

Sketch Comedy (Comedy Play)



Comedy play

Originating Culture: Ancient Greece

Originating era: 425 BC

Comedy Play/Sketch comedy is a scene which performed by a group of comedians or comic actors on the stage. It was well scripted and developed in a drama which was being perform and make the audience laugh using exaggerated

techniques. For comedian it's like performing a type of art they have created in the theater. When we enter the world of comedy, we only experience the joy that the situation brings to us at that time. The audience doesn't have to use their brain that much and it is very helpful for regulating their mood. When we have issues in real life, we can face them with an optimistic attitude. You can get the simplest happiness from watching or listening to it.

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History:

Sketch comedy was origins from the Music Hall, a type of British theatrical entertainment during the early Victorian era and the Vaudeville, a theatrical genre of variety appears in France at the end of 19th century.

The conception of comedy began with Aristotle in ancient Greece during the fourth century BCE. The word “comedy” came during the Ancient Greek and during that time period the word “Comedy” means to revel. The word today on modern usage came through the Latin and Italian commedia.

At first it was originated in songs, festivals and gathering. It could also be used to make fun of other people in a stereotype’s way. But Aristotle, a Greek philosopher had stated that comedy could be use in a tragedy good way. Aristotle mention that comedy brings happiness, and he doesn’t believe in humor as a wrong thing. A Greek Philosopher, Plato was taught that comedy can be a destruction towards oneself. He believes in controlling your override emotion especially to avoid laughter. He wants comedy to be strictly control. Northrop Frye a Canadian literacy critic and a literacy theorist describe comic genre as something which it can split the societies into two pieces. One the society of youth and another the society of old.

For ancient Roman and Greek, comedy stage plays with a happy ending. At the middle age, it started to expand more like a narrative poem. Up to the 21 centuries, it started to become more like an entertainment for audience to watch or listen to and have a sense of “laughter-provoking”.

Comedy prose genre:

There are several types of comedy which can entertain audience in different ways. It contains variety of elements in emotions and plots, such as surprise, shock, happy, emotional, conflict, and etc... There are many genres in a comedy and few types of comedy are slapstick comedy, dark comedy, self-deprecating humor, romantic comedy, high comedy, situational comedy, parody, surreal humor, tragicomedy, farce, wordplay comedy, deadpan comedy and observational comedy.

- Slapstick comedy was popularized in the early twentieth century which involves in using exaggerated facial expression and stunts. Slapstick may involve physical activity such as intentional violence and violence by mishap.
- Dark comedy focuses on dark humor, subjects that are serious to discuss which include dead, war, violence, blood, etc.
- Self-deprecating humor is a humor which the comedian pokes fun at themselves.
- Romantic comedy focuses on true love and centers the romantic ideas of a love story.
- High comedy is also known as the pure comedy. It’s a type of comedy that characterized by witty dialogue. It can also be comedy of manners which usually talks about the upper-class society in criticism of life.
- Situational comedy involves continuing cast of characters in episodes in a consistent setting. It was marked by verbal sparring and rapidly resolved conflicts.
- Parody comedy can also be known as a spoof. It was work designed to imitate and exaggerated.
- Surreal humor focusses on causal reasoning. Situation that defies reason and logic.
- Farce is a comedy that are extreme exaggerating and focus on humor of real-life situation caused by miscommunication.
- Wordplay comedy is a style use by the performers to entertain the audience using a form of wit words in their performance. Example of wit words can be phonetic mix-ups, pun, rhymes, alliteration, etc....
- Deadpan comedy is a style of dry comedy which evokes laughter with no emotion. c
- Observational comedy is draw of unnoticed humor base of aspects of everyday life.

Holiday/Festival:

Many of the sketch comedy revues in Britain at the season of Edinburgh Fringe Festival, which is one of the world’s largest arts festivals. Ever since 1999, it starts to be developed comedy festivals in all cities around North America.



Common Types of Comedic Performances:

The three most popular comedic performances were stand-up comedy, sketch comedy, and **the** improvisational comedy. Stand-up comedy is set for comedians to tell jokes with the punchlines to surprise the audience and many of the times, there will be live audience and most of the time the audience would be address directly from the stage. The performer is known as comedian, comic and simply stand-up. Sketch comedy is also known as the comedy play. It involves a group performer, actors and comedians acting out a comedic scene in a stage. It must be well scripted and well-staged because it was a public performance. Improvisational comedy involves in comedians or performers to perform out a comedic situation without a script and unplanned. It is harder for the performers because they need to be knowing on what they're doing, and they must make things up on the spot. Important elements in all comedy includes convey contempt, wisecracks, exaggeration and incongruity.

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