

## An Interview with Comedienne Susan Alexander

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Susan Alexander is on tour again with her very funny show *5 Funny Females*. *5 Funny Females* features the funniest variety of new comediennes with Susan as the host. The show will be at Gotham Comedy Club in New York City on Thursday, September 25<sup>th</sup> at 8 pm.

Recently I had the opportunity to talk to Susan about her show and how she got started in comedy. The show started in San Francisco and ran for two years before it went on a National tour for the past three years. Susan actually has about fifty comediennes that work on the show but as the title indicates only five artists perform at one time. The artists bring a mix of life, pop culture, and political humor to the show. Since there are so many comediennes involved in the show the audience may not see the same show twice. The show always has something different for the audience to experience.

Susan has a degree in Journalism from the Indiana University of Pennsylvania and graduated in 1993. She has worked as a sales and marketing executive in media and worked with a top video game company for eight years. After the dot com companies went bust Susan wanted to do something creative and started to work as a stand-up comic in San Francisco. During her years in San Francisco her passion for comedy increased and she wanted to experience making people laugh more and more. She started the *5 Funny Females* show to gain more stage time and more pay. The show went from a monthly show and then on to a National tour. Susan's advice to young comics is that they must become an entrepreneur and create their own path in comedy.

Now besides hosting her show, Susan is in the semi-finals of the *Friars Club: So You Think You Can Roast?* contest which on August 19th she roasted George Takei from *Star Trek* and *Heroes* fame, for Round Two of the semi-finals. The grand prize of the contest is to roast the *Today* show's Matt Lauer at the Friars Club annual event in New York City. On October 3rd - 5th, Susan will be hosting the *5 Funny Females* Weekend Comedy Marathon again in San Francisco at the legendary Purple Onion, where Phyllis Diller launched her career in the sixties.

To keep up with Susan and her events please visit her websites at:

<http://www.susanalexandershow.com/>  
<http://www.5funnyfemales.com/>  
<http://www.singleswhomingle.com>

MySpace

<http://www.myspace.com/5funnyfemales>  
<http://www.myspace.com/susanalexandershow>

Facebook:

<http://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=717335828>



## DVD Review for The Last Emperor

By: Andre Chavez

With Beijing's hosting of the Olympics, China is front- and center-stage in the world once more. So it should be fitting to take another look at Bernardo Bertolucci's *The Last Emperor*—the Criterion Collection did, releasing a new edition of the Oscar-winning 1987 drama. The story focuses on Puyi, last of China's Manchu rulers who ascended to the throne as a toddler, but lost practically all of his dominion by his teens. The plot is revealed through two angles: one set during the elder Puyi's incarceration at a communist internment camp, and the other recalling his youth and downfall. It is a tragedy of an epic sort: he seems to have it all; and yet ends up with nothing, losing his mother, kingdom, mentor, and lover. He is both ruler and prisoner to the Forbidden City and its ancient customs. Over the years, the film has fallen victim to a typical re-analysis of film critics who have frowned over the picture lacking the eroticism and complexity that are signatures of Bertolucci's pictures. But it is *The Last Emperor*'s simple telling that makes it the most mainstream of his works—but no less beautiful in its imagery or tragedy. The four-disc special edition adds behind-the-scenes segments, audio commentary from Bertolucci and the rest of the Oscar-winning team, and a 96 pg. booklet. It is a worthwhile viewing to any true film lover.