

## ANDY MCELFRISH BIO 4/2/2019

Andy McElfresh started out as a food writer in New York and was the first employee at the Zagat Restaurant Guides. He left for MTV, where he was head creative for their Home Shopping venture, moving over to the main channel and becoming head writer for production. He co-executive produced the MTV Beach Houses with partner Michael Bloom and together they created and produced dozens of shows for MTV, VH1 and Comedy Central. The two specialized in integrated marketing programming alongside their on-location shows.

They moved shop to Los Angeles to write a film for Matt Groening and a TV pilot for Touchstone TV. They went on to co-create the Nickelodeon hit cartoon "Rocket Power," and a number of successful reality formats at Fox Television Studios while continuing to produce specials for the Viacom networks.

During that time, McElfresh worked as a writer for Keenen Ivory Wayan's late-night talk show, and later joined the Wayans for the Scary Movies. He wrote "White Chicks" with Shawn Wayans and worked on their other films.

In 2001 McElfresh was hired by the Tonight Show to executive produce independent American Airlines commercials that would integrate with the show. After the events of September 11<sup>th</sup>, the project was scrapped and McElfresh was hired as full-time staff writer. Over the next 14 years he wrote and produced thousands of monologue jokes, taped drop-ins, and long Act 2 segments, most notably taking comedians and actors in the field as correspondents. Talent included Dave Chappelle, Kevin Nealon and Kevin Smith, with whom he did more than 40 field segments. During that time McElfresh also wrote more feature scripts with the Wayans company, including "Nightcrawlers" at Warner Bros and "The Munsters" at Universal.

After the end of the Leno era at the Tonight Show, Andy teamed with Kevin Smith to make the popular "Edumacation" podcast which plays to Andy's science background. So far, the podcast has spawned a gameshow pilot at TBS and "The Edumacation Book," published in March 2018. During that time he and Smith have written a number of scripted projects together, including a ½ hour single-camera comedy at CBS Studios, Fox's "Shortcoms" pilot, and the feature "Killroy Was Here," currently in post-production and which McElfresh also produces. Andy will join Kevin to write for the upcoming "Buckaroo Banzai" series for Apple TV, and "Howard the Duck" for Hulu.

Andy also developed NBC's science/variety show, "The Awesome Show with Chris Hardwick," and worked as a writer for TBS's hybrid comedy/game show, "Snoop Dogg presents: The Joker's Wild." Currently, he is a consulting producer on the live TBS/B17 medical program "Chasing the Cure."