

Although born and raised in New York City, Leighann's stand-up comedy style is more urbane than urban. At the fourth annual NYC Black Comedy Awards Leighann was voted "*The Most Thought Provoking Black Female Comic*" recognizing her as smart *and* funny. (The male winner of the award that year? Dave Chappelle.) For two consecutive years, Leighann was named the official comedian for **Harlem Week**. (The only other comedian in Harlem Week's history to earn that distinction is Richard Pryor.)

Leighann doesn't dumb it down; in fact she uses her college degree<sup>1</sup> to step it up. Inspired by the brilliance of George Carlin, the smooth jazz style of Franklyn Ajaye, and the elegance of Rita Rudner, Leighann has crafted her own unique brand of "*Thinking Cap Comedy*."

This approach has made Leighann a favorite on college campuses across the country. The best? Harvard University. "*I did a show for the Black Student's Association at Harvard. Dr. Cornell West (Harvard professor and author of "Race Matters") was in the audience.*" After receiving a standing ovation, "*He complimented me with words I'd never heard before, and I'm an English major! I wanted to say, 'Wait, let me get my dictionary.'*"

For many, comedy is disposable. In one ear and out the other, but Leighann's comedy stays with you. You'll laugh during the show and long after. She is one of the hottest comics in the country in more ways than one. Usually dressed to impress, she brings the funny and the sexy.

Leighann has entertained audiences world wide. In London she performed at The Comedy Store, and on the **BBC** show *Blouse and Skirt (a British Politically Incorrect meets BET)*. In **The Netherlands**, she appeared on the popular late night talk show *Raymann is Late!* and *The Comedy Factory*. A festival favorite, Leighann has been featured in the Trinidad, Montreal, Winnipeg, Halifax, Boston, Detroit and NYC Underground Comedy Festivals. She also entertained U.S. troops stationed in Afghanistan, Pakistan and Saudi Arabia during **Operation Enduring Freedom**.

Not limited to the world of stand-up, Leighann has appeared in the **George Lucas** film *Radioland Murders* and on several TV shows including *Charlie Rose* and *That Money Show* on PBS. She has also been seen popular TV commercials for Lean Cuisine, US Cellular and ESPN.

Her theater work includes *Raft of the Medusa* at The New Jersey Repertoire Theatre; *Theatre Dreams* and *The Punch and Judy Show* at The Creative Acting Company. Her one woman show, *The Full Swanky*, debuted in **The Riant Theatre Women's Play Festival**, where it was nominated for **Best Play** and **Best Director**. Leighann won the festival award for **Best Actress**. She was also nominated for an **AUDELCO Recognition Award for Best Solo Performance**.

As a writer, Leighann wrote for the pilot of *The Chris Rock Show*. Her syndicated humor column *The Urban Erma* is featured in *Stage Time Magazine*. It's topics range from the personal to the political and from silly to sophisticated.

A true stand-up comedian at heart, Leighann has appeared on many shows including **Lifetime's** *Girls Night Out*, The Original **HBO** *Def Comedy All Star Jam*, **Comedy Central's** *Premium Blend*, *The World Stands Up*, *Comics Unleashed* with Byron Allen, **VH1's** *40 Most Shocking Celebrity Hair Moments* and **ABC's** *The View* where she won *The Hilarious Housewives Contest*. Named one of New York's **10 Hot Comics** by *Improper Magazine*, visit her web site at [www.veryfunnylady.com](http://www.veryfunnylady.com) and see why Leighann Lord is *Fierce, Fine & Funny*.

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<sup>1</sup> Bachelor of Arts, Baruch College\*, City University of New York, Magna Cum Laude. (\*Also known as U.C.L.A.: University on the Corner of Lexington Avenue.)