



## Paul Ego.

**Height** 195 cm

MC/Entertainer Biography  
**JOHNSON&LAIRD**

He's tall. It's the first thing you'll notice about Paul Ego, all 6 foot 5 of him. However, it doesn't take long to realise that the lofty comedian is also incredibly funny and sings like a dream.

A naturally funny raconteur, Paul has what he reckons is his ideal job: being paid to be himself.

As an MC he's a crack improviser who often makes stuff up on the fly, always with hilarious results. As a comedian, he's opened for British comedy legend Ross Noble, toured New Zealand with Irish comic genius Ed Byrne, and performed in every NZ International Comedy Festival since 1996 with many of his solo shows selling out.

He's also won a prestigious Billy T James award, a comedy grant from the New Zealand Comedy Trust in recognition of outstanding commitment to local comedy. However, his comedy is rooted in radio, notably the award-winning shows Starship Cortina and News In Briefs, More FM's award-winning Kim & Corbett Show, and Paul now produces top-rating music breakfast show, The Rock's Morning Rumble.

As a boy Paul found he had a good set of pipes. He joined the school choir as the tallest member, and entered local talent contests, winning applause (and once \$50) with his renditions of Jim Croce's Bad Bad Leroy Brown. He also sang lead vocals for Auckland band The Yes Men, which had a surfer following, and once opened for Peking Man and The Mockers. The youngest member of the group, Paul had no money for a car, and getting the bus to gigs soon wore thin. The band took a backseat when he married, and he and his new bride took off to the UK.

In his last few months in London, Paul booked a five minute slot at a local pub's open mike night. His show tales about his childhood, his height, Michael Jackson and his grandmother's rest home - won over the comedy savvy English audience, and he was hooked.

Back in New Zealand he was soon a name on the comedy circuit and in radio. The new career was a complete change for a guy who'd trained as a sign writer before computers took over. He still hand-paints the honours boards for his local tennis club and fundraising signs for the kindergarten, and doesn't mind writing out cheques or shopping lists because he can show off his beautiful handwriting. He's a solid supporter of the St John's Ambulance, which came to his wife's rescue after she suffered a heart attack aged just 30.

Paul is still heavily into his music, and likes nothing better than firing up his ipod and compiling his ever-growing collection. A huge fan of the crooners, Paul does some Frank Sinatra covers in his routine - strictly serious of course, no-one makes fun of Frank. When he's not working or looking after his two children Paul plays tennis, and tries to distract his opponents by talking nonstop and pointing out their faults.

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And no, his real surname isn't Ego, it's Jones. His first stage name was Paul E Jo, a nickname from an auntie. Of all the mispronunciations by MCs, he thought 'Paul Ego' was the best, and so it stuck.

## **Testimonials.**

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We have had so many comments saying how much they enjoyed your performance. One of our colleagues said they hadn't cried so much in years! We would have no hesitation recommending you as a great night's entertainment and would definitely use you again 'Dept. Of Intensive Care, North Shore Hospital'

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"We enlisted the services of Paul Ego to MC our Air New Zealand staff, family and friends 'Live and Loud' concert in Christchurch, on Thursday, 25 September 2008.

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Paul was a great MC on the evening, he entertained an audience of 1500 with stand-up comedy and introduced the acts (Dave Dobbyn and The Feelers) with much enthusiasm. From his background in breakfast radio, Paul was also able to inject a few facts about each band prior to and post their performances which made the connection between Paul's role as MC and the bands performing more noticeable. Prior to the evening, Paul was also very easy to communicate with and was a pleasure to deal with regard

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Paul Ego's set went down especially well with the crowd and made up most of the evening's entertainment. His fast pace, sarcasm and laid back style delighted the audience." - 'City Voice Wellington'