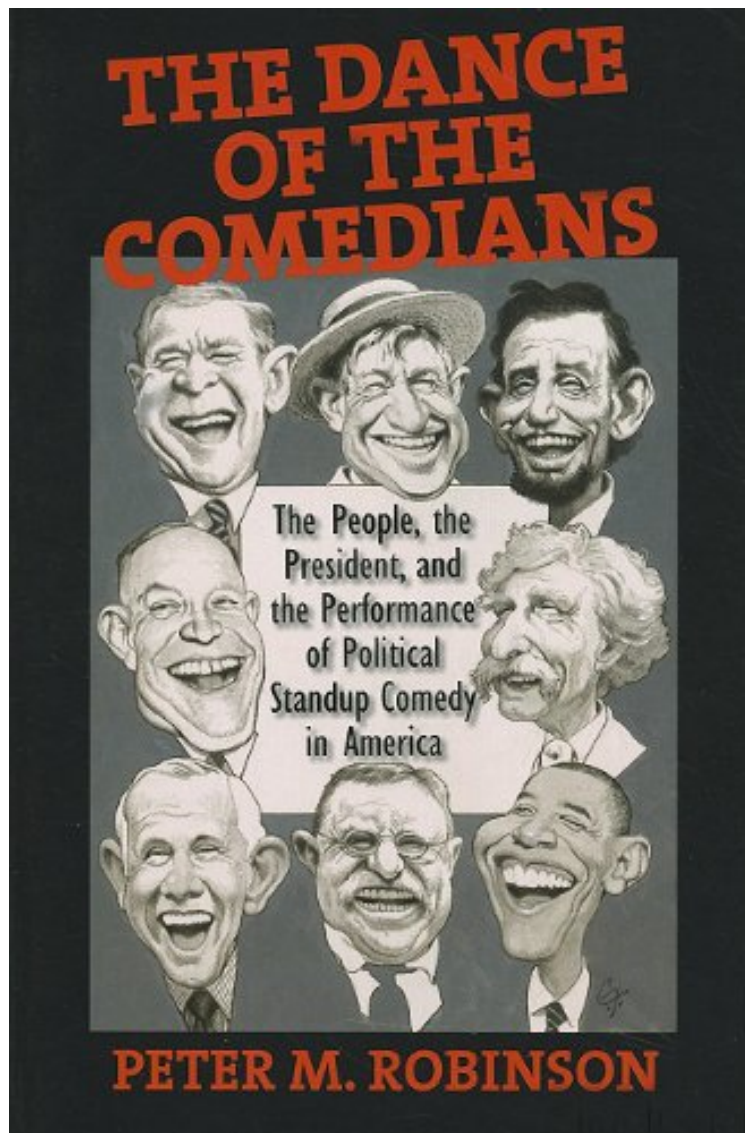


[Ebook pdf] The Dance of the Comedians: The People, the President, and the Performance of Political Standup Comedy in America

The Dance of the Comedians: The People, the President, and the Performance of Political Standup Comedy in America

Peter M. Robinson

*ePub | *DOC | audiobook | ebooks | Download PDF*



DOWNLOAD



READ ONLINE

#2344161 in Books 2010-11-18Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 .66 x 6.20 x 9.22l, .90 #File Name: 1558497854272 pages | File size: 62.Mb

