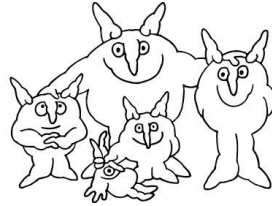


**Juste
pour
rire**



**Just
for
laughs**

PAUL RONCA

*Director of Industry & Special Events Programming
and Strategic Partner Development*

As **Director of Industry & Special Events Programming** at Just For Laughs, **Paul Ronca**, has been one of the major forces behind the success of the Just For Laughs Festival, the world's largest and most prestigious comedy event with festivals in Montreal, Toronto, Vancouver and Sydney (Australia). Today, Paul plays a major role in programming all live Festival shows from the smallest club shows to the prestigious Just For Laughs Galas. Paul began his tenure at Just For Laughs as a Talent Producer in 2006, where he played a major role in the creation of new shows such as *Wiseguys*, *Asian Invasion*, *The Sketch Show*, and *Apatow For Destruction*.

Paul is also one of the leading forces in the creation of the Just For Laughs ComedyPRO conference. Some of the biggest names in comedy have participated in the conference, which has quickly become a 'can't miss' global gathering for the comedy industry worldwide. In its first nine years, ComedyPRO has attracted an all-star lineup including: Judd Apatow, Lewis Black, Bill Burr, Dave Chappelle, Louis CK, Paul Feig, Julia Louis-Dreyfus, Chelsea Handler, Kevin Hart, Marc Maron, Mike Myers, Amy Poehler, Jason Reitman, Ivan Reitman, Andy Samberg, Edgar Wright and many more. Highlights have included the exclusive appearance of the cast, creators and producers of the award-winning comedy TV series, *Brooklyn Nine-Nine*, *Veep* and *Silicon Valley*; the popular Just For Laughs "Podcast Series"; and the star-powered Just For Laughs "Awards Show".

Paul has also organized special advance film screenings of *Pineapple Express* with a live presentation by the cast and crew, including Judd Apatow, Seth Rogen, Ken Jeong and Danny McBride – and the Jon Cryer-led feature, *Hit By Lightning*. In 2016, Seth Rogen returned with Kristen Wiig, Nick Kroll and the rest of the crew to screen *Sausage Party* at Just For Laughs. In 2015, Paul produced a "Live Read" of the Coen brothers' cult classic *The Big Lebowski*, directed by Jason Reitman, with performances by Michael Fassbender, Jennifer Lawrence, Patton Oswalt, Denis Quaid, Martin Starr, T.J. Miller, Mike Judge, Olivia Munn and Mae Whitman.

As **Director of Strategic Partner Development**, Paul has been instrumental in building relationships with some of the biggest brands in the business including Funny or Die, CollegeHumor, Maker Studios, Comedy Central, FOX, Yahoo, Netfix, Hulu, Seeso, truTV and YouTube, to name a few.

Paul began his career, first as a writer, then as a stand-up comedian, and later as the owner and founder of Montreal's first comedy club offering shows in English and French (The Comedy Zone). On top of his experience in the comedy biz, Paul holds a Bachelor of Commerce degree from Concordia University. He spent several years working in sales and marketing with two major companies: Bausch & Lomb Canada and Prentice Hall Allyn & Bacon (A division of Simon & Schuster).

Born and raised in Montreal, Paul remains loyal to his roots and is very devoted and passionate about developing the arts scene in Montreal for fans and future generations of performers. He often returns to the local clubs to share his wisdom and experience with young comedians. He's also always ready to help out local charities such as the Montreal Children's Hospital Foundation and The Children's Wish Foundation of Canada.