

you? And who would win in a fight?

I would kick the shit out of him in a fight. We're good friends, and there isn't a competitiveness because we both have completely different acts.

Do you have any comedy groupies?

Not to the extent that rock 'n' roll guys get. I'm friends with Vince Neil of Mötley Crüe, and when I go hang with them, it's completely different.

What are your groupies like?

They come in all shapes and sizes. The other night we had this screaming girl with my Carrot Top logo tattooed on her leg.

Do they bring their own props?

(Laughs) They should!

There have been a lot of rumors about you, such as "Carrot Top is on drugs" and "He's had a ton of plastic surgery."

I was sick one time. Just food poisoning or a stomach virus or something. I couldn't stop throwing up. I got up at 6:30 in the morning. I got in the car and drove toward the hospital. I kept throwing up at every stoplight along the way. I was bad sick. The next day Perez Hilton said I checked into the hospital for an unknown drug problem. I guess I've really made it when guys like him and TMZ are reporting I'm in the hospital for drug abuse when it was a stomach virus. That shit drives me nuts.

The plastic surgery rumor is retarded. It came from a Comedy Central roast. Greg Giraldo—God rest his soul—said on the roast, "Jesus Christ. Fucking Carrot Top. Fucking look at you." Everybody was laughing, and he said, "How much more plastic surgery are you going to get?" That was just a rip on me. I thought, *What does that mean? I look good or I look bad?* No one knew.

That's where the rumors came from. I always say, "If I did have plastic surgery, I'd look a lot fucking better, wouldn't I?"

You sure have bulked up. Did you use steroids?

No steroids. I'm actually not that big. I'm 160 or something. On stage and TV you look huge. I think people just took notice because I was 140 and have a little frame. People think I'm like 220 and jacked up.

Do you hope to be performing for years to come?

Fuck yeah! All my showbiz heroes have gone until they've died. George Carlin, one of my favorites, went on till the end. [Bill] Cosby is still going. [Don] Rickles is still doing it. Buddy Hackett did it until the day he died. I might have to do it at a slower pace, and I'd have to say, "What's the next prop? Bring it to me." The show has evolved so it won't be all *bam! bam! props!* We're talking about doing a special called *Carrot Top: Propless*. It would be me for the first time onstage without props.



Keith Valcourt is a Los Angeles-based actor, writer and comedian who learned comedy from a who's who of legends, including Buddy Hackett, Don Rickles, George Carlin, Joan Rivers, Norm Crosby, Red Buttons, Phyllis Diller, Sid Caesar and his mentor/friend Joey Bishop. There are photos. For more, go to KeithValcourt.com. 📷