

Rhys Darby Accepts Invitation From Boys' High Year 12 Student

Comedian Rhys Darby will speak to more than five hundred Year 9 and 10 students from Christchurch Boys' High School tomorrow.

Darby is in Christchurch to promote his upcoming show "This Way to Spaceship" at the CBS arena on October 3 and is thrilled to be able to accept Yr 12 student Jake Miller's invitation to talk to students as part of a leadership programme he has developed at Boys' High.

"I hear that Jake is a remarkable young man. He lost his dad in the Fox Glacier plane crash in late 2010 and yet has still marched forward arranging this speakers series and showing what a highly motivated guy he is. He managed to get Helen Clark, John Key, Rob Fyfe...and me" says Darby. "Oh crikey, two out of three are civil servants; I hope they are not expecting Murray!"

Jake says he Facebooked Darby about a year ago and was thrilled when the opportunity came up to have the comedian speak at Boys' High.

"The speakers we have had to date have been incredible," he says. "When Helen Clark was here a few weeks ago, not one boy made a sound or even moved the whole time she spoke. She told us about what other boys our age are dealing with in third world countries and if we ever found the going getting tough in Christchurch, to try hard to put it in perspective and keep moving forward," says Jake.

Rhys Darby says with the incredibly difficult times Christchurch people have been through and continue to be challenged by, he is looking forward to bringing "*This Way to Spaceship*" to town in early October.

The show is the live version of his top selling first novel, *This Way to Spaceship*, 'a handy autobiographical end of world companion' which was published earlier this year and stayed at the top of the International Bestseller List in NZ for 7 weeks. Darby is very proud that the book and show have been seen as the story of nice guys finishing first by audiences and media alike.

The CBS Arena show will be recorded for a DVD which will be out in time for Christmas.

Christchurch Boys High Details:

Rhys will be at Boys' High (Straven Road) from 11.30 on Tuesday 18th September, speaking to the Year 9 and 10 boys from 11.40am until about noon. Please contact Ali Jones if you wish to attend.

"Welcome to Spaceship" Christchurch Show Details:

Date: October 3, 2012

Place: CBS Arena

Time: 8pm

Tickets: A Reserve \$65, B Reserve \$55. Ticketek phone 0800 TICKETEK www.ticketek.co.nz (booking fees may apply)

For more information please contact Ali Jones on 027 247 3112

This Way to Spaceship

Some say the world could end in 2012. But Rhys Darby has a plan. He's fairly sure the superpowers each have a spaceship ready to launch on the eve of Armageddon. The trick is... to get on-board!

Rhys takes us on an autobiographical journey from meek geek to king of cool. This show is a handy guide to living your life like you're the champion no one's heard of. In the end, you might just find you've been invited to recolonise another planet.

Rhys Darby's new stand-up show is the live version of his first novel, *This Way to Spaceship*, 'a handy autobiographical end of world companion'. The book will be available in stores from April 12.

The show promises to combine everything Rhys is known for, surreal musings, hilarious stories from his life and a healthy dollop of nonsense and fantasy.

Reviews:

*"...a hilarious journey charting his life, including that ill-fated dalliance with vocal sound effects as a teenager.....an inventive concept with offbeat jokes and terrific physicality. His ability to weave seemingly random asides into one coherent thread ensures you'll be happy to blast off into space with him." **** Edinburgh Evening News*

"New Zealander Darby is simply outstanding in delivering the show to a sold-out Shepherd's Bush Empire, having the crowd in stitches from start to finish."
Jahn Vannisselroy TNT Magazine

"Rhys effortlessly reduced the crowd to hysterics with a simple movement, word, or sound effect.....easily the funniest comedian I've seen all year."
Mark Lees thisissouthwales.co.uk

"His trademark physical humour and vocal mimicry are as impressive as ever."
Paul Fleckney londonisfunny.com