Peter M. Robinson : The Dance of the Comedians: The People, the President, and the Performance of Political Standup Comedy in America before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Dance of the Comedians: The People, the President, and the Performance of Political Standup Comedy in America:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great read!By Linda VaruhasThis is a very informative and entertaining book about the history of political comedy in America. Well researched and filled with sometimes surprising facts, it should be of interest to anyone who likes to laugh. I learned a lot of things I never knew about this subject, and really enjoyed reading it.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. An engaging survey of the delicate balance between respect and ridicule for the presidential officeBy Midwest Book ReviewThe Dance of the Comedians: The People, the President, and the Performance of Political Standup Comedy in America is studies the history of American political humor as used to celebrate democracy, express political protest, or create personal profit, with particular emphasis on American presidents of the mid-twentieth century from Calvin Coolidge to Ronald Regan. An engaging survey of the delicate balance between respect and ridicule for the presidential office that ultimately seeks to answer questions such as "Why did Barack Obama pay attention to the Daily Show and Steven Colbert during the presidential election of 2008, and why did Sarah Palin choose to appear on Saturday Night Live but not on Sunday talk shows?" A scholarly examination of the role humor has played and continues to play in modern American presidential politics, especially recommended for college library collections.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. As profound as it is funny!By Tony FreemanThe book was much more than I had expected, in the sense that it went beyond just discussing comedy in relation to the president and really even got into the profound ways this has come to effect the country and how it's run and how it's changed what our expectations of a president are! I'd personally MUCH rather people get their information and understanding about what's going on in this country from "The Daily Show" than from FOX "News", if those (God forbid!) had to be our only choices! At least humorous "Daily Show" encourages you to learn more about real current events, so that you "get" all the jokes. Fox "News" encourages you to ignore all current events (as "biased") and just believe their alternate reality! This book gives a fascinating progression of how, more and more, political humor has come to have a real EFFECT on politics and not just be a reflection OF politics. I loved it!

Why did Barack Obama court Jon Stewart and trade jokes with Stephen Colbert during the campaign of 2008? Why did Sarah Palin forgo the opportunity to earn votes on the Sunday morning political talk shows but embrace the chance to get laughs on Saturday Night Live? The Dance of the Comedians examines the history behind these questions?the merry, mocking, and highly contested anarchies of standup political comedy that have locked humorists, presidents, and their fellow Americans in an improvisational three-way "dance" since the early years of the American republic. Peter M. Robinson shows how the performance of political humor developed as a celebration of democracy and an expression of political power, protest, and commercial profit. He places special significance on the middle half of the twentieth century, when presidents and comedians alike?from Calvin Coolidge to Ronald Reagan, from Will Rogers to Saturday Night Live's "Not Ready for Prime Time Players"?developed modern understandings of the power of laughter to affect popular opinion and political agendas, only to find the American audience increasingly willing and able to get in on the act. These years put the long-standing traditions of presidential deference profoundly in play as all three parties to American political humor?the people, the presidents, and the comedy professionals?negotiated their way between reverence for the office of the presidency and ridicule of its occupants. Although the focus is on humor, The Dance of the Comedians illuminates the process by which Americans have come to recognize that the performance of political comedy has serious and profound consequences for those on all sides of the punch line.

"The Dance of the Comedians is a wonderful book?exceptionally well written, insightful, and serious but fun. By examining America's political discourse from the perspective of standup comedy, Robinson provides a fresh and revealing look at the dynamics between elected leadership and the public."?LeRoy Ashby, author of With Amusement for All:A History of American Popular Culture since 1830"An engaging survey of the delicate balance between respect and ridicule for the presidential office. . . . A scholarly examination of the role humor has played and continues to play in modern American presidential politics, especially recommended for college library collections."?Midwest Book "Peter M. Robinson manages to make the serious study of American humor quite entertaining in his lucid, persuasive, and rigorously researched study of political humor, The Dance of the Comedians. From beginning to end, Robinson constructs a vibrant thread of stories, anecdotes, and historical details that delineates the pervasive influence of humor in American political history."?Sam Girgus, Journal of American History"Peter M. Robinson adds not only a saavy, outstanding dimension to the pantheon of American humor?his penetrating historical study focuses on political comedy, especially the standup performer?but further stresses humor's centrality in contemporary political life. . . . Robinson's overview of comedic performance at the core of political culture is at once comprehensive, incisive, and vital."?American Historical "In this highly-entertaining yet politically valuable book, historian Peter M. Robinson traces the evolution of presidential lampoons from Mark Twain to Will Rogers, from Mort Sahl to Jon Stewart."?Steve Goddard"Peter M. Robinson . . . manages to make the serious study of American Humor quite entertaining in his lucid, persuasive, and rigorously researched study of political humor. From beginning to end, Robinson constructs a vibrant thread of stories, anecdotes, and historical details that delineates the pervasive influence of humor in American political history."? , Journal of American HistoryAbout the AuthorPeter M. Robinson is assistant professor of history,

College of Mount St. Joseph in Cincinnati.