer

It's Street Patrick's Day

AN ENGLISH MAN AND AN IRISH man are driving head on at night, on a twisty, dark road. Both are driving too fast for the conditions and collide on a sharp bend in the road.

To the amazement of both, they are unscathed, though their cars are both destroyed. In celebration of their luck, both agree to put aside their dislike for the other from that moment on.

At this point, the Irish man goes to the boot and fetches a 12-year old bottle of Jameson whiskey. He hands the bottle to the English man, who toasts, "May the English and the Irish live together forever, in peace, and harmony." The English man then tips the bottle and lashes half of it down.

Still flabbergasted over the whole thing, he goes to hand the bottle to the Irish man, who replies: "No thanks, I'll just wait till the Garda get here!"

"Before you judge a man, walk a mile in his shoes. After that who cares?... He's a mile away and you've got his shoes!"
~ Billy Connolly

Attention, seekers!

DAVID OSSMAN, MY PROLIFIC SURVIVING Firesign partner and his darling wife, **Judith Walcutt**, have launched the "Vote Not Insane 2020" and "Make America Not Insane Again" campaigns because, as National Surrealist Party leader **George Papoon** once declaimed, "It's your only logical choice."

So, let us commoners benefit from the use of common



sense, and throw our support behind NOT INSANE! So far, items available at the official site are bumper stickers and T-shirts, but soon, inventory will expand to include:

"Resistance Art" of all sorts! (Will only the "Not Insane" buy them?)

NOTINSANE2020.COM is a bold experiment in "Trickle-on Capitalism," shaken, and on the rocks, like us all. Stay tuned, dear friends, and beware to anyone faking sanity – and that includes YOU!

"I haven't been everywhere, but it's on my list."
~ Susan Sontag

Friends

Thanks to **Joan Allemand, Jamie Alcroft, Ted Bonnitt and Danny Mann, Jackie Martling and Howie Fox, Phil Hendrie, BabaMail and**

The Week, Thom Hartmann and all the folks at **KPFK** (please support them today at **KPFK.ORG**).

And go see our timely **Antaeus** production of **Measure for Measure**, and **SEE WHY SIZE MATTERS...**

"Americans love change, but they hate to be changed."
~ Godfrey Hodgson



"When the going gets weird, the weird turn pro." ~ Hunter S. Thompson

Visit the new **FIRESITE** and the old **BOOMERS**

To add someone to the Planet Proctor mailing list, **CLICK HERE.**

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