



Kickin' it with K-von | MTV's 'Disaster Date' FAQ

Currently you can catch me on MTV's new hidden camera show "Disaster Date." Growing up as a fan of shows like "Candid Camera" and "Punk'D," it's been a blast to actually be a part

of one. The premise of our show is always the same: a best friend gets set up on a blind date with me for some sort of payback, usually for a previous blind date gone horribly awry. I play a different outrageous character—Momma's Boy, Mime, Jersey Shore Guido—in each episode with the end goal of making my poor date run for the door.

The response from *Nevada Silver & Blue* readers has been overwhelming. I love hearing your feedback and favorite moments from the show. In fact, I've been getting some frequently asked questions, so I thought I'd lay some myths to rest, as well as give you an inside look at how our prank show works.

How did you get on the show?

Executives from MTV dropped in on one of the Los Angeles comedy clubs, saw my act, and brought me in to audition for a few shows. The competition for these shows is fierce so you want to come in and do your best but also look totally relaxed. Not easy.

We were asked to prepare three characters and demonstrate how they would turn a date into a nightmare. My characters were: the Penny Pincher (brandishing a calculator and coupons), the Gym Trainer (who comments on my date's bodyfat percentage and recommends workout tips), Mr. No-Manners (who does everything your mom taught you not to at the dinner table). The audition went well for me . . . bad for my pretend date. Next thing I knew I was on the show.

Are hidden camera shows real, or is it faked for the audience?

Our show is 100 percent real. Our "marks" have no clue that everyone in the restaurant is an actor. Their best friend sets them up on the date and come on . . . who wouldn't trust their best friend?

How do you not laugh in those scenes?

I love to laugh and going into it, I wasn't sure how I'd be able to hold back. Truth be told, when you're focused on being your character and concentrating on the task at hand, it doesn't become an issue. That being said, there were two or three times while filming that I had to turn my head for a brief second to hide a smirk. And there was that one exception where my script required me to be a klutz, spill on my pants, and remove them at the dinner table . . . only to reveal I was wearing fire-engine red, thong underwear. It was impossible to execute that without laughing at myself. I just had to turn my back to my date which, when you see it, looks even funnier on camera.

How much is scripted and how much is improv?

On average 60 percent of the dates are pre-planned. But the

more you leave yourself open to possibilities, the better. You just can't anticipate some of the things that happen. Often the unknown variables become the true gems and work out better than anything we could have written down.

Do you ever feel bad for the "mark"?

No comment!

What was your favorite character?

Each was so different and very fun to play. But I'd say Boy Band, Infomercial Man and Jersey Shore Guido were my top three.

"I would have left the date right away!"

No you wouldn't. Remember, you're seeing the best, or shall we say, worst, five minutes back-to-back where all the rude and crazy stuff happens. But the date is actually an hour long and since it's getting crazier incrementally, it actually doesn't seem quite so odd to our mark. By the 50th minute everything is going haywire but, while shocking, the dates seem glued to their chairs watching the horror unfold.

What's next?

I recently found out the show was being picked up for another season! I want to thank all the Nevada alumni for watching! I couldn't have done it without you guys. So look for "Disaster Date" season 3 and keep laughing!

K-von '03 (marketing) is a Nevada alum and comedian. Watch him daily on MTV's "Disaster Date" (check local listings) or catch him live on the Disaster Tour at a comedy club near you. His schedule is on www.K-vonComedy.com.

Ryan Martin '00 (finance), vice president at Colliers International, has been named to the *In Business Las Vegas* 40 Under 40 List. The annual list names the city's top 40 professionals under 40 years of age. A panel of judges selected the 2010 honorees out of more than 250 nominations. Selections were based on evaluations of each candidate's community service, entrepreneurial spirit and impact on their respective industries.

Frankie Vigil '00 (journalism), has joined Olsen & Associates public relations, creative collaborations, etc. as public relations manager. Prior to joining Olsen & Associates, Vigil served in the same role for R&R Partners and has more than 10 years of experience in public relations. She will oversee public relations for all clients of Olsen & Associates.

Douglas Buck '01 (civil engineering) has been awarded Civil Engineer of the Year for 2009 by the Truckee Meadows Branch of the American Society of Civil Engineers. Doug joined Bowling Mamola Group in 2009 and has primarily been deputy construction manager for the Curry Street and Roop Street reconstruction projects, two major roadway overhauls in Carson City.

Ryan Aeschlimann '03 (psychology) joins Kafoury, Armstrong & Co. as staff accountant in the firm's Reno office. In his new role, Ryan will provide clients with auditing and tax preparation services. Ryan is also currently a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants.

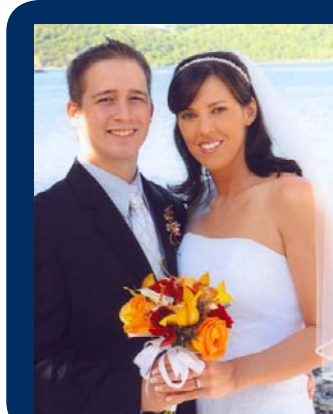
Cindy Armentrout '03 (journalism) has recently joined Kalicki Law Office in Reno. Cindy is a member of the State Bar of Nevada Young Lawyers Division, American Bar Association, and Southern Nevada Association of Women Attorneys.

Dano Kraig Fernandez '03 (criminal justice, COPPS option), a compliance audit investigator for the State of Nevada, has recently moved from Carson City/Reno to Southern Nevada Department of Business and Industry, DIR, WCS office. Dano is staying busy with doctoral studies in public policy and administration with specialization in homeland security policy and coordination at Walden University.

Teela Hammond '04 (accounting) has been promoted to manager at Barnard, Vogler & Co., Certified Public Accountants in Reno. Teela, a certified public accountant who has been with the Bernard Vogler & Co. since 2005, previously was senior accountant with the firm.

Lindsay Mastrodonato '05 (accounting) was hired as a senior accountant at Kafoury, Armstrong & Co. for the firm's Reno office. Lindsay brings more than five years of experience to Kafoury. Lindsay will be responsible for

Wolf mates



Rachel (Balvin) Graffam '07MBA and Dan Graffam '08 (civil engineering) were married Oct. 20, 2009 in St. Thomas, Virgin Islands. Rachel is employed at Accelerated Care Plus and Dan works for Nichols Consulting Engineers. They are currently remodeling a home in the Callahan Ranch area of Reno and plan to stay and play in their home town.